Comparative Politics
Summer 2012

Course Information

Course Name	Comparative Politics
Course ID & Section	CPO 3103 DW 59
Credit Hours	3
Semester/Year	Summer 2012
Location	World Wide Web

Instructor Contact

Instructor	Dr. Anca Turcu
Office	Online Webcourses Chat Room
Office Hours	Monday and Tuesday 3:00-4.00 PM EST
E-mail	Anca.Turcu@ucf.edu You may also e-mail me by using the Webcourses e-mail/ messages system. I will use that system to send out updates, important messages or announcements. If you e-mail me, I will do my best to get back to you quickly, but I may take up to 48 hours to respond.
Academic and Content Related Questions	If you have questions about the academic material or class content, do not hesitate to contact me! Questions, feedback or comments are all welcome. For non-academic (not course content related questions), please see below.
Other Contact Information	If you have questions regarding technical support or any other non-academic, non course content related issues, you have to seek help through the technical support link on the class Home Page.

Course Description

This class will explore the government and politics of a number of countries around the Globe while providing a comparative insight into the institutions, electoral systems and processes that are specific to

their governments. We will also examine historical contexts, political culture, social realities and policy outcomes specific to each country.

Course Objectives

On completing this course students will be able to:

1. describe and analyze differences between the institutions and governmental systems of different countries
2. discuss the implications of different electoral systems for institutional change
3. comprehend traits of political culture and current developments in different countries
4. analyze the impact of institutions and government policies upon the democratization process in each country

Required Texts

- "Introducing Comparative Politics" by Drogus, Carol Ann and Stephen Orvis, CQ Press, 2st edition, 2012

Note: Political Science texts change significantly from one edition to the next, as elections and current events reshape institutions and societies. Thus, it is imperative that you purchase the most recent edition. Older editions are not acceptable.

Academic Calendar

Week	Module	Topic(s)	Readings
Week 1 (05/14-21)	Module 0 AND Module 1	Introduction and class overview AND Introduction and the Modern State (Part I)	Syllabus and Introductory Materials D & O Ch. 1 and Ch. 2 p.38-46
Week 2 (05/21-29)	Module 2	The Modern State (Part II) States and Citizens,	D & O Ch.2 p. 46- 93 and Ch. 3
Week 3 (05/29-06/04)	Module 3	The State and Identity; The State and the Market;	D & O Ch. 4, 5
Week 4 (06/04-11)	Module 4	Political Institutions: Governing, Participation and Representation	D & O Ch. 6, 7
Week 5 (06/11-18)	Module 5	Authoritarian Institutions	D & O Ch. 8
Week 6 (06/18-25)	Module 6	Regime Change: Coups, Revolutions and Democratization	D & O Ch. 9
Week 7 (06/25-	Module 7	Globalization, Deindustrialization & Development	D & O Ch. 10

07/02)			
Week 8 (07/02-09)	Module 8	Public Policy when Markets Fail: Welfare, Health and the Environment	D & O Ch. 11
Week 9 (07/09-13)	Module 9	Policies and Politics of Inclusion and Clashing Values	D & O Ch. 12

Due Dates

Weekly Assignments: (quiz, or discussion, or short paper); due every week (except week 7) by Monday evening, at 11.59 PM EST

Written Project: due on Monday evening, 07/02 at 11.59 PM EST.

Course Requirements

Weekly Assignments

These assignments will test your mastery of the material covered each week. Assignments can be quizzes, discussion postings or short papers. Assignments will be posted each week, with the exception of week 7. Specific instructions for each assignment will be available on the "Module Overview" page for each module. Your lowest scoring weekly assignment score will be dropped at the end of class, leaving you with seven scores, worth 10% of your grade each. That is, seven weekly assignments will make up 70% of your final grade. If you miss an assignment, or fail to submit it on time, you will automatically be assigned a grade of 0 for that assignment. Weekly assignments will be available, with the rest of the content for each module, on the Monday of each week and will close by the Monday evening of the following week, at 11.59PM EST. Please avoid last minute submissions in order to prevent technical difficulties. If asked to submit a short paper or a discussion, you will have to use turnitin.com-- see next paragraph.

Written Project

You will have to submit one major written project for this class, that will be worth 30% of your grade. Instructions and requirements will be posted on June 18 and the assignment will be due on July 2nd. The written project and written weekly assignments (be it discussions or short papers) must be submitted to: www.turnitin.com. Please create an account with this site using the class ID: 5094265 and the password: cposummer12. This site is designed to help me identify plagiarism, so make sure to take all necessary measures needed to avoid plagiarism. If you are not sure what constitutes plagiarism and how to avoid it, take this UCF library tutorial: http://infolit.ucf.edu/students/modules/#article116 Students who plagiarize or do not respect the UCF Golden Rule will receive and automatic FZ grade for the entire class. Please allow for plenty of time to complete the assignment, so that you avoid last minute submissions and the technical difficulties that sometimes accompany them. Assignments cannot be submitted late. Any missed assignment will be given a grade of 0.

Missed Assignments/Make-Ups

I will not grant extensions if you fail to submit your work due to technical difficulties. You are solely responsible if you fail to submit a quiz or an assignment due to technical difficulties, save for a major natural disaster (i.e. a hurricane). In the event of a hurricane, which causes power outages and evacuations, do not panic about your online assignments. Your safety and that of your family is your first priority. When power is restored, contact me and I will work with you to determine the best course of

action. Other circumstances, which may be considered "unavoidable", include medical or legal emergencies. Pertinent, official documentation, will be required if you plan on requesting to make up a quiz or assignment due to unavoidable circumstances.

Evaluation and Grading

Assignment	Percentage of Grade
Written Assignments (7)	70%
Written Project (1)	30%
Total	100%

Grading Scale

Letter Grade	Points
A	93 – 100
A-	90 – 92
B+	87 – 89
B	83 – 86
B-	80 – 82
C+	77 – 79
C	73 – 76
C-	70 – 72
D+	67 – 69
D	63 – 66
D-	60 – 62

F	59 and below

Grading Formula

(Written project *.30) + [(sum of seven highest scoring weekly assignments/7)*.70]= final grade

Attendance Policy

This course is web-based, fully online and considered a "W" course. Students are expected to fully participate in all online activities and to complete all assignments by the due dates.

Participation and a timely completion of work and assignments are both considered similar to attendance in a face-to-face class. Assignments that are not turned into Webcourses before the due date, will receive 0 points. Missed quizzes cannot be retaken.

Academic Honesty

Students must demonstrate a high level of responsibility and academic honesty and must respect the Golden Rule. Because the value of an academic degree depends upon the absolute integrity of the work done by the student for that degree, it is imperative that a student demonstrate a high standard of individual honor in his or her scholastic work.

Scholastic dishonesty includes, but is not limited to, statements, acts or omissions related to applications for enrollment or the award of a degree, and/or the submission as one's own work or material that is not one's own. As a general rule, scholastic dishonesty involves one of the following acts: cheating, plagiarism, self-plagiarism, collusion and/or falsifying academic records.

If you are not sure what constitutes plagiarism and how to avoid it, take this UCF library tutorial: http://infolit.ucf.edu/students/modules/#article116

Students who cheat, plagiarize, self-plagiarize, falsify records or practice any other form of academic dishonesty will receive an automatic FZ grade for the class and will be referred to the university for further disciplinary action.

Disability Statement

The University of Central Florida is committed to providing reasonable accommodations for all persons with disabilities. This syllabus is available in alternate formats upon request. Students with disabilities who need accommodations in this course must contact the professor at the beginning of the semester to discuss needed accommodations. No accommodations will be provided until the student has met with the professor to request accommodations. Students who need accommodations must be registered with Student Disability Services, Student Resource Center Room 132, phone (407) 823-2371, TTY/TDD only phone (407) 823-2116, before requesting accommodations from the professor.

Copyright

This course may contain copyright protected materials such as audio or video clips, images, text materials, etc. These items are being used with regard to the Fair Use doctrine in order to enhance the learning environment. Please do not copy, duplicate, download or distribute these items. The use of these

materials is strictly reserved for this online classroom environment and your use only. All copyright materials are credited to the copyright holder.

Third-Party Software and FERPA

During this course you might have the opportunity to use public online services and/or software applications sometimes called third-party software such as a blog or wiki. While some of these could be required assignments, you need **not** make any personally identifying information on a public site. Do not post or provide any private information about yourself or your classmates. Where appropriate you may use a pseudonym or nickname. Some written assignments posted publicly may require personal reflection/comments, but the assignments will not require you to disclose any personally identity-sensitive information. If you have any concerns about this, please contact your instructor.

Important Disclaimer

These descriptions and timelines are subject to change at the discretion of the professor. I will provide notification of such changes in a timely manner.