

66659 - Secularism, anticlericalism and religion in contemporary Europe

Syllabus Information

Academic year: 2023/24

Subject: 66659 - Secularism, anticlericalism and religion in contemporary Europe

Faculty / School: 103 - Facultad de Filosofía y Letras

Degree: 640 - Master Degree in Late Modern and Contemporary History

ECTS: 5.0

Year: 1

Semester: First Four-month period

Subject type: Optional

Module:

1. General information

This subject deals with the conflictive evolution of the secularization process in contemporary Europe from a comparative and transnational perspective, paying special attention to Spain, as it was the European country where the conflict was most persistent and radicalized. It analyses the sectors that, from liberalism, republicanism and the workers' world, proposed and still propose secularized and anticlerical solutions to the adaption of Christianity (especially Catholicism) to the modernity, liberalism and democracy that emerged in Europe and Spain after the French Revolution. It delves into the confessional responses to secularization and secularism, not forgetting the capacity of adaptation and recomposition to modernity that religious denominations have shown.

These approaches and objectives are aligned with the following Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) of the United Nations 2030 Agenda (<https://www.un.org/sustainabledevelopment/es/>): 4,5, 10, 16 and 17.

2. Learning results

CO_01 Demonstrate a thorough knowledge of the different methodological approaches and historiographical trends related to the Contemporary Age

CP_02 Ability to use and generate scientific knowledge in the field of Contemporary History

CP_07 Commitment to the responsible use of information sources, evidenced through respect for data protection, copyrights and their reliable and critical use

CO_02 Be able to read, summarize or transcribe and analyse historical documents in a relevant manner

CP_03 Ability to analyse, summarise and interpret the problems and processes of contemporary history

CP_06 Show professional integrity, committing to quality standards at work, demonstrating scientific honesty and valuing individual and collective responsibility in achieving a sustainable future

CP_05 Acquire the ability to understand concepts and ideas and express them clearly, taking into account the gender perspective, in an inclusive, multicultural and multilingual context

CO_03 Write essays or summaries of a historiographic nature as well as research works, using the language and rules of scientific communication

CP_04 Ability to communicate, orally and in writing, their knowledge and historical arguments to specialized and non-specialized audiences in a clear and orderly manner

CP_08 Acquire the ability to develop critical thinking aimed at a deep understanding of complex situations

CO_04 Attain a mastery of the knowledge and methods of contemporary history that will allow the student to pursue doctoral studies in the future

HA_06 Possess the skills to continue advancing in the knowledge of contemporary history

3. Syllabus

- Secularization, secularism and anticlericalism: a conceptualization.
- The process of secularization in contemporary Europe as a form of cultural warfare.
- Secularization and anticlericalism in Spain from the Cortes de Cádiz to the Revolutionary Sexennium
- The religious question and anticlerical conflict from the end of the 19th century to the 1930s: protagonists of the mobilization and forms of protest.

- Gender, religion, anticlericalism and nationhood
- Secularism, anticlericalism and Catholic mobilization during the Spanish Republic.
- War, revolution and anticlerical violence
- The secular State of the Spanish Transition: a solution to the religious question?
- Secularism, democracies and the rise of religious fundamentalism

4. Academic activities

Teaching methodology:

- Master class: theoretical-practical exposition of the fundamental concepts.
- Seminar: study, discussion and solving of problems and case studies related to the theoretical and practical concepts based on the readings done by the students.

Training activities:

- Expository classes
- Source and resource management
- Text analysis
- Analyse and discuss papers
- Personal work of the student on readings, texts, sources and resources for the preparation of other activities.
- Discussions
- Written development of a topic: individual work by students to prepare an essay.
- Readings by the students on the bibliography proposed by the teachers of the course.

5. Assessment system

First call: continuous assessment:

- Class attendance and participation in classroom activities - 20%.
- Critical debate in the classroom: evaluation of the students' interventions on the problems raised in the course - 20%.
- Individual written work: evaluation through an essay on the content of the course - 60%.

Assessment criteria: in general, the ability to present orally and/or write on a topic, the ability to relate and critique events, processes and historiographic debates, as well as the reasoned argumentation of ideas .

First call: global assessment: exam on the contents and texts worked on in the course.

Assessment criteria: the ability to relate and critique events, processes and historiographical debates, as well as the clarity of exposition, reasoned argumentation of ideas, clear and precise writing and spelling.

Second call: global assessment: identical to the first call.