240626 - Albert Einstein and Science and the Technique of the 20th Century

Degree competences to which the subject contributes

This is to introduce the history of Albert Einstein, one of the leading scientists in history, from the historiographical sources that are available today. We believe that the 'greats' are held in a large and complex scientific community with experience and tradition. Einstein was a person committed his time, led the defense of minorities, peace and social justice.

Others:
Antoni Roca Rosell
Massa Esteve, Maria Rosa
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Coordinator:
Antoni Roca Rosell

Teaching methodology
The course will consist of lectures combined with the presentation by students of monographic topics, selected from a list proposed by either initiative. Also, be two readings of texts on Einstein and Einstein.

Learning objectives of the subject
This is to introduce the history of Albert Einstein, one of the leading scientists in history, from the historiographical sources that are available today. We believe that the 'greats' are held in a large and complex scientific community with experience and tradition. Einstein was a person committed his time, led the defense of minorities, peace and social justice.
## Study load

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Total learning time: 75h</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Hours large group:</td>
<td>0h 0.00%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Hours medium group:</td>
<td>30h 40.00%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Hours small group:</td>
<td>0h 0.00%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Guided activities:</td>
<td>0h 0.00%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Self study:</td>
<td>45h 60.00%</td>
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## Content

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Lesson</th>
<th>Description</th>
<th>Learning time</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Lesson 1. Einstein, great figure. Childhood and youth</td>
<td>Presentation of the course. The 'greats' in the history of science. Einstein's family. Primary, secondary education. The Polytechnic School in Zurich. Early work.</td>
<td>10h</td>
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<tr>
<td>3rd lesson. Recognition. From Berlin to Princeton. The patents</td>
<td>In 1913, Einstein was invited to supervise a new centre in Berlin, being elected member of the Prussian Academy of Sciences and professor of the University. In 1915, he presented his General Theory of Relativity. In 1919, after the study of the total solar eclipse that gave validity to his theory, Einstein became a public personage, and his myth began. He was invited to lecture over the world. After the Nazis took the power in 1933, Einstein took a post in the Institute of Advanced Studies, Princeton. In the period between the wars, Einstein signed several patents in Europe and America, most of them with Leo Szilard, on a new system of refrigerator.</td>
<td>10h</td>
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<tr>
<td>Lesson 4. Last years</td>
<td>Einstein spent the last years of his life in the USA. During the WWII, he asked the president Roosevelt to promote the research on nuclear energy. After the atomic bombs over Japan, Einstein joint the movement against the arms race. One month before his death in 1955, he signed with Bertrand Russell a manifesto for the international dialogue.</td>
<td>10h</td>
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5th lesson. Einstein in Spain. The 1923 trip.

Description:
The work of Einstein was known in Spain by 1908. Terradas and Blas Cabrera diffused his theories after 1912. In 1920, Julio Rey Pastor invited Einstein to lecture in Spain. Finally, next year Einstein accepted a new invitation by Terradas. The course took place in February and March 1923. The lectures were received with interest, and Einstein visited several iconic places in Spain. In this lesson we follow the steps of Einstein in this trip and we try to evaluate its impact.

Qualification system

Final note: * 0.20 (average of readings) +0.20 * (half year exercise) +0.30 * class presentation +0.30 * final exercise

Regulations for carrying out activities

The readings should be delivered on schedule. There will be, also, a schedule of class presentations

Bibliography

Basic:


