

Spring 2014

Lecture: M, W 1:00-1:50pm 2BH 309

Discussion: F 10:00-10:50 2EPASW 2233 or 11:00-11:50 2EPASW 2233

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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% total)

Final Exam (35%)

Map quizzes (3%)

Discussion Paper (7%)

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

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necessary during lectures (roll) and through participation in in-class assignments. 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 Jan 24. Submission of discussion papers will start on Friday Jan 31 and will continue until Friday Apr 25, except on exam weeks. 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 turns in an electronic copy of the paper by 10:00am of each Friday.
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 emergence, 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.*

Instructions for electronic submission through Turnitin.com

To use this site you must first register (free of charge). Once logged in, search for the course ID (7387185) and use the password (pols130sp14) to access the course. Follow instructions for paper upload. ***Please note that deadlines are on central time. However, the times you will see on Turnitin.com are Eastern time zone, i.e. the due time that you will see will be one hour ahead, e.g. 11:00am instead of 10:00am; you must submit by the time deadline posted in the syllabus not on the site. Please plan ahead and

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avoid attempting last minute submissions as being even 1sec late will mean you will not be able to submit your written work on time.

There are two midterm exams taking place on **Feb 19** and **Apr 2** during class time. Final Exam will be **cumulative** and take place on a date, time, and location as determined by UIC Registrar's Office; and announced in class once available. All exams will consist of multiple choice questions.

Map quizzes on the world regions will be administered throughout the semester on the following dates. Together all quizzes will account for 3% of the final grade. Quizzes will be administered during discussion section and will consist of a blank outline map for each region and a list of countries. You will be asked to place the number for each country in the corresponding location on the blank outline map. The quiz dates will be announced at the beginning of the semester and all outline maps to be used will be posted on Blackboard under Information

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 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 (Jan 13 & 15): Introduction to the Course and Comparative Politics

³⁵₁₇ What is comparative politics

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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 (MLK Day and Jan 22): 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 (Jan 27 & 29): Nations, Nationality and Identity I

³⁵/₁₇ Ethnic identity vs. national identity

³⁵/₁₇ Citizenship

Readings:

³⁵/₁₇ ECP Chapter 3

³⁵/₁₇ CCP Chapter 3

WEEK 4 (Feb 3 & 5): 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 (Feb 10 & 12): 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 (Feb 17 and 19): Review and Midterm I

³⁵/₁₇ Review

Readings:

³⁵/₁₇ Catch-up & Review

WEEK 7 (Feb 24 & 26): 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

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WEEK 8 (Mar 3 & 5): 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 (Mar 10 & 12): 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 (Mar 17 & 19): Advanced Democracies

³⁵/₁₇ Defining and understanding ‘advanced democracies’

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

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 (Mar 24 & 26): NO CLASSES SPRING BREAK

WEEK 12 (Mar 31 & Apr 2): Review and Midterm II

³⁵/₁₇ Review

Readings:

³⁵/₁₇ Catch-up & Review

WEEK 13 (Apr 7 & 9): 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 14 (Apr 14 & 16): 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 15 (Apr 21 & 23): Globalization

³⁵/₁₇ Defining ‘globalization’

³⁵/₁₇ Evaluating globalization

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Readings:

³⁵/₁₇ ECP Chapter 11

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

³⁵/₁₇ CCP Chapter 11

WEEK 16 (Apr 28 & 30): Conclusions and Review

³⁵/₁₇ Review

Readings:

³⁵/₁₇ Catch-up & Review

UIC RESOURCES

The Writing Center, located in Grant Hall 105, offers one-on-one consultation with student writers who need help developing ideas, or need advice, guidance or additional instruction on any aspects of writing in any class. Tutors are prepared to spend fifty minutes per appointment, and there is no limit to the number of tutoring sessions you can have each semester. Make an appointment and be on time! Bring the paper on which you're working, as well as any related drafts or notes, and information about the assignment. For an appointment, call the Writing Center at (312) 413-2206, or stop by room 105 of Grant Hall. Visit the Writing Center website at www.uic.edu/depts/engl/writing for more information.

***Public Computer Labs** are available throughout campus where you may write and/or print out your work. For a list of labs and the hours they're open, go to <www.accc.uic.edu/pclabs>. NOTE: Do not wait until the last minute to print out papers. Sometimes labs have long lines of students waiting for access.*

The Academic Center for Excellence can help if you feel you need more individualized instruction in reading and/or writing; study skills, time management, etc. phone (312) 413-0031.

Counseling Services are available for all UIC students. You may seek free and confidential services from the Counseling Center <www.counseling.uic.edu>. The Counseling Center is located in the Student Services Building; you may contact them at (312) 996-3490. In addition to offering counseling services, the Counseling Center also operates the InTouch Crisis Hotline from 6:00 p.m.-10:30 p.m. They offer support and referrals to callers, as well as telephone crisis interventions; please call (312) 996-5535.