

University of South Florida Sarasota-Manatee Course Syllabus Guidelines

CPO 2002, 3 Credits Intro to Comparative Politics Fall 2018, Online

Instructor: Brian Turnbull

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Office Hours: By appointment

Course Dates: Aug 20, 2018 - Dec 06, 2018 (15 Weeks)

Refund Drop Date: 8/24/2018

Withdrawal “W” Grade Drop Date: 10/27/2018

PREREQUISITES: None

COURSE DESCRIPTION: Comparative politics is the field of study within political science that is focused on describing, comparing, and making generalizations about the political systems and practices of the different regions of the world. Unlike the field of international relations, which is focused on the interactions between states, comparative politics looks at what happens within states. During this course, we will examine the fundamentals of political systems, including institutions, ideology, regimes, economics, and ethnic divides. We will explore primary areas of research in comparative politics, including colonization, nationalism, democratization, economic development, conflict, and international political economy.

We will apply this knowledge throughout the course to specific country cases from around the world. Students will be encouraged and expected to contribute in class to this discussion. The goal for this course is that students will gain a deeper understanding of the key actors and agents of change that influence the development of government and society across the globe, and develop communication and critical thinking experience in applying that knowledge to the world around them.

COURSE TOPICS

This course will cover the following content areas:

1. The influence of history on the political and institutional development of democracy across the globe.
2. The fundamentals of political systems, including institutions, ideology, regimes, economics, and ethnic divides
3. The various forms of political participation, and the methods used by political actors to gain influence and manage the democratic process.
4. The reciprocal relationship between structural factors, such as the economy, culture, and technology, and the governing process.
5. Primary areas of research in comparative politics, including colonization, nationalism, democratization, economic development, conflict, and international political economy.

COURSE OBJECTIVES

1. Understand how institutions, ideology, regimes, economics, and ethnic divides effect political institutions.

2. Identify and distinguish between the different forms of government and their sources of legitimacy.
3. Analyze the continuing evolution of political institutions and democracy across states.
4. Discuss the actors and factors that influence and guide the development of democracy: political parties, interest groups, the media, the military, public opinion, political participation, and civic engagement.
5. Develop and improve communication, collaboration, research, writing and critical thinking skills.

COURSE STUDENT LEARNING OUTCOMES

1. Demonstrate an understanding of the primary institutions, powers, and process of democratic development
2. Research, write, and present well-organized, clear, and evidence-based analytic arguments on key discussions within comparative politics.
3. Communicate and usefully debate key issues and concepts in comparative politics with your classmates.
4. Develop the organizational, presentation, and communication skills called for by many professions and graduate programs.

TEXT AND MATERIALS:

Access Code for E-Text: Comparative Politics, 2nd edition, David J Samuels. Pearson 2018

E-text ISBN-13: 9780134552477

We use the Pearson Revel online textbook for this class, it comes with integrated reading quizzes/exams as you read, so we don't have any tests/finals otherwise. As it is a big portion of your grade, you need to get access to Revel, but it is the only textbook you'll need for this course.

To gain access you have to purchase an access code, there are two options:

1. You can buy directly from Pearson, which is the same price or cheaper than our bookstore. To do so, just click on the Pearson Revel tab in Canvas on the sidebar, underneath Modules. This will connect you to our Revel course and will walk you through purchasing access. If you do this, you do not have to purchase anything from the bookstore.
2. You can buy an access code from our bookstore. Ask them for the Pearson Revel access code for our course, they should already have it on file. Then click on the Pearson Revel tab in Canvas on the sidebar, underneath Modules. This will connect you to our Revel course and will ask you to input your access code.

If you are waiting on financial aid to come through, you can select the 14-day free Revel trial, which will allow you to keep up on assignments until you can purchase full access.

Once you gain access to Revel you're set! All of your reading assignments/exams will be done through the Revel site or phone app. The discussions and papers for this class will still be done through Canvas.

CANVAS USE

The class syllabus is posted in CANVAS, an online course management system. In this class, CANVAS will be used for course scheduling, announcements, assignment instructions, and submission of assignments.

Information on how to use CANVAS is available at:
<http://usfsm.edu/information-commons/our-services/#>

Canvas Support is available through USFSM E-Learning staff from 9am to 5pm Monday through Friday.

The USF Tampa IT help desk also provides 24 hour support for CANVAS. Please call 813-974-1222 or email: help@usf.edu if you need assistance outside of USFSM's E-Learning hours.

CANVAS tutorials can be found in the Student Quick-Start Guide at <http://guides.instructure.com/m/8470>.

PLAGIARISM

The University of South Florida has an account with an automated plagiarism detection service which allows student assignments to be checked for plagiarism. I reserve the right to ask students to submit their assignments to Turnitin through Canvas. Assignments are compared automatically with a database of journal articles, web articles, and previously submitted papers. The instructor receives a report showing exactly how a student's paper was plagiarized.

PLEASE REMOVE YOUR NAME FROM THE BODY OF YOUR PAPER AND REPLACE IT WITH YOUR USF ID#. ALSO REMOVE YOUR NAME FROM THE FILE NAME AND REPLACE IT WITH YOUR USF ID# (e.g., "U12345678 Essay 1.docx") BEFORE SUBMITTING IT TO TURNITIN.

Pursuant to the provisions of the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA), students are requested to maintain confidentiality as a way to keep their personal contact information (i.e. name, address, telephone) from being disclosed to vendors or other outside agencies. By your submission, you are also agreeing to release your original work for review for academic purposes to Turnitin.

Plagiarism is intentionally or carelessly presenting the work of another as one's own. It includes submitting an assignment purporting to be the student's original work which has wholly or in part been created by another person. It also includes the presentation of the work, ideas, representations, or words of another person without customary and proper acknowledgement of sources. Students must consult with their instructors for clarification in any situation in which the need for documentation is an issue, and will have plagiarized in any situation in which their work is not properly documented.

- a. Every direct quotation must be identified by quotation marks or appropriate indentation and must be properly acknowledged by parenthetical citation in the text or in a footnote or endnote.
- b. When material from another source is paraphrased or summarized in whole or in part in one's own words, that source must be acknowledged in a footnote or endnote, or by parenthetical citation in the text.
- c. Information gained in reading or research that is not common professional knowledge must be acknowledged in a parenthetical citation in the text or in a footnote or endnote.

This prohibition includes, but is not limited to, the use of papers, reports, projects, and other such materials prepared by someone else.

GRADING

Revel Readings (30%)	150 pts
Discussions (20%)	100 pts
Opinion Paper (20%)	100 pts
Research Paper (30%)	150 pts
	500 total points

Final Grade Point Scoring

A+	500-485	A	484-463	A-	462-448
B+	447-433	B	432-413	B -	412-398
C+	397-383	C	382-363	C-	362-348
D+	347-333	D	332-313	D-	312-298
F	297-0				

GRADE BREAKDOWN

- **Revel Readings:** REVEL contains anywhere from four to seven short quizzes within each chapter of the textbook. Please complete these as you read to ensure understanding before moving on to the chapter exams. REVEL also contains one exam at the end of each chapter. These short exams are composed of 15 multiple-choice questions over the chapter. Please read the chapter and complete the chapter quizzes to ensure you are prepared for the exam. You receive three tries per question, after each try 1 point is deducted. You can leave the quiz and go back into the chapter at any time.
- **Discussions:** This is a political science course, and I want to encourage the respectful exchange of ideas and perspectives. You will need to post a thoughtful answer to the question and then respond respectfully and substantially to at least one of your group members by the due date each week. For each discussion, I will give each student in the group an individual participation grade, ranging from a 0-25. A zero would be if you did not participate in any of

the discussions. A 25 would be if you thoughtfully engaged with both the assigned question and at least one of your group members' observations by Sunday. If you have a legitimate reason for not participating, let me know as far in advance as possible and we can work out a way to make up the grade.

- **Opinion Paper:** You will need to write between 500 and 600 words answering one of the provided questions. Each question has multiple parts, so make sure you answer all of them thoroughly. Your opinion is important, but it must be based in evidence. So, use the lectures, use the readings from class, and do some research of your own to back up your opinions. Make sure you cite everything you use. A grading rubric is posted on Canvas.
- **Research Paper:** The research paper will need to be 1000-1200 words on a topic of your choice. I have provided a list of topics to choose from, but you are encouraged to suggest a new topic you are interested in if you discuss it with me first. Your opinion is important, but it must be based in evidence. Make sure you cite everything you use in APA format. I will also read any drafts sent to me up to a week before the final paper is due. A grading rubric is posted on Canvas.

LATE ASSIGNMENTS

Late work is penalized accordingly:

1-3 days = 15% penalty

Beyond 3 days= no grade

USFSM AND USF SYSTEM POLICIES

Policies are available in the [USFSM Catalog](#) and at regulationspolicies.usf.edu

- Academic Dishonesty:** The University considers any form of plagiarism or cheating on exams, projects, or papers to be unacceptable behavior. Please review the [USF System Regulation USF3.027 Academic Integrity of Students](#) and the [USF System Regulation USF6.0021 Student Code of Conduct](#).
- Academic Disruption:** The University does not tolerate behavior that disrupts the learning process. Please review [USF System Regulation USF3.025 Disruption of Academic Policy](#).
- Contingency Plans:** In the event of an emergency, it may be necessary for USFSM to suspend normal operations. During this time, USFSM may opt to continue delivery of instruction through methods that include but are not limited to: Canvas, online conferencing/collaboration tools, email messaging, and/or an alternate schedule. It is the responsibility of the student to monitor Canvas for each of their classes for course specific communication, as well as the USFSM website, their student email account, and [MoBull](#) messages for important general information. The USF hotline at 1 (800) 992-4231 is updated with pre-recorded information during an emergency. See the [Campus Police Website](#) for further information.
- Disabilities Accommodation:** Students are responsible for registering with the Office of Students with Disabilities Services (SDS) in order to receive academic accommodations. Reasonable notice must be given to the SDS office (typically 5 working days) for accommodations to be arranged. It is the responsibility of the student to provide each instructor with a copy of the official Memo of Accommodation. Contact Information:

- E. Evacuation Instructions:** At the beginning of each semester please note the emergency exit maps posted in each classroom. These signs are marked with the primary evacuation route (red) and secondary evacuation route (orange) in case the building needs to be evacuated.
- F. Religious Observances:** USFSM recognizes the right of students and faculty to observe major religious holidays. Students who anticipate the necessity of being absent from class for a major religious observance must provide notice of the date(s) to the instructor, in writing, by the second week of classes. Instructors canceling class for a religious observance should have this stated in the syllabus with an appropriate alternative assignment.
- G. Protection of Students Against Discrimination and Harassment:**
- 1. Sexual Misconduct/Sexual Harassment Reporting:** USFSM is committed to providing an environment free from sex discrimination, including sexual harassment and sexual violence (USF System Policy 0-004).
 - 2. Other Types of Discrimination and Harassment:** USFSM also is committed to providing an environment free from discrimination and harassment based on race, color, marital status, sex, religion, national origin, disability, age, genetic information, sexual orientation, gender identity and expression, or veteran status (USF System Policy 0-007).

The Counseling and Wellness Center is a **confidential** resource where you can talk about incidents of discrimination and harassment, including sexual harassment, gender-based crimes, sexual assault, stalking, and domestic/relationship violence. This confidential resource can help you without having to report your situation to either the Office of Student Rights and Responsibilities (OSRR) or the Office of Diversity, Inclusion, and Equal Opportunity (DIEO), unless you request that they make a report.

Please be aware that in compliance with Title IX and under the USF System Policy, educators **must** report incidents of discrimination and harassment, including sexual harassment, gender-based crimes, sexual assault, stalking, and domestic/relationship violence. If a student discloses any of these situations in class, in papers, or to a faculty member personally, he or she is required to report it to OSSR or DIEO for investigation. Students who are victims or who have knowledge of such discrimination or harassment are encouraged to report it to either OSSR or DIEO. The Deputy Coordinator for USFSM is Allison Dinsmore, Coordinator of Disability Services & Student Advocacy, 941-359-4714 or adinsmore1@sar.usf.edu.

Campus Resources:

Counseling Center and Wellness Center 941-487-4254
Victim Advocate (24/7) 941-504-8599

List of off-campus resources:

HOPE Family Services: 941-755-6805

Safe Place & Rape Crisis Center (SPARCC) – Sarasota: 941-365-1976

Centerstone: 941-782-4800; 24-hr Hotline 941-708-6059

H. Web Portal Information: Every newly enrolled USF student receives an official USF e-mail account. Students receive official USF correspondence and Canvas course information via that address. The web portal is accessed at <http://my.usf.edu>.

GENERAL INSTRUCTION FOR STUDENTS

A. Academic Support Services:

[The Information Commons](#) provides students with individual and group study spaces, computers, printers, and various media equipment for temporary use. The Information Commons is staffed by librarians, learning support faculty, tutors, and technology and e-learning specialists. Students challenged by the rigors of academic writing, mathematics, or other course content are urged to contact their professors early in the semester to chart out a plan for academic success, and/or regularly use the tutoring services provided by Learning Support Services (<http://www.usfsm.edu/academics/academic-resources/information-commons/tutoring.aspx>) which are provided at no cost to students.

B. Career Success Center:

Students can explore careers through activities such as job shadowing, mentoring, and internships. Whether students will be pursuing graduate school or seeking employment, Career Services can help develop a plan to reach their next destination. Students can prepare professional documents, practice for the interview and attend employer or graduate school information sessions. Access these resources or schedule an appointment with career advisors at www.usfsm.edu/career-services.

FALL 2018 SCHEDULE OF ASSIGNMENTS

Week 1: Due August 26th

- REVEL Sign Up

Week 2: Due September 2nd

- Module A: Doing Comparative Politics
 - Read: Chapter 1
 - Watch: Lecture A
 - Assignments: Discussion 1

Week 3: Due September 9th

- Module B: The State
 - Read: Chapter 2
 - Watch: Lecture B

Week 4: Due September 16th

- Module C: Democratic Political Regimes
 - Read: Chapter 3
 - Watch: Lecture C

Week 5: Due September 23rd

- Module D: Non-Democratic Political Regimes
 - Read: Chapters 4
 - Watch: Lecture D
 - Assignments: Discussion 2

Week 6: Due September 30th

- Module E: Regime Change
 - Read: Chapters 5
 - Watch: Lecture E
- Work on Opinion Paper

Week 7: Due October 7th

- Module F: Political Identity
 - Read: Chapter 6
 - Watch: Lecture F
- Assignments: Opinion Paper Due

Week 8: Due October 14th

- Module G: Religion and Politics
 - Read: Chapter 7
- Watch: Lecture G

Week 9: Due October 21st

- Module H: Gender and Politics
 - Read: Chapters 8
 - Watch: Lecture H
 - Assignments: Discussion 3

Week 10: Due October 28th

- Module I: Collective Action
 - Read: Chapter 9
 - Watch: Lecture I

Week 11: Due November 4th

- Module J: Political Violence

- Read: Chapter 10
- Watch: Lecture J
- Assignments: Discussion 4

Week 12: Due November 11th

- Module K: Political Economy of Development
 - Read: Chapter 11
 - Watch: Lecture K

Week 13: Due November 18th

- Module L: The Political Economy of Redistribution
 - Read: Chapter 12
 - Watch: Lecture L

Week 14: Due December 2nd

- Module M: Globalization
 - Read: Chapter 13
 - Watch: Lecture M
 - Assignments: Discussion 5
- Work on Research Paper

Week 15: Due December 6th

- Research Paper Due
- Extra Credit

