Comparative Politics
Summer 2011

Course Information

Course Name	Comparative Politics
Course ID & Section	CPO 3103 DW 58
Credit Hours	3
Semester/Year	Summer 2011
Location	World Wide Web

Instructor Contact

Instructor	Dr. Anca Turcu
Office	Online Webcourses Chat Room
Office Hours	Tuesdays 3:00-4.30 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	**Three before me!** If you have questions regarding assignments, technical support or any other non-academic, non course content related issues, you have to seek help from three other sources before you turn to me. You must prove that you have sought out at least three avenues to obtain information regarding a question or problem you are having before you may ask me. There are discussion postings, chat rooms, e-mail, a technical FAQ page, and other avenues available online so that you can get the answers you need. Please use them! Also, many times the answer can be found in the syllabus! Many of your fellow students may already know how to resolve your issue. Post a note or send an e-mail and ask them! I will only respond to questions when you prove that you have met the "Three-Before-Me" rule. Chances are, someone in the class may

	have had the same question you do. Use the tools indicated above to find out.

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, 1st edition, 2008
- "Comparative Politics Annual Editions 2009/2010", by Yap, Fiona; McGraw Hill, 27th Edition
- **Note:** Please purchase the book editions indicated above.

Academic Calendar

Week	Module	Topic(s)	Readings
Week 1 (05/16-22)	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.37-44
Week 2 (05/23- 29)	Module 2	The Modern State (Part II) States and Citizens,	D & O Ch.2 p. 44- 83 and Ch. 3
Week 3 (05/30- 06/05)	Module 3	The State and Identity; The State and the Market;	D & O Ch. 4, 5
Week 4 (06/06- 12)	Module 4	Political Institutions: Governing, Participation and Representation	D & O Ch. 6, 7; Yap: 1- 4, 8-10, 12, 21
Week 5	Module 5	Authoritarian Institutions	D & O Ch. 8; Yap: 15, 18,

(06/13-19)			19, 29, 37
Week 6 (06/20-26)	Module 6	Regime Change: Coups, Revolutions and Democratization	D & O Ch. 9; Yap: 5, 6, 7, 11
Week 7 (06/27-07/03)	Module 7	Globalization, Deindustrialization & Development	D & O Ch. 10; Yap: 32-36
Week 8 (07/04-10)	Module 8	Public Policy when Markets Fail: Welfare, Health and the Environment	D & O Ch. 11; Yap: 31
Week 9 (07/11-17)	Module 9	Policies and Politics of Inclusion and Clashing Values	D & O Ch. 12, Yap: 23, 24, 25, 39, 40, 41

Due Dates

Quizzes: every week by Sunday evening, at 11.59 PM EST

Assignments (projects or discussions): every week by Sunday evening, at 11.59 PM EST (with the exception of week 9)

Course Requirements

Quizzes

Weekly quizzes will test your knowledge of the material from the module covered during the week. You will have to answer fifty multiple choice or true/ false questions for two points each. Your two lowest scoring quiz scores will be dropped at the end of class, leaving you with seven quizzes, worth 5% of your grade each. That is, seven quizzes will make up 35% of your final grade. If you miss a quiz, or fail to submit it on time, you will automatically be assigned a grade of 0 for that quiz. Quizzes will be available, with the rest of the content for each module, on the Monday of each week. Note that quizzes are timed—you have one hour to complete each quiz. Quizzes will close each week by Sunday evening, at 11.59PM EST and may be taken only once. Please avoid last minute submissions in order to avoid technical difficulties.

Written Assignments

Please complete written assignments as requested/described within each individual module, by the date/ time indicated by the assignment calendar above. Please submit assignments by Sunday evenings at 11.59 PM EST (except week 9, when no assignment will be due). All written assignments (be it discussions or projects) must be submitted to: www.turnitin.com. Please create an account with this site using the class ID: 3985945 and the password: cposummer11. 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 will receive and automatic F 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.

Students will have to submit a written assignment every week, excluding week 9, when no assignment will be due. Two of your submitted assignments will be randomly selected by the professor and graded. The first written assignment grade will be posted by 06/15 and the second written assignment grade will posted by 07/17. Since the professor will randomly choose which written assignment to grade, complete all assignments to the best of your ability. Follow the written assignment instructions in each module! The first written assignment will make up 30% of your final grade, the second written assignment will make up 35% of your final grade.

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). Unavoidable circumstances sometimes occur which throw timing off...hurricanes for example! 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 your instructor. She will work with individual students to determine the best course of action. Remember, your instructor could be experiencing the same or similar problems in the event of a hurricane! Other circumstances, which may be considered "unavoidable", include medical or legal emergencies. Pertinent documentation, deemed acceptable by the instructor, will be required for any delayed assignment.

Evaluation and Grading

Assignment	Percentage of Grade
Quizzes (7)	35%
Assignment 1	30%
Assignment 2	35%
Total	100%

Grading Scale

Letter Grade	Points
A	93 – 100 points
A-	90 – 92 points
B+	87 – 89 points

B	83 – 86 points
B-	80 – 82 points
C+	77 – 79 points
C	73 – 76 points
C-	70 – 72 points
D+	67 – 69 points
D	63 – 66 points
D-	60 – 62 points
F	59 and below

Grading Formula

(assignment1 *.30) + (assignment2 * .35) + [(sum of seven highest scoring quizzes/7)*.35]= 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 date.

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 by the due date, will receive 0 points.

Academic Honesty

Students must demonstrate a high level of responsibility and academic honesty. 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, 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, falsify records or practice any other form of academic dishonesty will receive an automatic F grade for the class.

More details can be found at:
http://regulations.ucf.edu/~regs/pdf/notices/5.015StuAcademicBehaviorStandards_newJul09_001.pdf

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

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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.