



2020-2021 Academic Year
Fall Session 2020



DEPARTMENT OF POLITICAL SCIENCE
FACULTY OF ARTS

POLITICAL SCIENCE 359.01
INTRODUCTION TO COMPARATIVE POLITICS

COURSE SYLLABUS

INSTRUCTOR: Mark Baron

EMAIL: baronm@ucalgary.ca (see **Instructor Email and Communication Policy**, page 6)

OFFICE HOURS: Available by appointment via telephone or Zoom

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

DELIVERY METHOD: Web-Based (Asynchronous)

COURSE PRE-REQUISITE(S): 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.

COURSE DELIVERY

POLI 359.01 will be delivered online asynchronously. There will be no synchronous (real-time) Zoom sessions scheduled for this course. Barring technical or other issues, instructional material (including, but not restricted to, pre-recorded audio/video lectures and/or lecture slides) will be posted to D2L one to three times per week for the period Monday, September 14, 2020 to Wednesday, December 9, 2020. The instructor will notify students each time he posts instructional material to the D2L course site. Please note that instructional material will not be posted to D2L during the Reading Break (Sunday, November 8, 2020 to Saturday, November 14, 2020).

Students are advised that they will be examined on all instructional material that the instructor posts to D2L as well as on all required reading from the textbook that the instructor has assigned for the course (please see **Required Textbook** below). In addition, students are strongly advised to familiarize themselves with the regulations governing acceptable use of the instructional material posted to D2L and their assigned textbook by referring to the sections on **Copyright Legislation, Instructor Intellectual Property, and Plagiarism and Other Forms of Academic Misconduct** below.

Though POLI 359.01 will be delivered asynchronously, the instructor will maintain an active online presence in the course. He will be in regular contact with students via email and other modes of communication provided through D2L. He will also be available for consultation by appointment via telephone or Zoom (please see the instructor's **Instructor Email and Communication Policy** on p. 6 of this syllabus).

For instructions on the use of D2L please go to <https://elearn.ucalgary.ca/category/students/d2l-students/>

TECHNOLOGY REQUIREMENTS

As per the University of Calgary's *Technology Requirements for Students Taking Online, Remote, and Blended Courses*, students enrolled in POLI 359.01 are required to have reliable access to technology as follows:

- A computer with a supported operating system, as well as the latest security, and malware updates;
- A current and updated web browser;
- Webcam/Camera (built-in or external);
- Microphone and speaker (built-in or external), or headset with microphone;
- Current antivirus and/or firewall software enabled;
- Stable internet connection

For further information, please go to <https://elearn.ucalgary.ca/technology-requirements-for-students/>. See also the section on **Required Access to Technology** below.

REQUIRED TEXTBOOK

The following textbook is available for purchase through the University of Calgary Bookstore in digital (ebook) and hardcopy (paperback) formats.

J. Tyler Dickovick, Jonathan Eastwood, and David B. MacDonald, *Comparative Politics: Integrating Theories, Methods, and Cases*, Canadian Edition, (Oxford: Oxford University Press, 2020).

COURSE COMPONENT WEIGHTS AND DUE DATES

COMPONENT	WEIGHTING	DUE DATES
Take Home Test #1: Submitted to the D2L Dropbox (Test 1 Folder)	25%	Due no later than 11:59:59 p.m. (MDT) on Friday, October 9, 2020
Take Home Test #2: Submitted to the D2L Dropbox (Test 2 Folder)	35%	Due no later than 11:59:59 p.m. (MDT) on Friday, November 6, 2020
Take Home Cumulative Final Exam: Submitted to the D2L Dropbox (Final Exam Folder)	40%	Due no later than 11:59:59 p.m. (MDT) on Friday, December 11, 2020
Total	100%	

Students who miss a required course component are requested to contact the instructor as soon as possible.

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, citation, and organization) will be taken into account in the determination of grades for Take Home Test #1, Take Home Test #2, and the Take Home 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>.

TAKE HOME TEST #1 AND TAKE HOME TEST #2

Take Home Test #1 will be posted on D2L on Monday, October 5, 2020. It will be open book and short answer and/or essay in format. Take Home Test #1 will cover (1) all required readings for Part A.1 (Dickovick, Eastwood, and MacDonald, 2020: chapters 1 and 16), which are specified under **Lecture Outline & Required Readings** on p. 6 of this syllabus, as well as (2) all instructional material posted to D2L for the period Monday, September 14, 2020 to Friday, October 2, 2020. Students will be allowed to consult the instructional material posted to D2L and the required reading while writing the test. **The instructor will provide further details/instructions regarding Take Home Test #1 when he posts it on D2L on Monday, October 5, 2020.**

Students are advised that their answers must be based on the instructional material posted to D2L and the required reading. **Use of sources other than the instructional material posted to D2L and the required reading is not permitted.** In addition, students are advised that **Take Home Test #1 is an individual exercise, not a collaborative one. The test you submit must be your own work (expressed in your own words and original to you). Thus, communicating with anyone about the test and/or collaborating with anyone on the test is strictly prohibited** (please see **Plagiarism and Other Forms of Academic Misconduct** below).

Due Date, Submission Requirements, and Late Penalty for Take Home Test #1: Take Home Test #1 must be submitted to the D2L Dropbox (Test 1 Folder) in Word or PDF format no later than 11:59:59 p.m. (MDT) on Friday, October 9, 2020. No other form of submission will be accepted. **The penalty for late Take Home Test #1 submissions will be 5 percentage points per day including weekends and statutory holidays. NOTE: Late penalties will be waived for reasons that are extenuating and supported by appropriate documentation** (please see **Supporting Documentation and the Use of a Statutory Declaration** below).

Take Home Test #2 will be posted on D2L on Monday, November 2, 2020. It will be open book and short answer and/or essay in format. Take Home Test #2 will cover (1) all required readings for Part A, which are specified under **Lecture Outline & Required Readings** on p. 6 of this syllabus, as well as (2) all instructional material posted to D2L for the period Monday, September 14, 2020 to Friday, October 30, 2020. Students will be allowed to consult the instructional material posted to D2L and the required reading while writing the test. **The instructor will provide further details/instructions regarding Take Home Test #2 when he posts it on D2L on Monday, November 2, 2020.**

Students are advised that their answers must be based on the instructional material posted to D2L and the required reading. **Use of sources other than the instructional material posted to D2L and the required reading is not permitted.** In addition, students are advised that **Take Home Test #2 is an individual exercise, not a collaborative one. The test you submit must be your own work (expressed in your own words and original to you). Thus, communicating with anyone about the test and/or collaborating with anyone on the test is strictly prohibited** (please see **Plagiarism and Other Forms of Academic Misconduct** below).

Due Date, Submission Requirements, and Late Penalty for Take Home Test #2: Take Home Test #2 must be submitted to the D2L Dropbox (Test 2 Folder) in Word or PDF format no later

than 11:59:59 p.m. (MDT) on Friday, November 6. No other form of submission will be accepted. **The penalty for late Take Home Test #2 submissions will be 5 percentage points per day including weekends and statutory holidays. NOTE: Late penalties will be waived for reasons that are extenuating and supported by appropriate documentation (please see Supporting Documentation and the Use of a Statutory Declaration below).**

Make-Up Take Home Tests: Make-up Take Home 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 Take Home Tests will be open book and may be given in a format different from that of the originally scheduled test.

TAKE HOME CUMULATIVE FINAL EXAMINATION

The Take Home Cumulative Final Examination will be posted on D2L on Friday, December 4, 2020. It will be **open book** and **essay in format**. The Take Home Cumulative Final Examination will consist of one (1) essay question (no choice). Everyone will write on the same question. The Take Home Cumulative Final Examination will cover all instructional material posted to D2L and all required readings for the period Monday, September 14, 2020 to Wednesday, December 9, 2020. Students will be allowed to consult the instructional material posted to D2L and the required reading while writing the Take Home Cumulative Final Examination. **The instructor will provide further details/instructions regarding the Take Home Cumulative Final Examination when he posts it on D2L on Friday, December 4, 2020.**

Students are advised that their answers must be based on the instructional material posted to D2L and the required reading. **Use of sources other than the instructional material posted to D2L and the required reading is not permitted.** In addition, students are advised that the **Take Home Cumulative Final Examination is an individual exercise, not a collaborative one.** The exam you submit must be your own work (expressed in your own words and original to you). Thus, communicating with anyone about the exam and/or collaborating with anyone on the exam is strictly prohibited (please see **Plagiarism and Other Forms of Academic Misconduct** below).

Due Date, Submission Requirements, and Late Penalty for the Take Home Cumulative Final Examination: The Take Home Cumulative Final Examination must be submitted to the D2L Dropbox (Final Exam Folder) in Word or PDF format no later than 11:59:59 p.m. (MDT) on Friday, December 11, 2020. No other form of submission will be accepted. **The penalty for late Take Home Cumulative Final Exam submissions will be 5 percentage points per day including weekends and statutory holidays. NOTE: Late penalties will be waived for reasons that are extenuating and supported by appropriate documentation (please see Supporting Documentation and the Use of a Statutory Declaration below).**

Deferred Take Home Cumulative Final Exams: Deferred Take Home Cumulative Final Exams will be open book and may be given in a format different from that of the originally scheduled exam.

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.

INSTRUCTOR EMAIL AND COMMUNICATION POLICY

Students requiring assistance are encouraged to speak to the instructor by appointment via telephone or Zoom. Though email is commonly used by students to communicate with their instructor, 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, the instructor may ask students to speak with him by appointment via telephone or Zoom to answer questions concerning the course curriculum, Take Home Tests #1 and #2, and the Take Home Cumulative Final Examination.**

LECTURE OUTLINE & 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:
Dickovick, Eastwood, and MacDonald – chapters 1 and 16
2. Comparative Political Economy of State Formation: Theoretical Debates on the Definition, Analysis, and Historical Development of the Modern State
Required Reading:
Dickovick, Eastwood, and MacDonald – chapters 3, 8-11, and 13-15

PART B: COMPARATIVE PATTERNS OF DEVELOPMENT AND DEMOCRATIZATION

1. The Liberal Democratic Capitalist State
Required Reading:
Dickovick, Eastwood, and MacDonald - chapters 4 and 6
2. Nondemocratic and Revolutionary State Forms
Required Reading:
Dickovick, Eastwood, and MacDonald - chapters 7 and 12
3. The Post-Colonial State in the Global South
Required Reading:
Dickovick, Eastwood, and MacDonald – chapter 5

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](https://www.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 Commissioners for Oaths, visit [ucalgary.ca/registrar](https://www.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>

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.

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.

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>.

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.

Required Access to Technology

Please see the University's resource page at https://ucalgary.service-now.com/it?id=kb_article&sys_id=86e7438013753ac06f3afbb2e144b031

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-electronic-resources-and-information-policy.pdf> and <https://laws-lois.justice.gc.ca/eng/acts/C-42/index.html>

Instructor Intellectual Property

Course materials created by instructors (including presentations and posted notes, labs, case studies, assignments and exams) remain the intellectual property of the instructor. These materials may NOT be reproduced, redistributed or copied without the explicit consent of the instructor. The posting of course materials to third party websites such as note-sharing sites without permission is prohibited. Sharing of extracts of these course materials with other students enrolled in the course at the same time may be allowed under fair dealing.

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.

Faculty of Arts Program Advising and Student Information Resources

For program planning and advice, please consult with the Arts Students' Centre by calling 403-220-3580 or by email at 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].

Important Contact Information

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

The University of Calgary recognizes the pivotal role that student mental health plays in physical health, social connectedness and academic success, and aspires to create a caring and supportive

campus community where individuals can freely talk about mental health and receive supports when needed. We encourage you to explore the excellent mental health resources available throughout the university community, such as counselling, self-help resources, peer support or skills-building available through the following resources:

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

Student Wellness Services:

<https://www.ucalgary.ca/wellness-services/services/mental-health-services>

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