Descriptif d’enseignement
2ème année / 2nd year
Semestre 1

Titre du cours
Southern Europe after 1945. Italy, Spain, Portugal, and Greece in the Post-War Period

Type de cours : Séminaire d’ouverture
Langue du cours/Language of instruction : English

Enseignant(s)
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Résumé du cours – Objectifs
According to the mainstream discourse of the Cold War, “Western Europe” after 1945 appears to be essentially a homogeneous historical space fully integrated into the context of modern industrial societies. In the second half of the 20th century, however, the so-called Western European societies were divided by deep inequalities both on the political and economic level. While States in the north embodied consolidated democracies, Spain, Portugal and Greece were, for shorter or longer periods, authoritarian regimes. At the same time, these countries were deeply afflicted with underdevelopment, which cut them off from the “economic miracles” other European states were experiencing. With its “weak democracy”, Italy had a contradictory position on the edge between the “backwardness” in the Iberian and Greek peninsulas and the “progress” in the neighboring countries beyond the Alps. At the beginning of the 21st century the old inequalities were believed to belong to the past, until the debt crisis appeared to be splitting apart the continent once again. The seminar raises the question of whether “Southern Europe”—as this area may be referred to from a geopolitical and socio-historical rather than from a geographical point of view—is useful as an analytical tool for contemporary history. Participants are supposed to read short texts in preparation for each session (especially selected chapters from the books by Giulio Sapelli and Martin Baumeister & Roberto Sala).

Evaluation
Students are expected to participate actively in the course, and to read all reading assignments before each session. They will have to write an essay on a topic related to the general issue. The mark will be based on the evaluation of the essay.

Plan – Séances
Session 1 – Long-term perspectives
To be read in advance:

Session 2 – The South: A common region in post-war Europe?
To be read in advance:
Text 3: Baumeister, Martin & Roberto Sala. «A Long Road South: Southern Europe as a Discursive Construction and Historical Region After 1945». In Southern Europe? Italy, Spain, Portugal, and Greece from the 1950s until the Present Day, Martin Baumeister, Roberto Sala (eds.), Frankfurt: Campus, 2015, pp. 19–50.

Session 3 – Economic development
To be read in advance:
Text 5: Rhodes, Martin. «Southern Europe in Social Science. A ›Southern European Model?». In Southern Europe? Italy, Spain, Portugal, and Greece from the 1950s until the Present Day, Martin Baumeister, Roberto Sala (eds.), Frankfurt: Campus, 2015, pp.51-76.

Session 4 – Welfare state and migration
To be read in advance:
Text 7: King, Russel. «Migration and Southern Europe. A Center-Periphery Dynamic?». In Southern Europe? Italy, Spain, Portugal, and Greece from the 1950s until the Present Day, Martin Baumeister, Roberto Sala (eds.), Frankfurt: Campus, 2015, pp. 139-169.

Session 5 – Discourses and narratives
To be read in advance:

Session 6 – To sum up
To be read in advance:

Bibliographie :
