



**DEPARTMENT OF POLITICAL SCIENCE
FACULTY OF ARTS**

**POLI 359 Lecture 01
Introduction to Comparative Politics
Winter 2021**

INSTRUCTOR: Evgeniia (Jen) Sidorova
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EMAIL: evgeniia.sidorova@ucalgary.ca
OFFICE HOURS: Mondays 12 pm via Zoom/or by appointment
COURSE DAY/TIME: MWF (asynchronous delivery; lectures will be posted on d2l)
DELIVERY METHOD: Web-Based
COURSE PRE-REQUISITES: None
TEACHING ASSISTANT: Comfort Kwarteng

COURSE DESCRIPTION

*Do you ever wonder how transnational social movements get started?
Or how economic development can differ so much from one country to the next?
Or what the relationship might be between world religions and conflict across the globe?*

The course introduces the central concepts, problems, and approaches that comprise the field of comparative politics. Emphasis may also be placed on key analytical challenges, competing methods, and basic governance systems in selected parts of the world.

COURSE OBJECTIVES & LEARNING OUTCOMES

The course is aimed to teach students how:

- To understand three main elements in comparative politics: methods, theories and evidence;
- To conduct political analysis through the application of theories, hypotheses and evidence;
- To compare and contrast political systems, institutions of government, politics, and society and culture in many countries by using the comparative approach;
- To analyze case studies (countries) by applying systematic approach to political economy, institutions, and social change.

REQUIRED TEXTBOOK(S)

Dickovick, James Tyler, and Jonathan Eastwood. *Comparative politics: Integrating theories, methods, and cases*. Canadian Edition. Oxford University Press, 2020.

REQUIRED TECHNOLOGY

This course requires a laptop with a stable internet connection.

COURSE COMPONENT WEIGHTS AND DUE DATES

COMPONENT	WEIGHTING	DUE DATES
Class participation	15	Regularly throughout the course, mostly as homework quizzes every Friday
Midterm exam #1 (TopHat)	10	February 12th, 2021
Midterm exam #2 (TopHat)	10	March 19 th , 2021
Research paper	35	Due March 31 st , 2021
Final exam	30	Scheduled by the Registrar
Total	100%	

If a student misses a required course component, please get in touch the instructor as soon as possible.

COURSE SCHEDULE & TOPICS

DATE	TOPIC	READINGS
Week 1 Monday January 11th	Intro to the class	No readings
Week 1 Wednesday, January 13th	The comparative approach: an introduction	Dickovick, James Tyler, and Jonathan Eastwood. <i>Comparative politics: Integrating theories, methods, and cases</i> . Canadian Edition. Oxford University Press, 2020 (D&E) - Chapter 1
Week 1 Friday, January 15th	The comparative approach: an introduction	D&E - Chapter 1
Week 2 Monday, January 18th	Theories, hypotheses and evidence	D&E – Chapter 2
Week 2 Wednesday, January 20th	Theories, hypotheses and evidence	D&E – Chapter 2
Week 2 Friday, January 22nd	The state	D&E – Chapter 3
Week 3 Monday, January 25th	The state	D&E – Chapter 3
Week 3 Wednesday, January 27th	Political economy	D&E – Chapter 4
Week 3 Friday, January 29th	Political economy	D&E – Chapter 4
Week 4	Development	D&E – Chapter 5

Monday, February 1st		
Week 4 Wednesday, February 3rd	Development	D&E – Chapter 5
Week 4 Friday, February 5th	Democracy and democratization	D&E – Chapter 6
Week 5 Monday, February 8th	Democracy and democratization	D&E – Chapter 6
Week 5 Wednesday, February 10th	Authoritarian regimes and democratic breakdown	D&E – Chapter 7
Week 5 Friday, February 12th	Midterm exam 1	No reading
Week 6 Monday, February 15th	Reading Week	NO LECTURE POSTED
Week 6 Wednesday, February 17th	Reading Week	NO LECTURE POSTED
Week 6 Friday, February 19th	Reading Week	NO LECTURE POSTED
Week 7 Monday, February 22nd	Midterm review Authoritarian regimes and democratic breakdown	D&E – Chapter 7
Week 7 Wednesday, February 24th	Constitutions and constitutional design	D&E - Chapter 8
Week 7 Friday, February 26th	Constitutions and constitutional design	D&E - Chapter 8
Week 8 Monday, March 1st	Legislatures and legislative elections	D&E – Chapter 9
Week 8 Wednesday, March 3rd	Legislatures and legislative elections	D&E – Chapter 9
Week 8 Friday, March 5th	Executives	D&E – Chapter 10
Week 9 Monday, March 8th	Executives	D&E – Chapter 10
Week 9 Wednesday, March 10th	Political parties, party systems, and interest groups	D&E – Chapter 11
Week 9 Friday, March 12th	Political parties, party systems, and interest groups	D&E – Chapter 11
Week 10 Monday, March 15th	Revolutions and contention	D&E – Chapter 12
Week 10 Wednesday, March 17th	Revolutions and contention	D&E – Chapter 12

Week 10 Friday, March 19th	Midterm exam 2	No reading
Week 11 Monday, March 22nd	Midterm review Nationalism and national identity	D&E – Chapter 13
Week 11 Wednesday, March 24th	Nationalism and national identity	D&E – Chapter 13
Week 11 Friday, March 26th	Race, ethnicity and gender	D&E – Chapter 14
Week 12 Monday, March 29th	Race, ethnicity and gender	D&E – Chapter 14
Week 12 Wednesday, March 31st	Ideology and religion in modern politics	D&E – Chapter 15
Week 12 Friday, April 2nd		Good Friday – NO LECTURE POSTED
Week 13 Monday, April 5th		Easter Monday – NO LECTURE POSTED
Week 13 Wednesday, April 7th	Ideology and religion in modern politics	D&E – Chapter 15
Week 13 Friday, April 9th	Comparative politics and IR	D&E – Chapter 16
Week 14 Monday, April 12th	Comparative politics and IR	D&E – Chapter 16
Week 14 Wednesday, April 14th	Case study: Comparative analysis of wildlife co- management regimes in Russia, Canada, and the US	No readings
FINAL EXAMS (scheduled by the Registrar)		April 19 th -April 29 th , 2021

Please note that the above schedule is tentative and may change as the need arises.

ESSAYS/RESEARCH PAPER

Students will be required to write one major research essay on a subject of their own choosing (suggestions will be provided) and is due on March 31st, 2020. This paper (2500 words, double-spaced) is to provide an analytical study of an aspect of comparative politics. The paper will be evaluated in terms of both its academic and writing content. It is to be submitted online through Dropbox on d2l or by email (Evgeniia.sidorova@ucalgary.ca)

PARTICIPATION

The course expects students to participate in TopHat quizzes (10 questions per week). The participation is asynchronous. TopHat quizzes will be assigned every Friday as homework.

MID-TERM EXAMINATION

Both midterm exams (February 12th and March 19th, 2021) will be 50 minutes long and closed-book. Each of these midterm exams is worth 10%. The tests will cover the beginning of the course (readings and lectures up to February 12th for midterm exam #1 and March 19th, 2021 for midterm exam #2). The exams will be in multiple-choice format and will be delivered online through TopHat's platform.

Each midterm exam will start at regular class time (11:00 AM) and will finish at 11:50 AM. Students can still request alternative timing by speaking to their instructor if the timing will not work for them (e.g., childcare or other reasons).

FINAL EXAMINATION

This exam will be set up on D2L Quizzes and be a range of multiple choice, true/false, and matching questions cumulative for the whole course though weighted towards the second half of the course. The exam will be available for 24 hours but close at the end of the Registrar scheduled time slot. Once the exam is started, there will be a time limit of three hours in total, with extended time for those with approved accommodations, but you have to start with enough time to finish before the end of the official time slot.

WRITING STATEMENT

Written assignments are often required in Political Science courses, and the quality of writing skills, including but not limited to such elements as grammar, punctuation, sentence structure, clarity, citation, and organization, will be taken into account in the determination of grades. Students are encouraged to make use of the services offered through Writing Support Services in the Student Success Centre by contacting them at <http://www.ucalgary.ca/ssc/writing-support>.

GRADING SCALE: The following grading scale will be used:

A+ (91-100)	B+ (77-79)	C+ (67-69)	D+ (55-59)
A (85-90)	B (73-76)	C (63-66)	D (50-54)
A- (80-84)	B- (70-72)	C- (60-62)	F (0-49)

LATE PENALTIES

Late penalties for written work: five percent (5%) per every day late, including weekends.

INSTRUCTOR GUIDELINES

Students requiring assistance are encouraged to speak to the instructor during class or their office hours. Should you wish to meet outside of office hours, please telephone or email to make an appointment. It is to the student's advantage to keep such appointments. All meetings will be held virtually.

Email is a common form of communication but it is not always the most effective way of answering student questions. If you cannot make office hours, please request a one on one meeting outside of these hours, to be held virtually.

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 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=86e7438013753ac06f3afb2e144b031

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/>.