

Fall 2013

Lecture: M, W 10:00-10:50 2BH 309

Discussion: F 11:00-11:50 2EPASW 2233 or 12:00-12:50 2EPASW 2219

Instructor: Dr. Petia Kostadinova
1118 BSB
Email: pkostad@uic.edu

Office hours: W 12:00-3:00
and by appnt.
Ph. 312-413-2187

Teaching Assistant: Liz Alejo
1113 BSB
Email: ealejo2@uic.edu

Office hours: M 11:00-12:00
and by appnt.
Ph. 312-996-4485

Pols 130: Introduction to Comparative Politics

This course is designed to provide students a comprehensive introduction to Comparative Politics through the discussion of a broad range of thematic topics. These are supplemented with a selection of academic readings and real world case studies from various regions of the world. In general, Mondays will be dedicated to the basic concepts of the week's readings (ECP), Wednesdays to the related scholarly readings (ERCP) and Fridays (sections) will focus on the comparative cases (CCP) as a platform for applying what was learned in the other readings.

There are no prerequisites for this course.

Required Texts

O'Neill, P., Essentials of Comparative Politics (4thEdition) **ECP**

O'Neill, P. and R. Rogowski, Essential Readings in Comparative Politics (4thEdition) **ERCP**

O'Neill, P., K. Fields, and D. Share, Cases in Comparative Politics (4thEdition) **CCP**

All books have been ordered through UIC bookstore.

Course Requirements

Students are responsible for completing all readings for the topic in question prior to attending the class.

Midterms (20% each = 40%)

Final Exam (35%)

Discussion Paper (10%)

Attendance (5%)

Participation in discussion sections (10%)

Grading Scale

A: 90-100 B: 80-89 C: 70-79 D: 60-69 E: < 60

Attendance: Note that class attendance is required for this course. This includes attendance at lectures and weekly discussion sections. Attendance will be monitored as necessary during lectures (roll) and through participation in in-class assignments.

Fall 2013

Lecture: M, W 10:00-10:50 2BH 309

Discussion: F 11:00-11:50 2EPASW 2233 or 12:00-12:50 2EPASW 2219

Attendance and participation grades in sections will be determined by the section instructor. Repeated absences will unquestionably affect your performance on exams since they will be based on class lectures, section discussions, as well as readings. Lecture notes and other related course materials discussed or distributed during class will NOT be posted online or otherwise distributed.

Discussion Paper: Each student will choose a date as when to prepare a discussion paper on some aspect of the material covered during one particular week of the course. Sign up for discussion paper will take place during the second week of class, Friday Sept 6. Submission of discussion papers will start on Friday Sept 13 and will continue until Friday Nov 22. There will be multiple discussion papers submitted each week, which is fine. This assignment consists of:

1. Reading the assigned material at least one week ahead of the class and choosing one or two topics to be highlighted in the paper; when choosing topics it is important to focus on issues that do indeed lend themselves to discussion
2. The student researches, prepares and writes a discussion paper (5-7 pages) covering the most pertinent points and prepares presentation material for Friday's class
3. Students turn in an electronic copy of the paper by 10:00am of each Friday. Instructions for electronic submission through Turnitin.com will be provided later in the semester.
4. The student presents his/her paper and its findings to the class during Friday's session; Presentations should take no more than 5mins each and should raise interesting points for discussion. Both the paper and the presentation should include references to relevant political events and links to the materials covered in the lectures.
5. After the presentation, the student submits a hard copy of their paper to the TA (no later than the end of the class).

The papers and presentations must be student's own work. Plagiarism will not be tolerated and will be punished in accordance with UIC policy. A presentation on how to avoid plagiarising will be made during the first discussion section.

Failing to schedule a presentation or missing a scheduled one without having a documented acceptable event will result in a failing grade for this assignment. *Acceptable events include medical emergency or hospitalization involving the student, family emergency, and participation in approved school events. Please speak to the instructor if you need clarification as to what constituted an acceptable event for an excused absence.*

There are two midterm exams taking place on Oct 2 and Nov 6 during class time. Final Exam will take place on Friday December 13 at 10:30-12:30 p.m. All exams will be multiple choice.

Students with disabilities must inform the instructor of the need for accommodations. Those who require accommodations for access and participation in this course must be

Fall 2013

Lecture: M, W 10:00-10:50 2BH 309

Discussion: F 11:00-11:50 2EPASW 2233 or 12:00-12:50 2EPASW 2219

registered with the Disability Resource Center. Please contact ODS at 312/413-2183 (voice) or 312/413-0123 (TTY).

Course Drops: Only a student can initiate the dropping of a course. The student can drop a course through Banner up through the 10th day of the semester; there is no academic penalty nor does a 'W' appear on the transcript. After the 10th day and through Friday of the 10th week, the student may drop courses by seeing a college academic advisor. These late drops are indicated by 'W' on the transcript and are limited to a total of four for the student's entire UIC career.

Enrollment in class: Campus policy requires that students be properly registered for a class in order to earn academic credit for that class.

Incompletes will not be allowed except in a case of a medical emergency resulting in hospitalization.

****PLEASE NOTE THAT THE INSTRUCTOR RESERVES THE RIGHT TO MAKE CHANGES TO THIS SYLLABUS AS NEEDED DURING THE COURSE OF THE SEMESTER. AS MUCH ADVANCE WARNING AS POSSIBLE WILL BE PROVIDED TO STUDENTS. CHANGES CAN BE MADE TO THE SCHEDULE, ASSIGNED READING OR OTHER ASPECTS AS DEEMED NECESSARY. NO CHANGES WILL BE MADE TO GRADING SCALE OR CORE UIC POLICIES AS NOTED ABOVE. ****

COURSE OUTLINE AND READING ASSIGNMENTS

WEEK 1 (Aug 26 & 28): Introduction to the Course and Comparative Politics

³⁵/₁₇ What is comparative politics

³⁵/₁₇ The comparative method

Readings:

³⁵/₁₇ ECP Chapter 1

³⁵/₁₇ ERCP Chapter 1 (first two readings)

³⁵/₁₇ CCP Chapter 1

WEEK 2 (Labor Day and Sept 4): The origin and Role of States

³⁵/₁₇ What is a state?

³⁵/₁₇ The 'modern' state

³⁵/₁₇ Comparing states

Readings:

³⁵/₁₇ ECP Chapter 2

³⁵/₁₇ ERCP Chapter 2 – ALL

³⁵/₁₇ CCP Chapter 2

WEEK 3 (Sept 6 & 11): Nations, Nationality and Identity I

³⁵/₁₇ Ethnic identity vs. national identity

³⁵/₁₇ Citizenship

Readings:

³⁵/₁₇ ECP Chapter 3

Fall 2013

Lecture: M, W 10:00-10:50 2BH 309

Discussion: F 11:00-11:50 2EPASW 2233 or 12:00-12:50 2EPASW 2219

³⁵/₁₇ CCP Chapter 3

WEEK 4 (Sept 16 & 18): Nations, Nationality and Identity II

³⁵/₁₇ Ethnic and nationalist conflict

³⁵/₁₇ Political identity and ideology

Readings:

³⁵/₁₇ ECP Chapter 3

³⁵/₁₇ ERCP Chapter 3 – (1) Fearon and Laitin; (2) Hobsbawm; (3) Baldwin and Huber

³⁵/₁₇ CCP Chapter 3

WEEK 5 (Sept 23 & 25): Political Economy

³⁵/₁₇ Systems of political economy

³⁵/₁₇ Evaluating political-economic systems

Readings:

³⁵/₁₇ ECP Chapter 4

³⁵/₁₇ ERCP Chapter 4 – (1) Smith; (2) North; (3) Mankiw

³⁵/₁₇ CCP Chapter 6

WEEK 6 (Sept 30 and Oct 2): Review and Midterm I

³⁵/₁₇ Review

Readings:

³⁵/₁₇ Catch-up & Review

WEEK 7 (Oct 7 & 9): Democracy and Democratic Regimes

³⁵/₁₇ Democracy and democratization

³⁵/₁₇ Institutions and political systems (variations on a theme)

Readings:

³⁵/₁₇ ECP Chapter 5

³⁵/₁₇ ERCP Chapter 5 – (1) Lijphart; (2) Schmitter and Karl; (3) Stephan, Linz and Yadav

³⁵/₁₇ CCP Chapters 4

WEEK 8 (Oct 14 & 16): Non-Democratic Regimes

³⁵/₁₇ Origins and characteristics of non-democratic governance

³⁵/₁₇ Types of non-democratic systems

Readings:

³⁵/₁₇ ECP Chapter 6

³⁵/₁₇ ERCP Chapter 6 – (1) Linz and Stapan; (2) Levitsky and Lucan; (3) Diamond

³⁵/₁₇ CCP Chapters 10 & 13

WEEK 9 (Oct 21 & 23): Political Violence

³⁵/₁₇ Origins of political violence

³⁵/₁₇ Types of political violence

Readings:

³⁵/₁₇ ECP Chapter 7

³⁵/₁₇ ERCP Chapter 7 – (1) Skocpol; (2) Kuran; (3) Goldstone

³⁵/₁₇ CCP Chapter 14

WEEK 10 (Oct 28 & 30): Advanced Democracies

³⁵/₁₇ Defining and understanding 'advanced democracies'

³⁵/₁₇ New modes of sovereignty, identity and political values

Fall 2013

Lecture: M, W 10:00-10:50 2BH 309

Discussion: F 11:00-11:50 2EPASW 2233 or 12:00-12:50 2EPASW 2219

Readings:

³⁵/₁₇ ECP Chapter 8

³⁵/₁₇ ERCP Chapter 8 – (1) Przeworski; (2) Duverger; (3) Acemoglu, Johnson, Robinson and Yared

³⁵/₁₇ CCP Chapter 5

WEEK 11 (Nov 4 & 6): Review and Midterm II

³⁵/₁₇ Review

Readings:

³⁵/₁₇ Catch-up & Review

WEEK 12 (Nov 11 & 13): Communism and Post-Communism

³⁵/₁₇ Communism: ideal versus reality

³⁵/₁₇ Post-communism – political, economic and social transformations

Readings:

³⁵/₁₇ ECP Chapter 9

³⁵/₁₇ ERCP Chapter 9 – (1) Marx and Engels; (2) Bunce and Wolchik; (3) Gat

³⁵/₁₇ CCP Chapters 7 & 8

WEEK 13 (Nov 18 & 20): Less developed and Newly Industrializing Countries

³⁵/₁₇ Defining and understanding ‘less-developed’ countries (origins and implication)

³⁵/₁₇ Industrialization and democracy

Readings:

³⁵/₁₇ ECP Chapter 10

³⁵/₁₇ ERCP Chapter 10 – (1) Collier and Gunning; (2) Krugman; (3) Acemoglu and Johnson

³⁵/₁₇ CCP Chapter 9 & 12

WEEK 14 (Nov 25 & 27): Globalization

³⁵/₁₇ Defining ‘globalization’

³⁵/₁₇ Evaluating globalization

Readings:

³⁵/₁₇ ECP Chapter 11

³⁵/₁₇ ERCP Chapter 11 – (1) Florida; (2) Jiang; (3) The Economist

³⁵/₁₇ CCP Chapter 11

WEEK 15 (Dec 2 & 4): Conclusions and Review

³⁵/₁₇ Review

Readings:

³⁵/₁₇ Catch-up & Review