

PS 002: INTRODUCTION TO COMPARATIVE GOVERNMENTS

Originator

sbutler

Co-Contributor(s)**Name(s)**

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Justification / Rationale

Updated SLO's

Effective Term

Fall 2023

Credit Status

Credit - Degree Applicable

Subject

PS - Political Science

Course Number

002

Full Course Title

Introduction to Comparative Governments

Short Title

COMPARATIVE GOVERNMT

Discipline**Disciplines List**

Political Science

Modality

Face-to-Face

100% Online

Catalog Description

This course involves the comparative analysis of different kinds of political systems, including their history, political institutions, processes and policies, the environments in which they occur, and their consequences.

Schedule Description

This course is a comparative study of various political systems, processes and policies across the world. Prerequisite: PS 001 IGETC: 4H

Lecture Units

3

Lecture Semester Hours

54

Lab Units

0

In-class Hours

54

Out-of-class Hours

108

Total Course Units

3

Total Semester Hours

162

Prerequisite Course(s)

PS 001

Required Text and Other Instructional Materials**Resource Type**

Book

Author

O'Neil, Patrick

Title

Essentials of Comparative Politics

City

New York

Publisher

W.W. Norton Company

Year

2017

College Level

Yes

Flesch-Kincaid Level

12

ISBN #

0393624587

Class Size Maximum

50

Entrance Skills

Acquire an understanding of the basic differences between Western and non-Western style governments

Requisite Course Objectives

PS 001-Identify the various levels and types of government and briefly describe the theory undergirding each.

Entrance Skills

Understand and appreciate the diversity of groups and peoples who have participated in the shaping of American history

Requisite Course Objectives

PS 001-Trace the struggle for equal rights as it has occurred at both the Federal and California State levels; relevant legislation and judicial decisions should be cited and the importance of these critically assessed.

Entrance Skills

Analyze the interrelationships between economics, political history and societal life

Requisite Course Objectives

PS 001-Trace, analyze and critically evaluate American political thought from its origins to the present.

Entrance Skills

Understand the unfolding of American history in the context of related world history

Requisite Course Objectives

PS 001-Explain the relationship between foreign policy and national security, identifying the relevant legislative, executive and judicial provisions.

Course Content**1. Exploring the Comparative Method/Introduction**

- What is comparative politics?
- Political institutions and regimes
- Reconciling freedom and equality

2. States

- Defining the role of the State
- Political organizations
- Rise of the modern states
- State power (legitimacy, centralization/decentralization, power and autonomy)
- Pakistan as a state failure

3. Nations and Society

- Ethnic identity (case studies can include countries in the Middle East and/or Africa)
- National identity (case studies can include countries in Europe, Latin America, the Middle East, Asia, and/or Africa)
- Citizenship and patriotism (case studies can include Germany, among several other countries in the regions listed above)
- Ethnic and national conflict (case studies can include countries in Europe, Latin America, the Middle East, Asia, and/or Africa)
- The role of religion and religious fundamentalism in shaping people's ideology and public attitudes

4. Political Economy (emphasis on comparing capitalistic (ideal laissez faire markets and the U.S.) and mixed economies (like France))

- Markets and property
- Public goods
- Social policies
- Taxation
- Economic policies (Japan as a case study of economic decline as a result of poor economic policies)
- Regulation

5. Democratic Regimes (emphasis on Western and Central European countries)

- Defining Democracy
- Origins of Democracy
- Contemporary democratization
 - Modernization and democratization
 - Elites and democratization
 - International relations and democratization
 - Culture and democratization
- Democratic institutions
- Models of democracy
- Political parties
- Electoral systems
- Referendum and initiative
- The roles and rights of citizens: civil rights and liberties (Hungary can serve as a recent example of the state trying to curtail civil liberties)

6. Nondemocratic Regimes (emphasis on North Korea, Cuba, and African countries like Zimbabwe and South Africa; to be compared to democratic regimes)

- Defining nondemocratic rule
 - Totalitarianism and nondemocratic rule
 - Origins of nondemocratic rule (personality cults, elite consolidation of power)
 - Nondemocratic regimes and political control (coercion and surveillance)
 - Models of nondemocratic rule (military rule, one-party rule, personal and monarchical rule)
7. Political Violence, Stability, and Regime Change
- What is political violence?
 - How does political violence undermine political stability?
 - Why does political violence occur?
 - Political violence: faith, terrorism, revolution, and regime change (case study: Arab Spring)
 - Countering political violence
8. Advanced Democracies (focus on Western European countries, like Germany)
- Defining advanced democracies
 - Advanced democracies today
 - Political institutions today
 - Economic institutions
 - The European Union and its prospects for success
 - Failures of advanced democracies (Greece's economic collapse as an example)
9. Communism and Postcommunism
- What is communism?
 - The rise of communism (case studies include China, Cuba, and/or USSR)
 - The fall of communism
 - What is postcommunism? Why is Russia struggling while China has implemented successful reforms?
10. Less-developed and Newly Industrializing Countries (focus will be on comparing struggling, less-developed countries, like the Democratic Republic of Congo and Haiti and the newly industrializing countries, like India, China, and Brazil)
- Prospects for freedom in newly industrialized countries and less-developed countries
 - Imperialism and its impact (case studies include countries in Africa and Latin America)
 - Institutions of imperialism
 - Challenges of postimperialism
11. Globalization
- What is globalization and how does it impact people's lives across the world?
 - Institutions and globalization
 - Political globalization
 - Economic globalization
 - Societal globalization
 - The Future of a globalized world (Did Globalization cause the 2008 recession?)

Course Objectives

Objectives	
Objective 1	Identify the role of the state.
Objective 2	Distinguish among regime types and their central features.
Objective 3	Compare political systems, both in theory and with actual country examples.
Objective 4	Explain the impact of the regional, economic, historical and cultural factors on political institutions and behavior.
Objective 5	Analyze political systems by using the comparative method.

Student Learning Outcomes

Upon satisfactory completion of this course, students will be able to:	
Outcome 1	Differentiate state and nations to understand the role of imperialism within the world.
Outcome 2	Formulate the similarities and differences among various political economies to determine how globalization shapes political, societal, and economic policy.
Outcome 3	Evaluate the various democracies and other political systems within more developed and emerging countries.

Methods of Instruction

Method	Please provide a description or examples of how each instructional method will be used in this course.
Discussion	Class discussions that ensure students can articulate their thoughts.
Technology-based instruction	May use LMS to deliver materials to students.
Activity	Group and individual activities like setting up an ideal political economy.
Lecture	Required to give context for the readings.
Participation	May assign in-class written assignments for participation points.
Other (Specify)	Videos either to be watched in or out of class to help students understand the readings.

Methods of Evaluation

Method	Please provide a description or examples of how each evaluation method will be used in this course.	Type of Assignment
College level or pre-collegiate essays	In addition to a major research paper, usually assign 2-3 shorter essays (3-4 pages).	Out of Class Only
Mid-term and final evaluations	Typically, exams with either or both multiple choice and short essays.	In Class Only
Tests/Quizzes/Examinations	Typically given, along with midterm and final cumulative exams, 2-3 exams throughout the semester.	In Class Only
Term or research papers	At least 1 major research assignment. Minimum 5-7 pages.	Out of Class Only
Guided/unguided journals	Reflective assignments. A few paragraphs asking students to connect their personal experiences to the readings. Can be given every week or every few weeks.	In and Out of Class
Written homework	Can be given every class or every few classes to ensure students complete the required reading.	Out of Class Only
Group activity participation/observation	Typically, students will be given assignments to complete in class, as a group. They can be shorter assignments (1-2 paragraphs) or longer assignments/group projects (videos, presentations, etc.).	In Class Only

Assignments
Other In-class Assignments

1. Participate in class discussion and take detailed notes on the lecture
2. Graded individual, written reflections on the out-of-class assigned material
3. Small group discussion in which students must actively participate (instructors can grade each student's performance in group activities based on the extent and depth of each student's contributions)
4. Class debate in which students are assigned roles (team member, moderator, active audience members) and graded on their individual performance
5. Examinations of various types, such as essay and multiple choice

Other Out-of-class Assignments

1. Readings in the textbook and in recommended supplementary literature
2. Attendance of lectures by instructor and occasional guest speakers, including the taking of detailed notes thereon
3. Viewing of films and slide programs, including the taking of notes thereon.
4. Listening to sound recordings and taking notes thereon
5. Participation in class research projects involving the collection, compilation and interpretation of data, including the composition of written or oral reports thereon
6. Prepare a comprehensive study of a particular issue, event or individual identified with one or more of the governments examined in class

Grade Methods

Letter Grade Only

Distance Education Checklist**Instructional Materials and Resources**

If you use any other technologies in addition to the college LMS, what other technologies will you use and how are you ensuring student data security?

N/A

If used, explain how specific materials and resources outside the LMS will be used to enhance student learning.

N/A

Effective Student/Faculty Contact

Which of the following methods of regular, timely, and effective student/faculty contact will be used in this course?

Within Course Management System:

Chat room/instant messaging
Discussion forums with substantive instructor participation
Online quizzes and examinations
Private messages
Regular virtual office hours
Timely feedback and return of student work as specified in the syllabus
Weekly announcements

External to Course Management System:

Direct e-mail
Posted audio/video (including YouTube, 3cm mediasolutions, etc.)

Briefly discuss how the selected strategies above will be used to maintain Regular Effective Contact in the course.

The above selected strategies are the best ways to ensure regular effective contact in an online setting. Announcements, email, regular virtual office hours, chat rooms/instant messaging, etc. ensure the class receives the same information and opportunities to interact with the instructor as students in a face-to-face setting.

Discussions and audio/video files (posted in discussions) allow students to interact with one another, as they would in a face-to-face classroom.

For hybrid sections, review/study sessions and regularly scheduled face-to-face meetings will help students successfully complete both the in-person and online parts of the course. They can seek help in class during regularly scheduled times throughout the semester, just like students in a face-to-face setting.

If interacting with students outside the LMS, explain how additional interactions with students outside the LMS will enhance student learning.

N/A

Other Information**Comparable Transfer Course Information****University System**

UC

Campus

UC Los Angeles

Course Number

PS 50

Course Title

Introduction to Comparative Politics

Catalog Year

2014-2015

University System

CSU

Campus

San Jose State University

Course Number

POLS 002

Course Title

Introduction to Comparative Politics

Catalog Year

2014-2015

University System

CSU

Campus

CSU Northridge

Course Number

POLS 156

Course Title

Introduction to Comparative Politics

Catalog Year

2014-2015

COD GE

C2 - Social and Behavioral Science

CSU GE

D8 - Political Science, Government, and Legal Institutions

IGETC GE

4H - Political Science, Government & Legal Institutions

MIS Course Data**CIP Code**

45.1001 - Political Science and Government, General.

TOP Code

220700 - Political Science

SAM Code

E - Non-Occupational

Basic Skills Status

Not Basic Skills

Prior College Level

Not applicable

Cooperative Work Experience

Not a Coop Course

Course Classification Status

Credit Course

Approved Special Class

Not special class

Noncredit Category

Not Applicable, Credit Course

Funding Agency Category

Not Applicable

Program Status

Program Applicable

Transfer Status

Transferable to both UC and CSU

C-ID

POLS 130

Allow Audit

Yes

Repeatability

No

Materials Fee

No

Additional Fees?

No

Approvals**Curriculum Committee Approval Date**

11/17/2022

Academic Senate Approval Date

12/08/2022

Board of Trustees Approval Date

01/20/2023

Chancellor's Office Approval Date

09/27/2010

Course Control Number

CCC000306377

Programs referencing this courseHistory AA-T Degree (<http://catalog.collegeofthedesert.eduundefined/?key=16>)Political Science AA-T Degree (<http://catalog.collegeofthedesert.eduundefined/?key=18>)Global Studies AA-T Degree (<http://catalog.collegeofthedesert.eduundefined/?key=195>)Liberal Arts: Social and Behavioral Sciences AA Degree (<http://catalog.collegeofthedesert.eduundefined/?key=30>)Social Science AA Degree (<http://catalog.collegeofthedesert.eduundefined/?key=32>)Journalism AA-T Degree (<http://catalog.collegeofthedesert.eduundefined/?key=9>)