



2019-2020 Academic Year
Fall Session 2019



DEPARTMENT OF POLITICAL SCIENCE
FACULTY OF ARTS

POLITICAL SCIENCE 359.01
INTRODUCTION TO COMPARATIVE POLITICS

COURSE SYLLABUS

INSTRUCTOR: Mark Baron

TELEPHONE: 403-220-6007

OFFICE: SS 744

EMAIL: baronm@ucalgary.ca (Please see **Proper use of Email** on page 3)

OFFICE HOURS: We 1:00 p.m. – 3:00 p.m. or by appointment

WEBSITE: <http://d2l.ucalgary.ca>

COURSE DAY/TIME: MoWeFr 9:00 a.m. – 9:50 a.m.

COURSE LOCATION: SA 104

COURSE PRE-REQUISITE: None

COURSE DESCRIPTION

The purpose of this lecture-based core course is to provide students with a critical introduction to comparative method and its application to the study of liberal democratic, non-democratic, socialist, and post-colonial forms of state in a macro-regional context. Country-specific case studies will be employed to elaborate the comparison of institutions and systems, revolutions and revolutionary outcomes, post-authoritarian and post-socialist transitions, and patterns of development and underdevelopment, both within and between regions.

COURSE OBJECTIVES

This course is designed to impart a facility in the specialized vocabulary, core concepts, and theoretical approaches needed to conduct comparative political analysis. In addition, it is structured to acquaint students with the historical patterns of state and region formation as well as the processes of social change implicated in the development and transformation of contemporary political systems. The course is also intended to provide students with the intellectual background necessary to undertake further studies in comparative politics at the senior level, and to help them enhance their skills in critical analysis, writing, and reading comprehension.

REQUIRED TEXTBOOK

Patrick H. O'Neil, *Essentials of Comparative Politics*, Sixth Edition, (New York and London: W.W. Norton & Company, 2018).

COURSE COMPONENT WEIGHTS AND DUE DATES

COMPONENT	WEIGHTING	DUE DATES
Test #1	25%	Wednesday, October 9, 2019
Test #2	35%	Wednesday, November 6, 2019
Cumulative Final Examination	40%	Scheduled by the Registrar (December 9-19, 2019)
Total	100%	

GRADE SCALE: The following grading scale will be used:

A+ (95-100)	B+ (80-84)	C+ (66-69)	D+ (54-57)
A (90-94)	B (75-79)	C (62-65)	D (50-53)
A- (85-89)	B- (70-74)	C- (58-61)	F (0-49)

EVALUATION OF COURSEWORK: WRITING

Students are advised that their writing skills (i.e. spelling, grammar, punctuation, sentence structure, clarity of expression, and organization) will be taken into account in the determination of grades for Test #1 and the Cumulative Final Examination. Students are encouraged to make use of the services offered through Writing Support Services in the Student Success Centre (3rd floor of TFDL). For details, go to <http://www.ucalgary.ca/ssc/writing-support>.

TEST #1 AND TEST #2

Test #1 will be closed-book and written in class (SA 104) from 9:00 a.m. to 9:50 a.m. It will consist of one or more of the following – short answer, fill-in-the-blank, multiple choice, essay questions – and will cover (1) all required readings for Part A, which are specified under **Lecture Outline and Required Readings** on p. 4 of this syllabus, as well as (2) all lectures for the period Monday, September 9, 2019 to Monday, October 7, 2019. The instructor will provide further details about Test #1 in class only on Monday, October 7, 2019.

Test #2 will be closed-book, multiple-choice in format, and written in class (SA 104) from 9:00 a.m. to 9:50 a.m. It will consist of 50 questions and cover (1) all required readings for Parts A and B.1 (The Liberal Democratic Capitalist State), which are specified under **Lecture Outline and Required Readings** on p. 4 of this syllabus, as well as (2) all lectures for the period Monday, September 9, 2019 to Monday, November 4, 2019.

Make-Up Tests: Make-up tests will be granted for reasons that are extenuating and supported by appropriate documentation (please see **Absence from a Mid-term Examination and Supporting Documentation and the Use of a Statutory Declaration** below). **NOTE:** Make-up tests will be closed-book and may be given in a format different from that of the originally scheduled test.

CUMULATIVE FINAL EXAMINATION

The two (2) hour Registrar-scheduled cumulative final examination will be closed-book and essay in format. It will cover all lectures, assigned readings, and supplementary materials for the period Monday, September 9, 2019 to Friday, December 6, 2019. The instructor will provide further details about the final exam in class only on Friday, December 6, 2019.

Deferred Cumulative Final Exams: For information regarding final examinations, please see **Deferral of a Final Examination** below. **NOTE**: Deferred cumulative final exams will be closed-book and may be given in a format different from that of the originally scheduled exam.

CLASS PREPARATION

All students are expected to have completed and thoughtfully considered the assigned readings by the commencement of each lecture, and to demonstrate that they have done so through informed and constructive contributions to class discussions. Students are advised that lectures do not repeat the assigned readings verbatim. On the contrary, they are drawn from a variety of sources including the instructor's educational background, research interests, and teaching experience. **Thus, students are forewarned that regular attendance is highly recommended as they will be required to demonstrate proficiency in all the material covered in lectures, assigned readings, class discussions, and supplementary course materials (i.e. DVDs/videos) in all of their coursework. This means that all reading assignments are examinable whether they have been discussed in class or not, and that students will be held accountable for whatever is said in class by both the instructor and their peers.** Students who expect to have difficulty attending regularly are strongly urged to consult with the instructor immediately as no make-up lectures or DVD/video showings will be arranged for missed classes. The instructor will not loan his DVDs/videos to students.

RECORDING OF LECTURES

Recording of lectures is permitted for accommodation purposes or for individual private study at the discretion of the instructor. Any other use of recording constitutes Academic Misconduct and may result in suspension or expulsion. Both the student and the instructor must sign the appropriate form(s) to facilitate recording lectures.

CONTACTING YOUR INSTRUCTOR

Students requiring assistance are encouraged to speak to the instructor during class or during office hours. Should you wish to meet with the instructor outside of office hours, please telephone, email, or speak to him after class to make an appointment. It is to the student's advantage to keep such appointments.

PROPER USE OF EMAIL

Email is commonly used by students to communicate with their instructor. However, it does limit the effectiveness of the communications and may not be the best way for instructors to answer student questions, especially those requiring an explanation of concepts covered in this course or some personal concerns. Therefore, email use is to be restricted to making appointments with the instructor or informing him of emergencies. **The instructor will not answer detailed questions concerning the course curriculum, Tests #1 and #2, or the Cumulative Final Examination over email.**

LECTURE OUTLINE and REQUIRED READINGS
(tentative and subject to change as circumstances warrant)

PART A: THEORY AND METHOD IN COMPARATIVE POLITICS

1. Introduction to Comparative Political Analysis: Comparative Method, the Purposes of Comparison, and the Boundaries of the Subfield

Required Reading:

O'Neil – chapter 1

2. Comparative Political Economy of State Formation: Theoretical Debates on the Definition, Analysis, and Historical Development of the Modern State

Required Reading:

O'Neil – chapters 2, 3, and 7 (pp. 205-212 and 217-232)

PART B: COMPARATIVE PATTERNS OF DEVELOPMENT AND DEMOCRATIZATION

1. The Liberal Democratic Capitalist State

Required Reading:

O'Neil - chapters 4 (pp. 97-114, 116-118, and 126-132), 5, and 8

2. Nondemocratic State Forms

Required Reading:

O'Neil - chapter 6

3. Socialist State Forms and Post-Socialist Transitions

Required Reading:

O'Neil - chapters 4 (pp. 114-116), 7 (pp. 212-217) and 9

4. The Post-Colonial State

Required Reading:

O'Neil – chapters 4 (pp. 118-126) and 10

PART C: CONCLUDING THOUGHTS ON THE COMPARATIVE SUBFIELD

1. Comparative Politics in an Era of Globalization

Required Reading:

O'Neil – chapter 11

IMPORTANT POLICIES AND INFORMATION

Supporting Documentation and the Use of a Statutory Declaration

As stated in the University Calendar:

Students may be asked to provide supporting documentation for an exemption/special request. This may include, but is not limited to, a prolonged absence from a course where participation is required, a missed course assessment, a deferred examination, or an appeal. Students are encouraged to submit documentation that will support their situation. Supporting documentation may be dependent on the reason noted in their personal statement/explanation provided to explain their situation. This could be medical certificate/documentation, references, police reports, invitation letter, third party letter of support or a statutory declaration etc. The decision to provide supporting documentation that best suits the situation is at the discretion of the student. Students cannot be required to provide specific supporting documentation, such as a medical note.

Students can make a Statutory Declaration as their supporting documentation (available at ucalgary.ca/registrar). This requires students to make a declaration in the presence of a Commissioner for Oaths. It demonstrates the importance of honest and accurate information provided and is a legally binding declaration. Several registered Commissioners for Oaths are available to students at no charge, on campus. For a list of locations to access a Commissioner for Oaths, visit ucalgary.ca/registrar).

Falsification of any supporting documentation will be taken very seriously and may result in disciplinary action through the Academic Discipline regulations or the Student Non-Academic Misconduct policy.

This statement is accessible at: <https://www.ucalgary.ca/pubs/calendar/current/m-1.html>

Please note that while the form of supporting documentation provided is at the discretion of the student, the instructor has the discretion not to accept the supporting documentation if it does not corroborate the reason(s) given for the exemption/special request.

Absence From a Mid-term Examination:

Students who are absent from a scheduled term test or quiz for legitimate reasons are responsible for contacting the instructor via email within 48 hours of the missed test to discuss alternative arrangements. A copy of this email may be requested as proof of the attempt to contact the instructor. Any student who fails to do so forfeits the right to a makeup test.

Deferral of a Final Examination:

Deferral of a final examination can be granted for reasons of illness, domestic affliction, and unforeseen circumstances, as well as to those with three (3) final exams scheduled within a 24-hour period. Deferred final exams will not be granted to those who sit the exam, who have made travel arrangements that conflict with their exam, or who have misread the examination timetable. The decision to allow a deferred final exam rests not with the instructor but with

Enrolment Services. Instructors should, however, be notified if you will be absent during the examination. The Application for Deferred Final Exam, deadlines, requirements and submission instructions can be found on the Enrolment Services website at <https://www.ucalgary.ca/registrar/exams/deferred-exams>.

Appeals:

If a student has a concern about the course or a grade they have been assigned, they must first discuss their concerns with the instructor. If this does not resolve the matter, the student can then proceed with an academic appeal. The first step in an academic appeal is to set up a meeting with the Department Head. Appeals must be requested within 15 days of receipt of the graded assignment.

Student Accommodations:

Students seeking an accommodation based on disability or medical concerns should contact Student Accessibility Services; SAS will process the request and issue letters of accommodation to instructors. For additional information on support services and accommodations for students with disabilities, visit www.ucalgary.ca/access/.

Students who require an accommodation in relation to their coursework based on a protected ground other than disability should communicate this need in writing to their Instructor.

The full policy on Student Accommodations is available at <http://www.ucalgary.ca/policies/files/policies/student-accommodation-policy.pdf>.

University Regulations:

Students are responsible for familiarizing themselves with the University policies found in the Academic Regulations sections of the Calendar at www.ucalgary.ca/pubs/calendar/current/academic-regs.html.

Plagiarism And Other Forms Of Academic Misconduct:

Academic misconduct in any form (e.g. cheating, plagiarism) is a serious academic offence that can lead to disciplinary probation, suspension or expulsion from the University. Students are expected to be familiar with the standards surrounding academic honesty; these can be found in the University of Calgary calendar at <http://www.ucalgary.ca/pubs/calendar/current/k.html>. Such offences will be taken seriously and reported immediately, as required by Faculty of Arts policy.

Copyright Legislation:

As stated in the University of Calgary Calendar, Academic Regulations, “students are required to read the University of Calgary policy on Acceptable Use of Material Protected by Copyright and requirements of the copyright act to ensure they are aware of the consequences of unauthorised sharing of course materials (including instructor notes, electronic versions of textbooks etc.). Students who use material protected by copyright in violation of this policy may be disciplined under the Non-Academic Misconduct Policy.”
<https://www.ucalgary.ca/policies/files/policies/acceptable-use-of-material-protected-by-copyright.pdf> and <https://laws-lois.justice.gc.ca/eng/acts/C-42/index.html>

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Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy (FOIP):

FOIP legislation requires that instructors maintain the confidentiality of student information. In practice, this means that student assignment and tests cannot be left for collection in any public place without the consent of the student. It also means that grades cannot be distributed via email. Final exams are kept by instructors but can be viewed by contacting them or the main office in the Department of Political Science. Any uncollected assignments and tests meant to be returned will be destroyed after six months from the end of term; final examinations are destroyed after one year.

Evacuation Assembly Points:

In the event of an emergency evacuation from class, students are required to gather in designated assembly points. Please check the list found at www.ucalgary.ca/emergencyplan/assemblypoints and note the assembly point nearest to your classroom.

Faculty of Arts Program Advising and Student Information Resources:

For program planning and advice, visit the Arts Students' Centre in Social Sciences 102, call 403-220-3580 or email artsads@ucalgary.ca. You can also visit arts.ucalgary.ca/advising for program assistance.

For registration (add/drop/swap), paying fees and assistance with your Student Centre, contact Enrolment Services at (403) 210-ROCK [7625] or visit their office in the MacKimmie Library Block.

Important Contact Information:

Campus Security and Safewalk (24 hours a day/7 days a week/365 days a year)

Phone: 403-220-5333

Faculty of Arts Undergraduate Students' Union Representatives

Phone: 403-220-6551

Email: arts1@su.ucalgary.ca, arts2@su.ucalgary.ca, arts3@su.ucalgary.ca,
arts4@su.ucalgary.ca

Students' Union URL: www.su.ucalgary.ca

Graduate Students' Association

Phone: 403-220-5997

Email: askgsa@ucalgary.ca

URL: www.ucalgary.ca/gsa

Student Ombudsman

Phone: 403-220-6420

Email: ombuds@ucalgary.ca

Campus Mental Health Resources:

SU Wellness Centre: <http://www.ucalgary.ca/wellnesscentre/>

Campus Mental Health Strategy: <https://www.ucalgary.ca/mentalhealth/>