

CP0 2002, Sec. 04: Introduction Comparative Government  
Summer 2002  
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Class: 5:30-7:15  
Room: Bellamy 004  
Office Hours: 4:00-5:00

### Description

This course will provide an introduction to comparative politics. The goal of the class is to expose students to the comparative research methods and the major issues in the area. Students are encouraged to participate by bringing current events and life experiences that relate to the topics we are covering.

The class will be divided into four sections. The first will provide you with the basic tools of comparative political science. This section will help students learn to formulate research questions that can be answered with the comparative approach. The second section will focus on basic concepts, such as the nation-state and power, which are important to understand. The third section will look at mass politics and political ideologies. The final section will look at two of the major topics in comparative politics: democratization and economic development.

Students are expected to complete the readings, attend and participate in class.

### Required Texts

Sodaro, Michael J. 2001. *Comparative Politics: A Global Introduction*. Boston: McGraw-Hill.

Soe, Christian, ed. 2002. *Comparative Politics 02/03*. Guilford, CT: McGraw-Hill/Dushkin.

### Course Requirements

- 1) Midterm Exams: The midterm exams will not be cumulative. Each exam (there are three) will be worth 100 points or 20% of your grade.
- 2) Final Exam: The final exam **will be cumulative**. The final exam is worth 150 points or 30% of your final grade.
- 3) A 1 to 2 page paper on the topic of your choice. A sheet will be passed around for students to sign-up for their topic. There is also an optional oral presentation of your topic to the class for a maximum of 25 points. These presentations are meant to broaden the students' exposure to different topics so all students are encouraged to do a presentation. The paper is worth 50 points.
- 4) Attendance – Attendance is expected. Each day absent beyond 3 days will result in the loss of 15 points on your total grade. Students that sign the attendance sheet and then leave are

considered absent. Students caught writing another students name are considered absent for that day. The student that was absent is considered absent for every day prior to the violation. I consider this a form of cheating and it will not be tolerated.

### Students with Disabilities

Any student with a disability that requires special consideration should make the instructor aware of the disability within the first two weeks of class. The instructor will do whatever is necessary to accommodate the student's need. This class requires that the student register with the Students with Disabilities Services in order to receive special consideration. For information regarding the Students with Disabilities Services please contact the instructor or the Student Handbook.

### Class Rules

Students are expected to follow the University Honor Code. Please consult your student handbook.

Anyone caught cheating will fail the class, and the matter will be sent to the university.

Do not plagiarize. Plagiarism is taken very seriously. If you have a concern on what needs a citation, err on the side of caution or come see me.

Do not hesitate to come and see me with problems and concerns regarding the class.

All assignments must be completed to pass the class.

### Grading

465-500	A
450-464	A-
435-449	B+
415-434	B
400-414	B-
385-399	C+
365-384	C
350-364	C-
335-349	D+
315-334	D
300-314	D-
0-299	F

## Course Schedule

Date	Topic	Reading
Introduction		
6/ 24	Introduction	
6/ 25	What is Comparative Politics	Ch. 1
6/ 26	Major Topics	Ch. 2
6/ 27	Critical Thinking and Empirical Analysis	Ch. 3
7/ 1	Hypothesis Testing	Ch. 4
7/ 2	<b>Exam I</b>	
Basic Concepts		
7/ 3	Power	Ch. 5
7/ 4	<b>No Class</b>	
7/ 8	The State	Ch. 6
7/ 9	Nation-State	Ch. 7
7/ 10	Supranationalism	Art. 25, 26, 27, 28
7/ 11	<b>Exam II</b>	
Mass Politics		
7/ 15	Mass Politics	Ch. 11
7/ 16	Mass Politics	Art. 13, 14, 15, 16, 17, 18, 23, 24
7/ 17	Political Culture	Ch. 12
7/ 18	Ideology	Ch. 13
7/ 22	<b>Exam III</b>	
Democracy and Development		
7/ 23	Defining Democracy	Ch. 8
7/ 24	Types of Democracies	Ch. 9
7/ 25	Democratization	Ch. 10, Art. 32, 33, 34
7/ 29	Political Economy	CH. 14
7/ 30	Development	Ch. 15
7/ 31	Development	Art. 35, 36, 37. 38, 44, 45
8/ 1	<b>Final Exam</b>	