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POLITICAL SCIENCE 2200-090 and 091
INTRODUCTION TO COMPARATIVE POLITICS
ONLINE COURSE
SUMMER SEMESTER 2005

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COURSE POLICIES

READ THE FOLLOWING POINTS CAREFULLY. THEY ARE EXTREMELY IMPORTANT.

1. Communication with the instructor:

The best way to communicate with me is through email. *Please use the above email to communicate with me personally.* I check it much more than the web CT email.

2. Course preparation:

2.1 If you have never taken an online course, I suggest you explore the ONLINE COURSE STUDENT ORIENTATION found on the WebCT page after logging on. Knowledge of how this software operates is essential. You must become familiar with the WebCT software before beginning this course and you must be sure your computer can function with this software. If you wait for two or three weeks, you will already be behind.

2.2 You must begin your work in this class the first day of the semester. Many students put off beginning their work for a week or two only to discover they have already missed quizzes and assignments.

3. Late assignment and due dates

ABSOLUTELY no late assignments or quizzes will be accepted!! The quizzes and assignments become available on specific dates and are due on specific dates. In order to make the due dates simpler, all mandatory posts due on Tuesdays; and all responsive posts and textbook quiz due on Thursdays. Assignments and quizzes sent via email will not be accepted. You need to take the quiz and participate in assignments via Web CT during specified period. DO NOT WAIT UNTIL THE LAST MINUTE TO SUBMIT YOUR QUIZZES OR ASSIGNMENTS!!! POWER FAILURES AND COMPUTER FAILURES WILL NOT BE ACCEPTED AS EXCUSES. ***ABSOLUTELY NO LATE QUIZZES OR ASSIGNMENTS WILL BE ACCEPTED!!!! I AM A POLITICAL***

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SCIENCE INSTRUCTOR NOT A COMPUTER EXPERT!!! COMPUTER PROBLEMS ARE YOUR RESPONSIBILITY!!!

4. Online participation:

The bulletin board function of this course is a very important part of your grade. Due dates for the mandatory and response postings will be strictly adhered to. Make sure you post your mandatory and response postings under the designated lesson. If you post them on the main board, they might be overlooked.

5. Grading:

Your scores – The quizzes are graded automatically in the Web CT program and your scores are available immediately. If you want to view all of your quiz results later, the numerical scores are available by clicking the “Student Profile” icon on the home page and then clicking “my grades.”

You will also receive scores for your participation on the bulletin board. I will respond privately to each mandatory and responsive post you make. In my reply I will include your score for that particular post. PLEASE be sure to check the “Mail” icon on your home page. That is how I will communicate with you privately.

6. Midterm and Final Examinations:

The midterm and the final exam consist of multiple choices, term identifications, essay questions. The majority of multiple choice exams is taken directly from the quizzes. I strongly suggest you download and save a copy of each the quiz as it becomes available. You will then automatically have a study guide for the final. I will not be able to make the quizzes available after their due date. IF YOU DO NOT DOWNLOAD AND MAKE COPIES OF THE QUIZZES WHEN THEY BECOME AVAILABLE, THEY WILL NOT BE AVAILABLE AFTER THE DUE DATE; THEREFORE YOU WILL NOT HAVE THEM TO STUDY FOR THE FINAL

7. Suggestions: How to Use the Textbook and Prepare for Quizzes and Examinations

7.1: Textbook: There are key terms at the end of each chapter. I strongly suggest that you make an index card of each term. The textbook provides a bold face letter for each of these terms so that they are easy to find in each chapter. Write down the meaning of each term in your index card. This will come in handy when you are preparing for your examinations.

7.2: Follow an outline of each chapter as you study. A chapter out line is available in a class lecture section of the class. This will make reading materials more manageable and more systematic as you study it.

7.3 To study for the quiz, you have **3 hours** to take the quiz. The purpose is to allow you to take a look at the quiz questions, print them out, and study them before you take them. Make sure that you set aside sufficient amount of time when you take the quiz.

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7.4 A study-guide will be provided. I will provide possible terms and essay questions that will appear on midterm and final examinations a week prior to the midterm and final exam dates.

7.5 Streaming video: Because some course materials, including streaming video, have large data volume, it is highly recommended that you have access to high speed Internet. If you use a modem for Internet connection at home, you can use computers at the University of Utah (OSH Computer Lab, Marriott Library, EMCB Lab, or Union Lab) and public libraries such as Salt Lake Public Library. In order to view some online videos on some websites, such as www.learner.org, students need to register as a user. Please be aware of it.

8. Lecture Notes

A weekly lecture will be posted on the Web CT. Each weekly lecture contains main ideas and summary of required readings for that particular week. Students are to use the weekly lecture concurrently with their textbook and reserved readings to complete their quizzes and other assignments such as mandatory and responsive posts.

Course Description

For many of you this will be a new and exciting learning experience. Communication between the instructor and individual student and communication between students will be far greater than in a normal classroom setting. Please keep in mind that your success in this course will be directly related to your willingness to participate in the discussions and your self-motivation to “get the job done.”

There are five major sub fields in the discipline of political science – American politics, public administration, international relations, political theory, and comparative politics. Each of these sub fields examines different aspects of government and its interaction and relationships with individual and societal actors. This is an introductory course to comparative politics. It is designed to provide a basic understanding of the field of comparative politics. It offers an overview of basic approaches and concepts which are prevalently used in the study of comparative politics, such as political culture, nation building, democratization, and empirical insights into selected cases of individual states. The first half of class will examine major methods and concepts used in comparative politics. For example, we will discuss different patterns of political culture and their impact on participation and the role of major institutions of government in a policymaking process. The second part of the course will focus on specific country case studies. We will examine characteristics of major political institutions in each country in comparison with other states. We will use concepts and theories discussed in the first part of the course and apply them to different countries.

Course Objectives:

1. Provide students with understanding the core ideas and concepts in comparative politics and applying them to particular cases.
2. Students should be able to apply the comparative analysis framework presented in the text and in class to any country in the world.
3. Be able to learn about any political system in the world in comparison with others in terms of similarities and differences in a systematic manner.
4. Understand the major political systems in the world and the methods and theories political scientists use to understand those systems.

Course Texts and Readings

Almond, Gabriel A., and G. Bingham Powell, Jr. et. al. *Comparative Politics Today: A World View*, 8th ed., update. New York: Longman, 2004

This book will be supplemented by other required readings from journals, books and other sources. These readings are on reserve in the Marriott library. Most should be on electronic reserve as well.

There are two ways to access reserved readings: E-reserve and reading link in the Web CT. E-reserve can be obtained by using going to <http://ereserve.lib.utah.edu/webpac-1.2-bin/DoReserve> and type in course number (POLS 2200). To make it easier, students can also click on the readings and extra credit link in the Web CT.

Course Requirements

1. Textbook Quizzes:

There are 12 quizzes. **10 of them** will be counted towards your final grade. I will drop the lowest score of your quiz. Each quiz has 20 questions at 1 point per question.

Total points for quizzes = $20 \times 10 = 200$ points (20% of your grade)

Due dates are on the calendar and in the body of this syllabus. A due date will always be on a Thursday. Quizzes may be taken anytime after they are available but will not be accepted after the due date.

Please note that this is an open-book quiz, but there are **time limits** on the quizzes. You have to complete each quiz within 3 hours after you start. I suggest you download the quiz, print it off, answer the quiz questions while reading the chapter or chapters, then go back into WebCT to take the quiz.

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The majority of multiple choice questions of midterm and final exams are taken from the quizzes; therefore, be certain to keep copies of the quizzes with the correct answers because they will NOT be available after the due date.

2. Midterm and Final Exams:

There are midterm and final examinations. Each exam will be scheduled for a 1.5 hour period. Midterm and final exam will consist of 70 multiple-choice questions, which will be taken from the quizzes. Each question is worth 3 points. There will be 15 term identifications taken from key terms at the end of each chapter. Each term is worth 5 points. There will also be 2 small essay questions and it is worth 7.5 points each. Total points for final = 210 (Multiple Choice) + 75 points (Term identification) + 15 (Essay questions) = 300 points (30% of your grade)

EXAMINATIONS ARE NOT COMPREHENSIVE. Midterm examination will cover reading assignments and videos from week 1 to week 6 and final examination will cover all course materials from week 7 to week 12.

Please note the midterm and final exams will be taken at **a designated site in person and on campus**. These sites include the Technology Assisted Curriculum Center (TACC) located in the Marriott Library, Sandy Campus, Bountiful Campus. Those of you who are not in the Salt Lake area must make special arrangements with the TACC center for find a place nearby you to proctor the examinations. **Everyone must register with TACC to take the exam two weeks prior to the exam date.**

Because the majority of multiple choice section in the midterm and final exams are taken from the quizzes, you should download the quizzes and print them as they become available. You will then be able to study for the exams throughout the semester.

On your home page you will see an icon to register for the midterm and final exams. Click on it and follow the instructions. **You must register to take the exams!!!**

4. Participation:

As you prepare to take the quizzes and watch streaming videos, each student is required to participate in the online discussions that pertain to the specific section. You are encouraged to participate as much as you like; however, you are required to participate at least twice per section. There are two types of required participations: mandatory posting and responsive posting.

4.1 The first mandatory posting

This posting will be in response to my first posting. Each week, I will post questions based on the readings and videos that pertain to the specific section. **The response should be no less than one paragraph. One to two sentences would not be considered a meaningful response.**

Your postings should be understandable. You should use your textbook, reserve readings, and videos as well as personal opinion in your responses. Your response, though not formal, should be meaningful and add to the discussion.

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The purpose behind this assignment is to help you formulate ideas and integrate reading materials to assess current political issues around the world.

4.2 Your responsive posting. This is a required post for you to respond to the posting(s) of another student(s). In other words, you need to react to what other students have said in regards to the topic of that week. The response should also be no less than one paragraph. This is to encourage you to enter into a dialogue with your fellow students similar to class discussion. This is an academic discussion designed to encourage critical thinking. You must be respectful in responding to other students' comments. This does not mean that you have to agree with them. You can disagree with their opinions and be courteous at the same time. All responses and discussion must be in public and posted on the web board. **Private responses are acceptable as long as they are respectful. There will be no tolerant of personal attack**

4.3 Due Dates:

PLEASE NOTE MANDATORY POSTS ARE DUE ON TUESDAYS AND RESPONSIVE POSTS ARE DUE ON THURSDAYS. NO LATE POSTINGS WILL BE READ. Your success in this course will most definitely be determined by your participation in the online discussions. One or two sentences or a brief paragraph is not a meaningful response.

4.3 Participation Points:

There are 12 participation opportunities for you. A new topic will be posted for each week for you to respond. The best TEN will be counted towards your final grade. That means 2 of your lowest scores in this assignment can be dropped.

Each week's response has 20 points. 10 points for mandatory posting and 10 points for responsive post. The instructor will count best 10 responses of 12 responses. Total points for participation = $20 \times 10 = 200$ points (20% of your grade)

5. Course grades:

Class quiz	200	points	20%
Midterm exam	300	points	30%
Final exam	300	points	30%
Participation	<u>200</u>	points	20%
Total points possible for entire course	<u>1,000</u>	points	30%

Course Outline

Week ONE (May 16- May 22): Introduction to Comparative Politics

Readings: APS&D -- Chapters 1 and 2

Important dates:

Mon. May 16 Quiz 1 available and 1st Participation Question available
Tue. May 17 Week 1 Mandatory post due (11: 55 p.m.)
Thu. May 19 Textbook Quiz 1 and Response Post due (11: 55 p.m.),
Textbook Quiz 2 and 2nd Participation Question available

Week TWO (May 23-May 29): Ideology, Regime Type, and Political Culture and Socialization

Readings: APS&D – Chapter 3

Reserved Readings – Juan Linz and Alfred Stepan: A Democracy and its Arenas”

Important dates:

Tue. May 24 Week 2 Mandatory post due (11: 55 p.m.)
Thu. May 26 Textbook Quiz 2 and Response Post due (11: 55 p.m.),
Textbook Quiz 3 and 3rd Participation Question available

Week THREE (May 30-June 5): Political Institutions

Readings: APS&D – Chapter 4 and 5

Article direct link:

<http://proquest.umi.com/pqdweb?did=43775420&sid=2&Fmt=3&clientId=9456&RQT=309&VName=PQD>

Important dates:

Tue. May 31 Week 3 Mandatory post due (11: 55 p.m.)
Thu. June 2 Textbook Quiz 3 due and Response Post due (11: 55 p.m.),
Textbook Quiz 4 and 4th Participation Question available

Week FOUR (June 6-Jun12): Public Policy and Policy Making

Readings: APS&D – Chapter 6 and 7

Important Dates:

Tue. June 7 Week 4 Mandatory post due (11: 55 p.m.)
Thu. June 9 Textbook Quiz 4 and Response Post due (11: 55 p.m.),
Textbook Quiz 5 and 5th Participation Question available
Midterm study-guide is available

DON'T FORGET TO REGISTER TO TAKE THE MID TERM!

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Week FIVE (June 13-June 19): Models for Democracies

Reading: APS&D – Chapter 8: Politics in England
Chapter 19: Politics in the United States

Important Dates

Tue. June 14 Week 5 Mandatory post due (11: 55 p.m.)
Thu. June 16 Textbook Quiz 5 and Response Post due (11: 55 p.m.),
Textbook Quiz 6 and 6th Participation Question available

Week SIX (June 20-June 26): European Power

Readings: APS&D – Chapter 9: Politics in France
Chapter 10: Politics in Germany

Video: “East Looks West: Berlin United We Stand” (28.39 minutes)

<http://www.learner.org/resources/series180.html#>

Important Dates

Tue. June 21 Week 6 Mandatory post due (11: 55 p.m.)
Thu. June 23 Textbook Quiz 6 and Response Post due (11: 55 p.m.),
Textbook Quiz 7 and 7th Participation Question available

Saturday June 25

**MIDTERM EXAMINATION
REMEMBER YOU MUST REGISTER TO TAKE
THE EXAM**

Week SEVEN (June 27-July 3): Communism and Post-Communism

Readings: APS&D – Chapter 12: Politics in Russia

Video: Moscow: Rich in Russia (15 mins)

<http://www.pbs.org/frontlineworld/stories/moscow/index.html>

Important Dates

Tue. June 28 Week 7 Mandatory post due (11: 55 p.m.)
Thu. June 30 Textbook Quiz 7 and Response Post due (11: 55 p.m.),
Textbook Quiz 8 and 8th Participation Question available

Week EIGHT (July 4-July 10): A Country in Transition

Readings: APS&D – Chapter 13: Politics in China

Video: <http://www.pbs.org/wgbh/pages/frontline/shows/red/view/>

Section 1, 2, and 3

Important Dates

Tue. July 5 Week 8 Mandatory post due (11: 55 p.m.)
Thu. July 7 Textbook Quiz 8 and Response Post due (11: 55 p.m.),
Textbook Quiz 9 and 9th Participation Question available

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Week NINE (July 11-July 17): One-Party Democracy?

Readings: APS&D – Chapter 11: Politics in Japan

Important Dates

Tue. July 12 Week 9 Mandatory post due (11: 55 p.m.)
Thu. July 14 Textbook Quiz 9 and Response Post due (11: 55 p.m.),
Textbook Quiz 10 and 10th Participation Question available

Week TEN (July 18-July 24): Third World Democracy

Readings: APS&D – Chapter 17: Politics in India
Chapter 18: Politics in Nigeria

Video: Nigeria: The Road North

<http://www.pbs.org/frontlineworld/watch/>

Scroll down and select Nigeria to watch

Important Dates

Tue. July 19 Week 10 Mandatory post due (11: 55 p.m.)
Thu. July 21 Textbook Quiz 10 and Response Post due (11: 55 p.m.),
Textbook Quiz 11 and 11th Participation Question available

Week ELEVEN (July 25-July 31): Third World Democracy Continued

Readings: APS&D – Chapter 14: Politics in Mexico
Chapter 15: Politics in Brazil

Important Dates

Tue. July 26 Week 11 Mandatory post due (11: 55 p.m.)
Thu. July 28 Textbook Quiz 11 and Response Post due (11: 55 p.m.),
Textbook Quiz 12 and 12th Participation Question available
Study guide available
DON'T FORGET TO REGISTER FOR FINAL EXAM!

12. Week TWELVE (August 1-August 7): Nondemocratic Regimes

Reading: APS&D – Chapter 16: Politics in Egypt
-- Juan Linz and Alfred Stepan *Modern Nondemocratic Regimes*

Important Dates

Tue. Aug. 2 Week 12 Mandatory post due (11: 55 p.m.)
Thur. Aug. 4 Textbook Quiz 12 and Response Post due (11: 55 p.m.)

Saturday. Aug. 6

Final Exam

REMEMBER YOU MUST REGISTER TO TAKE THE FINAL.

IMPORTANT CLASS POLICIES

Persons with Disabilities

The University of Utah Political Science Department seeks to provide equal access to programs, services and activities for people with disabilities. If you need accommodations in this class, reasonable prior notice needs to be given to the instructor and to the Center for Disability Services, <http://disability.utah.edu/>, 162 Olpin Union Bldg, 581-5020 (V/TDD) to make arrangements for accommodations. This information is available in alternative format with prior notification.

Plagiarism Warning

This course adopts zero-tolerance policy in regard to plagiarism cases. Plagiarism, using others' work without proper citation, is a serious offense. It is also considered academic dishonesty to turn in your own papers for more than one course. Plagiarism cases will be reported to relevant authorities and may result in extremely severe consequences. Since written work is part of the course requirements, you may need to consult to various sources that describe how to cite references. Plagiarism has become an issue particularly at the age of internet; one can just copy and paste entire papers or portions of papers in a matter of seconds. Just changing the wording of the passages you use does not save you from plagiarizing. You need to refer to any source even if it is an internet one. If you have any further questions, please see me for clarification before it is too late.