

INTRODUCTION TO COMPARATIVE POLITICS

POLS 2200

Spring 2006

Instructor: Etga Ugur

Time: T 6:00 - 8:30 p.m.

Room: OSH 232

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Office Hours: W 1:00 - 3:00 p.m. and by appointment

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OVERVIEW AND OBJECTIVES

Comparative Politics is the field of Political Science which systematically compares, contrasts and analyzes the political systems and processes of different countries, as well as the political action of individuals and groups of people. We will ask and try to answer questions like: Why did the Soviet Union collapse while China seems to be as strong as ever? What makes a political system democratic? Is democracy the right political system for every country? In what ways do people participate politically in authoritarian regimes where they cannot vote? What does it mean to be a First World or a Third World country? Even if you do not intend to major in political science, knowledge of other political systems will give you a better perspective for understanding the political system of the United States or of your home country. I also hope that the knowledge you gain and the analytical skills you will acquire during the semester will help you to better examine and interpret current events and make you better citizens of this world.

REQUIREMENTS

Midterm Examination: February 28 (25%)

Presentation and Paper: Refer to the Discussion Handout (30%)

Final Exam: May 2 (32%)

Map Quiz: (3%)

Class Participation: (10%)

The exams will consist of short identifications, fill in the blank and essay questions, and they will be based on the assigned readings and lectures. Participation includes attendance, coming to class prepared and engaging in class discussion, exercises and activities. Additionally, by the end of the semester you should become familiar with the names and the geographic locations of contemporary states. Over the course of the semester you will be given several map quizzes, among which only the final one will be graded.

Late Entry Policy: Make-ups for missed exams and incompletes for the course will be given at my discretion. In cases of serious and unavoidable circumstances, arrangements can be made to take the exams earlier and later (with the exception of final exam). Prior permission of the instructor is obligatory in any case. Make-up tests will be taken at the Test Center (Students Services Building, Rm. 498) with a fee of \$ 5 per exam.

Academic Honesty: I expect academic honesty in this class. Cheating and presenting somebody else's work or ideas as your own are serious offences. You should make sure to include citation information whenever you draw on others' work. Failure to do so may result in disciplinary action.

Americans with Disabilities Act Notice: Persons with disabilities requiring special accommodations to meet the expectations of this course are encouraged to bring this to the attention of the instructor as soon as possible. Written documentation of the disability should be submitted along with the request for special accommodations. For more information, please contact the Center for Disabled Student Service, 160 Union Building, 581-5020, www.disability.utah.edu.

READINGS

Textbook: Patrick O'Neil, *Essentials of Comparative Politics*, W. W. Norton & Company, 2004.

The lectures and class discussions will complement each other. The students are responsible for everything covered in class lectures and discussions as well as the assigned readings.

Also note that for most weeks, there will be some additional readings besides the required textbook and those will be available on electronic reserve through the library website.

COURSE OUTLINE

January 10 **Introduction- What is Comparative Politics?**

-O'Neil Ch. 1

January 17 **States, Nations and Political Regimes**

-O'Neil Ch. 2

-Walker Connor, "A Nation is a Nation, Is a State, Is an Ethnic Group, Is a...," *Ethnic and Racial Studies* 1-4 (1978), pp. 379-388. (Skip the ethnicity section)

-Robert Rotberg, "Failed States in a World of Terror," *Foreign Affairs*, 81, no. 4, July-August 2002.

January 24 **Authoritarian and Democratic Regimes**

-O'Neil pp. 119-156

-Philippe C. Schmitter and Terry Lynn Karl, "What Democracy is...and Is Not" *Journal of Democracy* 2 (Summer 1991), 75-87.

-Dahl, *Polyarchy: Participation and Opposition* (New Haven: Yale University Press, 1971), pp. 1-9.

January 31 **Political Institutions in Democratic Regimes**

-O'Neil pp. 156-207

-Alfred Stepan with Cindy Skach, "Constitutional Frameworks and Democratic Consolidation: Parliamentarism vs. Presidentialism" *World Politics* 46:1 (1993), pp.1-22.

February 7 **Modernization Theory**

-Daniel Lerner, "The Parable of the Grocer and the Chief", *The Passing of Traditional Society* (New York: Free Press of Glencoe, 1958)

-Seymour Martin Lipset, *Political Man*, Ch. 2

-Samuel Huntington, *Political Order in Changing Societies*, pp. 1-12, 32-58, 78-92.

February 14 **Transition to Democracy**

-O'Neil Ch. 8

-Samuel Huntington, *The Third Wave: Democratization in Late Twentieth Century* (Norman: University of Oklahoma Press, 1991), pp. 3-31.

-Juan J. Linz and Alfred Stepan, "Toward Consolidated Democracies" ch. 2 in Larry Diamond, Mark F. Plattner, Yun-han Chu, and Hung-mao Tien, eds., *Consolidating the Third Wave Democracies: Themes and Perspectives* (Baltimore: The Johns Hopkins University Press, 1997), pp. 15-23, 30-33.

February 21 **Political Economy and Development**

-O'Neil Ch. 4, 9

-Gunder Frank, "The Development of Underdevelopment," *Monthly Review*, Sept. 1966, pp.17-31

February 28 ***Midterm***

March 7 **Political Culture**

-O'Neil pp. 66-80

-Robert D. Putnam, "Bowling Alone: America's Declining Social Capital", *Journal of Democracy* 6, no. 1 (Jan. 1995), 65-78.

-Norris and Inglehart, "Cultural Obstacles to Equal Representation" *Journal of Democracy* 12 No. 3 (July 2001): 126-140.

March 14 ***Spring Break-No Class***

March 21 **Political Participation**

-Russell J. Dalton, *Citizen Politics*, Ch. 3, pp. 40-66

- Voter Turnout since 1945: A Global Report
- Sidney Verba, Norman Nie, and Jae-on Kim, *Participation and Political Equality*, Ch. 5, pp. 80-93.
- Piven and Cloward, "Low Income People and the Political Process," pp. 271-285.

March 28

Social Movements

- Karl Marx, *The Manifesto of the Communist Party*.
- Sidney Tarrow, *Power in Movement*, Ch. 5, pp. 71-90.

April 4

Social Movements

- Aldon D. Morris, "A Retrospect on the Civil Rights Movement: Political and Intellectual Landmarks", *Annual Review of Sociology*, 1999, 25: 517-539.
- M. Hakan Yavuz, "Opportunity Spaces, Identity and Islamic Meaning in Turkey," in Quintan Wiktorowicz (ed) *Islamic Activism: A Social Movement Theory Approach* (Bloomington: Indiana University Press, 2004), pp. 270-288.

April 11

Ethnicity, Race and Nationalism

- O'Neil pp. 46-62
- Anthony W. Marx, *Making Race and Nation: A Comparison of the United States, South Africa, and Brazil* (New York: Cambridge University Press, 1998), pp. 4-16.
- Benedict Anderson, *Imagined Communities*, Ch. 1, 10.

April 18

Religion and Politics

- Jeffrey Haynes, *Comparative Politics in a Globalizing World* (Cambridge: Polity Press, 2005), pp. 244-252.
- Seyla Benhabib, *The Claims of Culture* (Princeton: Princeton University Press, 2002)- excerpts.
- Vali Nasr, "Lessons from the Muslim World," *Daedalus*, vol.132, no. 3 (Summer 2003): 67-72.
- Religion and Politics in Utah, Ira Sharkansky, "Religion and Politics in Israel and Utah," *Journal of Church & State*, summer 1997, vol. 39, no. 3.

April 25

Globalization and Wrap Up

- O'Neil Ch. 10
- Martin van Creveld, "The Fate of the State," *Parameters*, Spring 1996: 4-17.
- Saskia Sassen, "The State and Globalization," in Rodney Bruce Hall and Thomas Biersteker, eds. *The Emergence of Private Authority in Global Governance* (Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, 2002), ch. 5. pp. 94-5, 103-6.

May 2

Final Exam 6:00-8:00 p.m.

