



**DEPARTMENT OF POLITICAL SCIENCE  
FACULTY OF ARTS**

**POLITICAL SCIENCE 359 LECTURE 01  
INTRODUCTION TO COMPARATIVE POLITICS  
Fall 2021**

**COURSE SYLLABUS**

**Please be advised that the Faculty of Arts, the Department of Political Science, and the instructor of POLI 359.01 (Fall 2021) reserve the right to change the delivery method of this course from in person to online if it is determined that the situation warrants such a change.**

**INSTRUCTOR:** Mark Baron

**TELEPHONE:** 403-220-6007

**OFFICE:** SS 744

**EMAIL:** [baronm@ucalgary.ca](mailto:baronm@ucalgary.ca) (see **Instructor Email and Communication Policy**, page 5)

**OFFICE HOURS:** Available by appointment via telephone or Zoom

**COURSE DAY/TIME:** MoWeFr 9:00 AM – 9:50 AM

**DELIVERY METHOD:** In-person

**COURSE LOCATION:** ES 162

**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 & LEARNING OUTCOMES**

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, LECTURES, AND REQUIRED READING**

This lecture-based core course will be delivered in person unless the situation warrants a change in delivery method (please see page 1 of this syllabus). Students are advised that they will be examined on all lectures as well as on all required reading from the textbook that the instructor has assigned for the course (please see **Required Textbook** below).

Please note 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 in class is highly recommended. Also, students are forewarned that all of the required reading is examinable whether it has been discussed in lectures or not.**

Students are strongly urged to familiarize themselves with the policies governing acceptable use of lectures, postings to D2L, and the assigned textbook by referring to the sections on **Copyright Legislation, Instructor Intellectual Property, and Plagiarism and Other Forms of Academic Misconduct** 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).

## **D2L AND TECHNOLOGY REQUIREMENTS**

Students enrolled in POLI 359.01 (Fall 2021) will require reliable access to technology that enables them to use the D2L course site throughout the term. Moreover, if the situation warrants a change in the delivery method of this course from in person to online (please see page 1 of this syllabus), students enrolled in POLI 359.01 (Fall 2021) will require reliable access to technology as per the University of Calgary's *Technology Requirements for Students Taking Online, Remote, and Blended Courses* 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 on Technology Requirements, please go to <https://elearn.ucalgary.ca/technology-requirements-for-students/>. See also the section on **Required Access to Technology** below.

For information on the use of D2L, please go to <https://elearn.ucalgary.ca/category/d2l/student-resources/>. To access D2L, please go to <https://d2l.ucalgary.ca>.

## COURSE COMPONENT WEIGHTS AND DUE DATES

COMPONENT	WEIGHTING	DUE DATES
Take Home Test #1: <b>Submitted to the D2L Dropbox (Test 1 Folder)</b>	25%	Due no later than 11:59:59 p.m. (MDT) on Friday, October 8, 2021
Take Home Test #2: <b>Submitted to the D2L Dropbox (Test 2 Folder)</b>	35%	Due no later than 11:59:59 p.m. (MDT) on Friday, November 5, 2021
Take Home Cumulative Final Exam: <b>Submitted to the D2L Dropbox (Final Exam Folder)</b>	40%	Due no later than 11:59:59 p.m. (MDT) on Monday, December 13, 2021
Total	100%	

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

**GRADING 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 (3<sup>rd</sup> 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 4, 2021**. It will be **open book** and will consist of one or more of the following: short answer, essay, fill-in-the-blank, multiple choice questions. 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 lectures for the period Friday, September 10, 2021 to Friday, October 1, 2021. Students will be allowed to consult their lecture notes 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 4, 2021.**

Students are advised that their answers must be based on the lectures and the required reading. **Use of sources other than the lectures 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 8, 2021. 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 1, 2021. It will be open book and will consist of one or more of the following: short answer, essay, fill-in-the-blank, multiple choice questions. Take Home Test #2 will cover (1) all required readings for Part A.1 (Dickovick, Eastwood, and MacDonald, 2020: chapters 1 and 16) and Part A.2 (Dickovick, Eastwood, and MacDonald, 2020: chapters 3, 8-11, and 13-15), which are specified under **Lecture Outline & Required Readings** on p. 6 of this syllabus, as well as (2) all lectures for the period Friday, September 10, 2021 to Friday, October 29, 2021. Students will be allowed to consult their lecture notes 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 1, 2021.**

Students are advised that their answers must be based on the lectures and the required reading. **Use of sources other than the lectures 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 5, 2021. 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 Monday, December 6, 2021**. It will be **open book** and will consist of one or more of the following: short answer, essay, fill-in-the-blank, multiple choice questions. The Take Home Cumulative Final Examination will cover all lectures and all required readings for the period Friday, September 10, 2021 to Monday, December 6, 2021. Students will be allowed to consult their lecture notes 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 Monday, December 6, 2021.**

Students are advised that their answers must be based on the lectures and the required reading. **Use of sources other than the lectures 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 Monday, December 13, 2021. 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 Subdiscipline

Required Reading:

Dickovick, Eastwood, and MacDonald – chapters 1 and 16

2. Comparative 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](http://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](http://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>.

### **Reappraisals**

The University Calendar states that for reappraisals of graded term work:

“A student who feels that a piece of graded term work (term paper, essay, test, etc.) has been unfairly graded, may have the work reappraised as follows. The student shall discuss the work with the instructor **within ten business days** of being notified about the mark or of the item's return to the class. If not satisfied, the student shall take the matter to the head of the department offering the course **within 2 business days of receiving the decision from the instructor**, who will arrange for a reappraisal of the work **within the next ten business days**. The reappraisal will only be considered if the student provides a detailed rationale that outlines where and for what reason an error is suspected.” See <https://www.ucalgary.ca/pubs/calendar/current/i-2.html>

The University Calendar states that for reappraisal of academic assessments (final grades):

“A student may request a reappraisal of a final grade. The only element that will be considered is the final assessment(s) that makes up the final mark (e.g., final examination, final project, and final paper). The exception is when a grade for a piece of graded term work is made available to students

after the last day of classes for the term in which the course is scheduled; that grade may also be considered in a reappraisal of the final grade.”

“A student seeking a reappraisal of a final grade should first attempt to review the final assessment with the department or faculty offering the course. After which the student shall obtain a Reappraisal of Final Grade form from [ucalgary.ca/registrar](http://ucalgary.ca/registrar) (under Student Forms). The student must indicate exactly what error was made in marking the final assessment and/or in computing the final grade. The reappraisal will only be considered if the student provides a detailed rationale that outlines where and for what reason an error is suspected.” More information is available at: <https://www.ucalgary.ca/pubs/calendar/current/i-3.html>

### **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](http://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/](http://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-ow.com/it?id=kb\\_article&sys\\_id=86e7438013753ac06f3afbb2e144b031](https://ucalgary.service-ow.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-material-protected-by-copyright.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.

### **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](http://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](mailto:artsads@ucalgary.ca). You can also visit [arts.ucalgary.ca/advising](http://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 Tower, MT 116..

### **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](mailto:arts1@su.ucalgary.ca), [arts2@su.ucalgary.ca](mailto:arts2@su.ucalgary.ca), [arts3@su.ucalgary.ca](mailto:arts3@su.ucalgary.ca),  
[arts4@su.ucalgary.ca](mailto:arts4@su.ucalgary.ca)

Students' Union URL: [www.su.ucalgary.ca](http://www.su.ucalgary.ca)

Graduate Students' Association

Phone: 403-220-5997

Email: [askgsa@ucalgary.ca](mailto:askgsa@ucalgary.ca)

URL: [www.ucalgary.ca/gsa](http://www.ucalgary.ca/gsa)

Student Ombudsman

Phone: 403-220-6420

Email: [ombuds@ucalgary.ca](mailto: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/>.