



Universidad
de Alcalá

GUÍA DOCENTE

Course Syllabus

Introduction to Government and Politics

Transversal en Inglés en

**Economía y Negocios Internacionales Administración y
Dirección de Empresas
Contabilidad y Finanzas
Economía**

Transversal y Optativa en **Grado en Derecho**

Curso Académico 2018/2019

Primer Cuatrimestre

GUÍA

Nombre de la asignatura:	Introduction to Government and Politics
Código:	100052
Titulación en la que se imparte: de la Facultad de Derecho	Es Transversal y Optativa. Se imparte en el Edificio
Departamento y Área de Conocimiento:	Ciencias Jurídicas Área de Ciencia Política y de la Administración
Carácter:	Transversal y optativa
Créditos ECTS:	6
Curso y cuatrimestre:	Primer Cuatrimestre
Profesorado:	Dr. Europeo D. Esteban Arribas Reyes
Horario de Tutoría:	A concertar previa consulta por correo electrónico.
Idioma en el que se imparte:	Inglés

1. PRESENTATION

The course *Introduction to Government and Politics* is designed in accordance with the provisions of Royal Decree 1393/2007, of October 29, which establishes the organization of official university education. This course is eligible for all students of the Degrees in Social Sciences - Economics, History, Humanities, etc.).

This course is an innovative teaching experience, offered by the Political Science and Administration Department of the UAH, which aims to serve for the creation of new pedagogical dynamics.

This course syllabus offers the necessary information so that you can safely face the learning of this course throughout the 2018-2019 academic year. It is a fundamental tool for you to clearly know where you are going, where you are going to walk and what resources you have at your disposal to feel safe or secure during the course; something like a map so you do not get lost (too much) along this route that now starts.

During the course I will try to solve as much as possible the problems that may arise from political science, classes, and also tutorials, but it is important that from the beginning you are clear about all the aspects that are gathered in these pages and that you should read carefully! Let me introduce myself: my name is Esteban Arribas Reyes, my office is in the building of the Faculty of Law, first floor, and tutoring schedules will be established by appointment via email; my email is: esteban.arribas@uah.es. Also, whenever you need it you can send me an email, and

I will answer you as soon as possible.

The Political Science Area aims to offer students a whole series of knowledge, integrated through the contents of the subjects that compose it, in such a way that they obtain a rigorous training and powerful information about the concepts, doctrines, methods, techniques, models and factual assumptions that affect the contemporary democratic State in general and, especially, oriented to the analysis of the problems that are projected on the complex system of relations between people, their organizations and public bodies and public institutions.

The course *Introduction to Government and Politics*, has as its object the analysis and development of the most relevant issues that affect micro and macro political problems. Its purpose is to offer the student a sufficient intellectual background to work rigorously on other more specialized subjects offered by the Degrees in Social Sciences and Humanities of the University of Alcalá and, at the same time, incite their interest in the analytical capacity of the Political Science to understand the complex phenomena that, uninterruptedly, take place in the state, national, supranational or global public space, implying in its dynamics both the subjects and the institutions.

This course is taught in English, contributing to the creation of a European space for higher education, in short, taking an active part in the development of the European integration process. Undoubtedly, training in languages, knowledge and values with a multidisciplinary and global approach will enrich your academic life and improve your future prospects. We cannot ignore that the world is a global village (MacLuhan, 1989).

2. PERSONAL COMPETENCES

Generic:

- Capacity for analysis and synthesis.
- oral and written communication in the native language.
- Ability to search and information management.
- Capacity teamwork.
- Critical reasoning.
- Independent learning.
- Knowledge of other cultures and customs.
- Ability to recognize the European, global and local nature of the decision-making processes.
- Skills to contextualize and identify the key players in each situation.
- Ability to recognize the complexity of social phenomena.
- Capacity for organization and planning.

Specific Skills:

Cognitive (to know)

- Understand the political dimension of social processes,
- Know the theories about power and politics.
- Know the political texts to integrate them in global interpretive schemes.
- Develop the analysis on evolution, change and transformations
- policies of contemporary societies detecting the main trends
- emerging
- Know the structure and functioning of public organizations.
- Know the instruments for the analysis, implementation and evaluation of the
- public policies, as well as the different levels where they occur:
- national, local, European and global.
- Enhance knowledge about the structure, the specific functioning of social organizations and the dynamics of their social actors in the different
- areas of action.

Procedural / Instrumental (know how)

- Manage documentary and statistical sources.
- Interpret political and social phenomena.
- Establish comparative analyzes between different political systems.
- Construct and interpret models and paradigms.
- Design political strategies: analysis, diagnosis and prospective.
- Basing technically the political decisions.

Actitudinal (to be)

- Critical capacity towards political and ideological currents and social practices
- Open attitude and criticism of past and present society.
- Awareness of the importance of freedom in the political behavior of
- societies.
- Open attitude towards changes and new situations

3. CONTENTS

	Total classes, credits or hours
Introduction: Main Concepts and Definitions	6 h
Power, Politics, and Scientific Reasoning	6 h
The Sovereign Territorial State and its Rivals: Europeanization and Globalization processes	12 h
Nationalism, Ethnicity and Political Identity	4 h
Democracy	4 h
Liberalization and Democratization	6 h
Democratic Consolidation and Its Discontent	2 h
Creating Electoral Systems: a comparison	2 h
Society, Interest Groups, Media and Politics in Europe	4 horas
EU Policy-dynamics and the European Integration Process	4 horas

4. TEACHING-LEARNING METHODOLOGIES.-TRAINING ACTIVITIES

4.1. Distribution of credits (specify in hours)

Hours at classroom:	50
Working hours out of classroom:	100
Total	150 h

4.2. Methodological strategies, materials and didactic resources

Presential	Review of the concepts and basic theories of Political Science.
Non-presencial	2 Research Essays of 4.000 to 4.500 words. Mid and final.

5. EVALUATION: Procedures, evaluation criteria and qualification

A)Continuous ASSESSMENT SYSTEM

1. Classes:

- Active assistance to the classes.
- The acquired knowledge, the ability to transmit it, the capacity of relationship and connection between the contents of the program topics will be valued.
- . Written exam in the first two weeks to review basic concepts of Chapter 1 of the book by Rod Hague and Martin Harrop (2010). Comparative Government and Politics: An Introduction, 8th edition, Palgrave MacMillan.

2. Non-presential work:

- Mandatory attendance at personalized tutoring. Minimum 4 per semester.
- The ability to apply the knowledge acquired in the theoretical classes will be assessed.
- In particular, the critical analysis capacity, the ability to argue, the participation, the quality and presentation of the contributions, and the work dynamics (initiative and creativity) will be assessed.

Qualification procedures:

- Written exam (10%), attendance and active participation in face-to-face classes, preparation of the texts before them and tutorials (40%): 50% of the total.

- 2 guided Research Essays of between 4,000 and 4,500 words and an oral presentation of the second: 20% (essay 1) + 20% (essay 2) + 10% (oral presentation): 50% of the total.

As a general rule, students who opt out of the continuous assessment system before the end of the first month or exceeding 25% of the content of the teaching will be considered not presented in the ordinary call.

The evaluation system will be adapted to the teaching resources and the number of students per group, and will be communicated in a timely manner at the beginning of the classes.

B) Ordinary evaluation:

In accordance with what is legally established, in case the student does not follow the continuous evaluation procedure, he / she will be entitled to a final evaluation of an ordinary character that will be 100% of the grade.

The ordinary evaluations, both corresponding to the May and June sessions, will take place when and where the Degree's calendar is indicated.

In any case, both will consist of the development on the part of the student of four specific subjects from which the program of the subject develops, to choose among six proposed.

It will have a written nature and a maximum duration of four hours, without the use of any reference material.

The syllabus will be the one contained in the following two manuals in their entirety: Michael J. Sodaro (2007). *Comparative Politics: A Global Introduction*, 3rd edition, McGraw-Hill; and, Rod Hague and Martin Harrop (2010). *Comparative Government and Politics: An Introduction*, 8th edition, Palgrave MacMillan.

6. BIBLIOGRAPHY

o Two text manuals will be used:

- Michael J. Sodaro (2007). *Comparative Politics: A Global Introduction*, 3rd edition, McGraw-Hill.

And,

- Rod Hague and Martin Harrop (2010). *Comparative Government and Politics: An Introduction*. 8th edition, Palgrave MacMillan.

It is not compulsory to buy them since there will be enough copies in the library. In addition, I will distribute additional materials (articles, etc.) in the sessions that are required.