

MASTER'S DEGREE IN EUROPEAN UNION STUDIES AND HUMAN RIGHTS

FACULTY OF SOCIAL SCIENCE AND COMMUNICATION

TEACHING SYLLABUS



MODULE NAME: FINAL MASTER THESIS - FMT

MATERIALS: FINAL MASTER THESIS

NUMBER OF CREDITS: 21 ECTS

TEACHING MODALITY AND LANGUAGE: Face to Face in English

DESCRIPTION:

The Master's Final Thesis (TFM) involves selecting a topic related to any of the areas of knowledge within the degree program. This topic undergoes a process of observation and "problematization" through critique, reflection, and study. The project begins with the formulation of a hypothesis, which is examined using a scientific method, ultimately leading to a set of original conclusions. Throughout the process, students will receive guidance and be assigned a tutor for support. Depending on their needs, students will meet with their tutor, who will provide direction, establish guidelines for the work, and monitor progress according to an agreed-upon schedule. To ensure that students properly structure their research, the course begins with a seminar that not only provides essential foundational knowledge but also equips them with the necessary skills to undertake a research project successfully.

LEARNING OUTCOMES:

- Ability to conduct academic research and analytical studies, making rigorous use of methodologies and sources, as well as materials and other documentary supports in the field of the European Union and/or Human Rights.
- Training in the use of oral expression techniques for the defense of the Master's Final Thesis (TFM).

CONTENT OF THE MODULE

1. Research Seminar

- 1.1. Defining the research topic: keywords
- 1.2. Formulating a hypothesis
- 1.3. Identifying research objectives
- 1.4. Source search and collection
- 1.5. Reviewing theories and establishing the theoretical framework
- 1.6. Selecting research methods
- 1.7. Designing the research structure and development (timeline)
- 1.8. Presentation and defense of the Master's Final Thesis

2. Research Supervision

After completing the seminar, the student must design their research project based on the acquired knowledge. Throughout this process, they will receive guidance from their TFM supervisor, who will oversee their progress through scheduled tutorial sessions.

3. Preparation of the Master's Final Thesis Manuscript

A Master's Final Thesis Manuscript should include:

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- **First section:** Title, author and supervisor details, degree program, university, acknowledgments, table of contents, etc.
- **Second section:** Introduction, objectives, methodology, contribution of the research, conclusions, future research lines, etc.
- **Third section:** Bibliography.
- **Fourth section:** Appendices and annexes.

4. Public Presentation

Upon completing the research, the student must present their work in a seminar, where they will deliver an oral presentation before their peers and program coordinators.

LEARNING METHODOLOGY

IN-CLASS ACTIVITIES	IN- PERSON	HOURS	NON-CLASS ACTIVITIES	IN- PERSON	HOURS
	%			%	
Theoretical/Practical Classes	100	12	Reading and Bibliography Search	0	250
Academic Tutorials	100	13	Writing FMT Manuscript	0	250
In-class assessment	100	0			
TOTAL	100	25	TOTAL	0	500

FMT ASSESSMENTS

- **Evaluation of the Master's Final Project Report:** 80% of the final grade.
- **Evaluation of the Oral Presentation Seminars:** 20% of the final grade.

The assessment of the original project report will be graded on a scale from 0 to 10 and will account for 80% of the final course grade. Scientific quality and clarity will be key evaluation criteria.

The evaluation of the oral presentation seminars will also be graded on a scale from 0 to 10 and will represent 20% of the final course grade.

To be eligible to present the TFM, students must meet the internal deadlines specified in the course guide.

In general, the grading system established in R.D. 1125/2003 of September 5th will be followed, which is as follows:

- 0 – 4,9: Fail (SS)

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- 5,0 – 6,9: Pass (AP)
- 7,0 – 8,9: Good (Notable)
- 9,0 – 10: Outstanding (SB)

The mention of “Honors” may be granted to students who have obtained a grade equal or higher than 9.0. The number of honors awarded cannot exceed 5% of the students enrolled in a subject in the corresponding academic year, unless the number of enrolled students is less than 20, in which case only one honor may be granted.

Study Recommendations

Students are recommended to dedicate a total of 90 hours of independent work to the course, excluding the time spent in face-to-face classes. Considering a semester of approximately 15 weeks, this corresponds to an average of 6 hours per week for studying, reading, and preparing individual and group assignments.

The e-learning system will serve as the main platform for continuous contact and course management, and it will include the following sections:

- Resources: This section will provide students with materials directly related to the course content in PDF format, including theoretical and practical documents, scientific articles, images, templates, and guides to facilitate and deepen learning.
- Assignments: Here, students will have access to any mandatory or optional exercises proposed during the course.
- Announcements: This section will be used for posting grades, exam calls, and important communications for students.

Teaching Material

For the proper follow-up and successful completion of the course, students must have the following materials and infrastructure:

Virtual Campus

The Virtual Campus will be the main reference platform for the development of the course. Through this tool, students will have access to all the necessary documentation, organized into the following sections:

Modules:

This tab will include:

- The academic guide of the course.
- Thematic folders with supporting material for studying each topic.
- A folder dedicated to seminars, which will include essential resources for active participation in debates and group activities.

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Assignments:

This section will contain:

- Detailed instructions for completing each assignment.
- Supplementary materials and guidelines to facilitate the development of practical work.

Announcements:

Through this tab, relevant updates, important dates, and students' grades will be communicated.

Technological Resources

- Computer with internet connection:
This will be essential for accessing the Virtual Campus, conducting bibliographic searches, developing individual or group work, participating in practical seminars, and submitting evaluable activities.
- Resources for videoconferencing:
If participation in virtual sessions is required, students must have the necessary technical means (camera, microphone, and stable internet connection).
- University facilities:
The university provides computer rooms (API rooms) as an alternative resource for those who do not have adequate personal means.

Tutorials

Academic tutoring sessions will serve as a complement to clarify doubts that arise throughout the semester. The main objective of these sessions is to reinforce the theoretical content and practical aspects of the course. Due to their personalized nature, they will address the specific needs of each student with the aim of strengthening those areas of their learning (knowledge, skills, abilities, and attitudes) that may present greater difficulty. The teaching methodologies used in these sessions will be the same as those regularly employed in class.

Similarly, academic tutoring will include the completion, monitoring, and evaluation of practical assignments, as well as support for the student's autonomous learning.

SCHEDULE:

2 lecture sessions (from 16h00 to 20h00) would be delivered in December and May