UCLouvain

bhdpo1221

2025

Contemporary History

The version you're consulting is not final. This course description may change. The final version will be published on 1st June.

5.00 credits	30.0 h	Q2

<u> </u>	1			
Language :	French			
Place of the course	Bruxelles Saint-Louis			
Learning outcomes	At the end of this learning unit, the student is able to: This course aims to: - present in their complex evolution and interactions, the main political issues that changed the world in the twentieth century; - introduce to a better understanding of the contemporary world; - introduce to the true dimensions of historical explanation through the acquisition of critical thinking; - give the student the spatiotemporal markers necessary for him to develop overviews.			
Evaluation methods	The lecture course is assessed through a written exam that will combine, on the one hand, questions designed to evaluate the acquisition of knowledge related to the course content, and on the other hand, more open-ended questions that require further analysis, testing the students' ability to synthesize and argue effectively.			
Teaching methods	 The course content is structured around thematic and chronological developments, focusing primarily on: World War II; The Cold War; Decolonization. This chronological approach is enriched by the presentation of a series of thematic developments and specific issues, including European integration, feminist movements, and migration movements. To familiarize students with certain issues, stimulate their questioning, and spark their interest, collective discussions are regularly initiated at the beginning or during the modules, centered around press articles, media sources, and audiovisual materials. As the content presented by the teacher progress, she engages student participation through other means (such as polls, open questions, etc.), encouraging the sharing of experiences, reflections, and well-argued, documented personal viewpoints. 			
Content	The course focuses on tracing the developments and key events in world history, with a particular emphasis on Europe, since 1945, while highlighting the international and geopolitical issues involved, especially Europe's relations with the rest of the world. It also aims to foster reflection on the social and economic history of European societies during this period. Favoring a classic chronological structure combined with thematic presentations, the lecture is enriched by the latest historical research. It highlights, through a variety of (audio)visual documents and materials, the critical examination of sources that underpins historical reasoning, as well as the specific methodological and epistemological challenges posed by this "recent" history, known as contemporary history.			
Inline resources	The PowerPoint presentations summarizing the content of the sessions, the bibliography, audiovisual, iconographic, and media resources, as well as practical information, are available and downloadable on the course's Moodle platform.			
Faculty or entity in charge	ESPB			

Programmes containing this learning unit (UE)						
Program title	Acronym	Credits	Prerequisite	Learning outcomes		
Bachelor in Political Sciences (shift schedule)	SPDB1BA	5		Q.		