

25305 - History of the present world

Syllabus Information

Academic year: 2023/24

Subject: 25305 - History of the present world

Faculty / School: 103 - Facultad de Filosofía y Letras

Degree: 272 - Degree in Journalism

ECTS: 6.0

Year: 1

Semester: Second Four-month period

Subject type: Basic Education

Module:

1. General information

Study of the basic political and social processes to understand the era of the so-called "Cold War", from 1945 to 1991. Review of the key historical facts to discern why the post world war crystallizes in a bipolar world, led by two great powers: the USA and the USSR. Analysis of the new international balances, derived from the emergence of nascent states after the consolidation of the Decolonization process. Outline of the consequences of end of the Cold War up to the present day. English reading is required.

Goals:

1. Knowledge of the current era.
2. Training for the search of references, their management and translation into an academic paper, and for the participation in an academic discussion on the topics of the indicated period.

These approaches and goals correspond to SDGs 4, 5, 10 and 16.

2. Learning results

The learning results derive directly from the acquisition of the following competencies:

- Reflect on the basis of the strictly contemporary world of the students.
- To critically analyze the most recent events, integrating them into the historical evolution of humanity since the mid-20th century.
- To develop comparative strategies of current social phenomena with situations of other historical moments, enabling their debate.
- Possess sufficient information to be able to interpret current events from their roots in the past.

3. Syllabus

1. what was the Cold War? Causes and chronology: a world in two blocs after World War II
2. The United States: containment, interventionism and superpower. From Truman to Reagan.
3. The totalitarianism of the USSR: antagonism, coexistence and disintegration of communism. From Stalin to Gorbachev.
4. Decolonization and its effects from 1960 to the present.
5. Last phase of the Cold War (1986-1991) Fall of the Berlin Wall/ Gorbachev- Disintegration of the USSR.
6. The post-Cold War. Post Data:24.02.2022 Russia invades Ukraine ^ New Cold War

4. Academic activities

Learning activities: explanations by the teacher; commentary of texts and readings followed by discussion; practical exercises consisting of the use of newspaper libraries and media databases with historical information.

Viewing of documentaries and presentation of papers; and mandatory individual tutorials with all students for problem solving and for the direction of work.

Basis of learning: face-to-face classes with active participation in text commentaries, presentations of the readings and in the discussions; work supervised by the teacher; and written/oral tests.

5. Assessment system

First Call

Continuous assessment

Development of 3 tests related to the theoretical and practical contents of the subject.

Specific instructions will be given for the execution of each test

Test 1. Individual oral presentation, throughout the course, with PPT elaboration, of a topic provided and directed in tutorial by the teacher (20% grade).

-Exhibit 2: "History was news: La historia en portada" individual work, written, on a topic of the year that has corresponded to each student -through the press- (30% grade) (Moodle (instructions in moodle and questions in tutoring).

-Exhibit 3: On-site exam to evaluate knowledge of the material taught during the course, (50% grade), in the two hours of class before the end of the course.

Global assessment

Characteristics: an exam demonstrating the acquisition of the required skills, with capacity for analysis and synthesis, and understanding of the historical events explained or studied throughout the course on world history between 1945-1991. Accurate knowledge of relevant characters, dates, international organizations, concepts and political theories in today's World History also known as Cold War History should be demonstrated.

Assessment criteria: Clarity in the presentation is valued and good writing and handwriting are essential. They should mention the material (bibliographic, sources, etc.) with which you have worked for the preparation of the exam.

Second call

Overall evaluation identical to that of the first call.