

INTRODUCTION TO COMPARATIVE POLITICS

POLITICAL SCIENCE 2

WINTER QUARTER 2020

Instructor: Dr. Katharine Petrich

Office Hours: MWF 900-1015, and by appointment

Office Location: Vari Hall 218

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Class Location: Vari Hall 133

Class Time: MWF 1030-1135

What is this class?

Why do different states have a prime minister instead of a president? How do some countries become democracies, but others become (or remain) authoritarian? Why are some countries crippled by debt and others remain solvent? To find the answers to these questions, we turn to the field of comparative politics. Comparative politics is the study of different states and political systems, seeing *inside* the black box of the state into the mechanisms that make the state function as it does. By comparing how various states struggle with, respond to, and overcome similar historical, economic, and social dynamics we can predict how other countries may respond under similar circumstances. We will study processes and institutions to assess and evaluate theoretical traditions, current events, and future possibilities.

This class is designed to give you the tools to think critically about world events, breaking news, and random opining on Facebook. It will push you to develop the reading and writing skills to gather relevant information and then express your considered analysis, skills that will translate beyond this quarter. You will be responsible for a term paper, two exams, and regular participation.

What requirements does this class fulfill?

Explorations Core Curriculum: This class fulfills the Social Sciences requirement as well as the Cultures and Ideas 3 requirement, depending on the school in which you are affiliated:

- Students in the School of Engineering can fulfill BOTH of those core requirements with this course.
- Students in the Leavey School of Business or the College of Arts and Sciences may only fulfill ONE of those core requirements with this course. They do not fulfill both Explorations requirements. Students should check their degree audit to ensure they receive credit for their desired core requirement for the course. If students wish to switch which requirement the course fulfills, they should contact the Registrar's Office.

For the Social Sciences requirement, students will learn the principles of: scientific inquiry, complexity, critical thinking, mathematical & quantitative reasoning

Social Science Learning Objectives

- 1.1 Apply deductive and inductive reasoning to analyze social science topics.
- 1.2 Evaluate evidence used to test theories, hypotheses, or predictions.
- 1.3 Recognize that social scientific theories and/or data permit multiple interpretations or conclusions, and articulate reasons for the differing interpretations or conclusions.

For the Cultures and Ideas 3 requirement, students will demonstrate competency in: global cultures, diversity, critical thinking, perspective

Cultures and Ideas 3 Learning Objectives

- 3.1 Demonstrate an understanding of Asian, African, Middle Eastern, Eastern European, and/or Latin American cultures in their global and/or diasporic contexts.
- 3.2 Identify, analyze and evaluate the challenges and complexities as cultures interact with and influence one another.

Integrations Core Curriculum: This course is also part of the **Democracy Pathway**. Pathways supplement the Core Curriculum and prepare students for intelligent, responsible and creative citizenship.

Pathways, clusters of courses with a common theme, promote integrative and intentional learning. More specifically, they cultivate the ability to make intentional and reflective educational choices, to study a theme from a number of disciplinary or methodological perspectives, and to perceive connections and relationships among ideas

If you are using this class for your Pathway requirements, you must save a piece of “representative work” for your Pathways Portfolio submitted during your senior year. I recommend you use the free storage in your SCU Google Drive account or a free Dropbox account to keep a soft copy of your work.

What do I need for this class?

This course has one required text. It is available in the SCU bookstore, on Amazon, and via other third party textbook vendors. I sincerely recommend you consider renting this text.

O’Neil, Patrick. *Essentials of Comparative Politics*. 6th Edition. New York: W. W. Norton, 2017. (ISBN 978-0393624588)

If financial consideration make purchasing a textbook beyond your ability, please come see me as soon as possible. I will make sure you have access to the readings.

Additional topic specific readings will be provided via Camino. Please check the reading schedule closely at the beginning of each week.

A Note on Additional Readings:

We will hold a class discussion and poll during the second week of classes to determine which specific countries the class would like to examine in depth. Once these case studies have been selected, I will amend the reading list to reflect the appropriate country profiles.

How will I earn my grade?

Students are expected to complete the readings, all assignments, and exams for the course. Lecture will be held Mondays, Wednesdays, and Fridays. Students must attend lectures and actively participate in class discussions. Familiarity with current events and geography is also required and will be considered an important element of the course.

Students are strongly encouraged to read the news on a daily basis. Subscribing to the “Daily 202” email circulated by the Washington Post is an excellent way to stay abreast of domestic political news, and similar news roundups are available from other international media outlets like BBC News and Reuters. For students with foreign language skills, media produced outside the English speaking world has interesting and important viewpoints on current events.

Grade Breakdown:

Design Your Own Country:	5%
Paper Proposal:	5%
Midterm Exam:	20%
Rough Draft:	10%
Final Paper:	25%
Final Exam:	20%
Attendance and Participation:	15%

What are the grading policies?

ALL PAPERS MUST BE SUBMITTED VIA HARD COPY.

Final grades will be determined using the following percentage scale:

A = 100 – 93, A- = 92 – 90, B+ = 89 – 87, B = 86 – 83, B- = 82 – 80, C+ = 79 – 77, C = 76 – 73, C- = 72 – 70, D+ = 69 – 67, D = 66 – 63, D- = 62 – 60, F = < 60.

Technological devices in the classroom during lecture:

The use of laptops, cell phones or electronic devices is strictly prohibited except on special “technology days,” to be announced by the instructor in advance. The only exceptions would be medical documentation through the Office of Student Affairs. All electronic devices must be put away and silenced during the duration of the class.

POLICY ON LATE ASSIGNMENTS AND INCOMPLETES

Students are highly encouraged to hand in papers on time. Late papers, if accepted, will be at minimum marked down ½ a grade per day late. Except in the direst of circumstances, incompletes in this course are not possible. If I agree to an incomplete, a form in the Political Science Department

must be filled out, representing a contract between the student and the faculty member on when and how the course will be completed.

MAKE-UP EXAMS:

A make-up exam will only be given if a student informs me prior to the scheduled examination and provides a valid excuse with documentation for their absence. If you miss the exam and do not give prior notice or if you do not have a valid excuse, you will not be given a make-up exam and you will receive an F. If you miss the scheduled make-up exam, there will be no subsequent make-ups, and you will receive an F.

A Note on Email:

Please allow up to 24 hours for an email response. My “at work” hours are Monday through Friday from 900 – 1730 and emails received outside of those hours will likely not receive a response until the following work day.

Academic Integrity:

The Academic Integrity pledge is an expression of the University’s commitment to fostering an understanding of -- and commitment to -- a culture of integrity at Santa Clara University. The Academic Integrity pledge, which applies to all students, states: I am committed to being a person of integrity. I pledge, as a member of the Santa Clara University community, to abide by and uphold the standards of academic integrity contained in the Student Conduct Code. Students are expected to uphold the principles of this pledge for all work in this class. For more information about Santa Clara University’s academic integrity pledge and resources about ensuring academic integrity in your work, see www.scu.edu/academic-integrity.

Disabilities Resources:

If you have a disability for which accommodations may be required in this class, please contact Disabilities Resources, Benson 216, <http://www.scu.edu/disabilities> as soon as possible to discuss your needs and register for accommodations with the University. If you have already arranged accommodations through Disabilities Resources, please discuss them with me during my office hours. Students who have medical needs related to pregnancy may also be eligible for accommodations.

The Disabilities Resources office will work with students and faculty to arrange proctored exams for students whose accommodations include double time for exams and/or assisted technology. Disabilities Resources must be contacted in advance to schedule proctored examinations or to arrange other accommodations. The Disabilities Resources office would be grateful for advance notice of at least two weeks. For more information, you may contact Disabilities Resources at 408-554-4109.

Discrimination and Sexual Misconduct (Title IX):

Santa Clara University upholds a zero tolerance policy for discrimination, harassment and sexual misconduct. If you (or someone you know) have experienced discrimination or harassment, including sexual assault, domestic/dating violence, or stalking, I encourage you to tell someone promptly. For more information, please consult the University’s Gender-Based Discrimination and Sexual Misconduct Policy at <http://bit.ly/2ce1hBb> or contact the University’s EEO and Title

IX Coordinator, Belinda Guthrie, at 408-554-3043, bguthrie@scu.edu. Reports may be submitted online through <https://www.scu.edu/osl/report/> or anonymously through Ethicspoint <https://www.scu.edu/hr/quick-links/ethicspoint/>

COURSE SCHEDULE

Week 1	Introductions: Why Do I Care? Theories in Comparative Politics: Rational Choice, Structuralism, Culture	
Monday, January 6, 2020	First Day of Class	
Wednesday, January 8, 2020		Hoover Green, "How to Read for Political Science" O'Neil Chapter 1
Friday, January 10, 2020		Melanson and King "Theory in Comparative Politics"

Week 2	Nations, States, and Societies, Oh My!	
Monday, January 13, 2020		O'Neil Chapter 2
Wednesday, January 15, 2020		O'Neil Ch 3
Friday, January 17, 2020		Tilly "War Making and State Making as Organized Crime"

Week 3	Regime Types I: Democracies Happy Birthday Mr. President... or Madam Prime Minister?	
Monday, January 20, 2020		O'Neil Chapter 5
Wednesday, January 22, 2020		Horowitz, "Comparing Democratic Systems"

Friday, January 24, 2020		Olson, "Dictatorship, Democracy, and Development"
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Week 4	Regime Types II: Nondemocracies God Bless the King or Hello Comrade?	
Monday, January 27, 2020		O'Neil Chapter 6
Wednesday, January 29, 2020		Diamond, "Why Are There No Arab Democracies"
Friday, January 31, 2020	In Class Exercise: Design Your Own Country	

Week 5	Recovering from Empire: Postcolonial Legacies	
Monday, February 3, 2020	Paper Proposal Due	O'Neil Chapter 10
Wednesday, February 5, 2020		Sheinin, "Colonial and post-colonial Latin America" Young, "The End of the Post-Colonial State in Africa?"
Friday, February 7, 2020		

Week 6	Midterm	
Monday, February 10, 2020	Catch Up Day	
Wednesday, February 12, 2020	Review Session	Midterm Review Sheet Due
Friday, February 14, 2020	Midterm Exam	

Week 7	Nationalism	
Monday, February 17, 2020	NO CLASS – PRESIDENT’S DAY	
Wednesday, February 19, 2020		Greenfeld, "Varieties of Nationalism"
Friday, February 21, 2020		Thapar, "Women as Activists, Women as Symbols"

Week 8	Political Economies: Show Me The Money!	
Monday, February 24, 2020	In Class Writing Workshop Complete Draft Due	
Wednesday, February 26, 2020		O'Neil Chapter 4
Friday, February 28, 2020		Cederman, "Horizontal Inequalities and Ethnonationalist Civil War"

Week 9	Political Violence: Brother Against Brother	
Monday, March 2, 2020		O'Neil Chapter 7
Wednesday, March 4, 2020		Gaub, "Civil Wars: A Very Short Introduction" Collier and Hoeffler "Greed and Grievance in Civil War"
Friday, March 6, 2020		

Week 10	Political Violence: Demanding The Impossible At Gunpoint	
Monday, March 9, 2020		Rapoport, "The Four Waves of Modern Terrorism"

		Crenshaw, "Explaining Suicide Terrorism"
Wednesday, March 11, 2020		
Friday, March 13, 2020	Last Day of Class Exam Review FINAL PAPER DUE	Final Review Sheet Due

Week 12		
Monday, March 16	Final Exam	