Universidad Zaragoza

Academic Year/course: 2024/25

28303 - Geographical thought: conceptual and methodological evolution

Syllabus Information

Academic year: 2024/25
Subject: 28303 - Geographical thought: conceptual and methodological evolution
Faculty / School: 103 - Facultad de Filosofía y Letras
Degree: 419 - Degree in Geography and Land Management
ECTS: 6.0
Year: 1
Semester: First semester
Subject type: Compulsory
Module:

1. General information

Subject that introduces students to general geographical knowledge, the principles of spatial planning and other complementary disciplines, providing a framework that helps to understand the historical and epistemological development of geography and the factors behind the conceptual and methodological changes that have occurred in the discipline as a whole and its different branches, with special emphasis on the evolution from the end of the 19th century to the present day.

The subject is aligned with SDGs which emphasise the need to adopt a responsible, coherent, active and supportive stance towards the problems of today's society; a stance especially committed to non-discrimination.

2. Learning results

To pass this subject, the student must demonstrate the ability to:

1. Explain the evolution of geographical thought throughout history.

2. To relate the different stages of geographical thought with the philosophical-scientific currents corresponding to each historical stage.

3. Identify the meaning of the different geographic concepts and the research methods used.

4. To assimilate the complexity of the analysis of geographic facts under a holistic approach.

5. Analyze the evolution of modern Geography throughout the 20th century.

6. Interpret a geographical text and contextualize it in a historical and epistemological framework of Geography.

7. Disseminate and explain the knowledge learned through precise language.

8. To become aware of the geographic problems of today's society.

3. Syllabus

0. Introduction. Building a science. Great stages in the construction of Geography.

1. The origins of geography and its relationship with cartography. From geographical knowledge in Antiquity to the 17th century.

2. Scientific revolution and institutionalization of the discipline: the birth of classical geography. Humboldt and Ritter.

Evolutionism and consolidation of the positivist approach.

3. The crisis of determinism. The culmination of classical geography.

4. Neopositivism in geography. The Space Science School.

5. Behaviourist geography.

6. Humanistic geography.

7. Radical geography.

8. Postmodern geography.

9. Geography, a pluriparadigmatic discipline.

10. Current geography and its fields of knowledge.

4. Academic activities

The subject has a theoretical-practical orientation. The programmed activities are as follows:

* Theoretical presentations by the teacher in the form of lectures.

* Practical sessions both in the classroom and through individual work with texts representative of the different currents of geographic thought.

* Supervised practical work.

* Personal study time.

* Evaluation tests.

5. Assessment system

The student must demonstrate that he/she has achieved the expected learning results. The evaluation activities will consist of:

Call 1.

Global assessment.

1ª. Test. Individual delivery of a portfolio integrated by comments of texts of the different currents of geographic thought: 60%.

2ª. Test. Written test: 40%. It consists of two parts: a) a first part, a 30% test; and a second part, in the form of commentary on a text chosen by the teacher: 10%.

Assessment criteria:

The quality of the written and oral expression of the contents of the work and the correct contextualisation of knowledge in relation to the different conceptual and methodological stages of geographical thinking will be taken into account, both in the portfolio and in the written test.

Call 2.

Overall assessment: identical to that of the first call.

6. Sustainable Development Goals

5 - Gender Equality
10 - Reduction of Inequalities
16 - Peace, Justice and Strong Institutions