UNIVERSITY OF CENTRAL FLORIDA
CPO 3103-0001: COMPARATIVE POLITICS
SPRING 2014

Professor: Myunghee Kim | Office: PH311f
Class: MWF 11:30 am – 12:20 pm | Office Hours: MWF 1:30 – 2:20 pm
Credit hours: 3 | MWF 3:30-4:40 pm
Class Room: PSY 106 | (& by appointment)
E-mail: Myunghee.kim@ucf.edu | Office Phone: x36247

CPO 3103 introduces comparative politics as a subfield of political science. This course is designed to develop the understandings and skills to major or minor in political science by examining the world's different political systems. Two main objectives are: 1) understandings of fundamental concepts in major four aspects of political science – structural, historical-cultural, behavioral, and global aspects; 2) comparisons of the major aspects of liberal democratic and non-democratic ideologies, political economic features of democratic and authoritarian regimes, key institutions, political parties, interest groups, political issues, and cleavages.

REQUIREMENTS

Readings

O'Neil, Patrick H. *Essentials of Comparative Politics*. 4th Edition. New York: W. W. Norton, 2013 (ISBN: 978-0-393-91278-4).

All other reserved readings, articles, and chapters of various books are listed from page 4 to 5 in this syllabus.

Examinations

Four examinations are required for this course. The midterm examination is **20** percent each and the final examination is **25** percent of your total grade. The midterm examination will be held on February 12, March 19, and April 7 during the class. The final examination will follow the University schedule (http://www.registrar.sdes.ucf.edu/calendar/exam/). The details on examinations will be discussed during the class. Without instructor's prior permission to a specific student, there will be no make-up examinations.

Assignment/Quiz

Homework assignments for information/data gathering or quizzes will be given during classes. Five percent of the total grade is assigned for the miscellaneous assignments.

Attendance

Students in this course are required to be present in the class. In each class, participants have to follow the readings to contribute group discussion and debates as well as to submit the assignments. Attendance consists of **10** percent of your total grade. The 10 percent is divided by the number of total classes during the semester, thereby equally weighing each class. If a student has to be absent a class, it is the person's responsibility to provide an appropriate (official) document. Without official documents, the absence will be deducted from your grade.

FINAL GRADE

In sum, your grade will be determined by:

midterm exams 60% (each 20%),
final exam 25%,
attendance 10%,
quiz and assignment 5%

100-90 A; 89-80 B; 79-70 C; 69-60 D; lower than 60 F

POLICIES

- Follow the Golden Rule.
- Any disruptive and disrespectful behavior to me and to other participants will result in an F or administrative withdrawal. Be professional, courteous and sensitive to the rights of others.
- Raise your hand and ask to be recognized. Do not interrupt.
- Late submissions are discouraged. Assignments submitted after the due date will be penalized by a deduction of one letter grade, and the deduction is cumulated by each class day. No work will be accepted more than a week after the deadline.
- Plagiarism, the purposeful or *accidental* use of source material by other writers without giving appropriate credit, is a crime! If any indication of plagiarism is shown in a participant's assignment, the participant will receive an F for the assignment.
- No extra credit assignments will be permitted.
- Do not miss quizzes and exams. Without instructor's prior permission to a specific student and without official documents, there will be no make-up examinations.
- You will not be permitted to take the exam if you arrive more than fifteen minutes after the beginning of an exam or after the first student has finished.
- Do not miss documentaries. I do not lend documentaries to a student.
- Homework assignment or paper as a form of e-mail attachment is not accepted.
- Homework, if it is given, should be type-written and stapled.
- Do not be late for class. If you are late, it is your responsibility to inform me at the end of the class. Otherwise, it will be regarded as absence.
- If you need to leave earlier, inform me at the beginning of the class. Otherwise, it can be regarded as absence.
- Tape recording and videotaping are NOT allowed without instructor's permission in advance.
- Turn off your cell phone and other electronic devices (including headsets and i-pod). You are NOT allowed to answer your phone calls or to send text messages during the class meeting time.
- Laptop computer is not allowed.
- I often communicate via e-mail, e.g., changes of schedule, announcement, etc. Thus, pay attention to the e-mail messages from me. It is your responsibility to manage your e-mail account.
- An individual who is not enrolled in this course is not allowed to be in the classroom during the class time.
- The instructor reserves the right to adjust the syllabus in the course of the semester/session.

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 who need accommodations must be registered with Student Disability Services, Ferrell Commons Room 185, phone (407) 823-2371, TTY/TDD only phone (407) 823-2116, before requesting accommodations from the professor (Please notify me no later than the end of the first week of class concerning any academic accommodations you will need).

TENTATIVE SCHEDULE

Day 1 (January 6). Introduction
Introduction to the course. Review Syllabus.

Days 2 and 3 (January 13, 15). Basics of Politics and Political Science
Reading:
- O'Neil, Ch. 1 "Introduction" (pp. 2-6)

Days 4 and 5 (January 17, 22). Analyzing Politics, Comparative Methods
Readings:
- O'Neil, Ch. 1 "Introduction" (pp. 6-10)

Choose one from the following
- Hoover, Kenneth, and Todd Donovan. *The Elements of Social Scientific Thinking*. 11th Edition. Boston: Wadsworth/Cengage Learning, 2013. (Ch. 2 "The Elements of Science," pp. 12-39).
- King, Gary, Robert R. Keohane, and Sidney Verba. *Designing Social Inquiry: Scientific Inference in Qualitative Research*. Princeton, NJ: Princeton University Press, 1994. Ch. 1 "The *Science* in Social Science" (pp. 3-33).

Days 6 and 7 (January 24, 27). Development of Comparative Politics
Readings:
- O'Neil, Ch. 1 "Introduction" (pp. 11-25)

Days 8 and 9 (January 29, 31). Development of State
Reading:
- O'Neil, Ch. 2 "States" (pp. 26-40)

Days 10 and 11 (February 3, 5). State Power
Reading:
- O'Neil, Ch. 2 "States" (pp. 40-54)

Days 12 and 13 (February 7, 10). Nations, Society, Ideology
Reading:
- O'Neil, Ch. 3 "Nations and Society" (pp. 56-88)

Day 14 (February 12). Examination I

Days 15 and 16 (February 14, 17). Political Economy
Reading:
- O'Neil, Ch. 4, "Political Economy" (pp. 90-124)

Days 17 and 18 (February 19, 21). Democratic Governance
Reading:

- O'Neil, Ch. 5 "Democratic Regimes" (pp. 126-136)

Days 19, 20 and 21 (February 24, 26, 28). Elections
Reading:

- O'Neil, Ch. 5 "Democratic Regimes" (pp. 147-160)

Days 22 and 23 (March 10, 12). Political Parties and Constitutional Design
Reading:

- O'Neil, Ch. 5 "Democratic Regimes" (pp. 136-147)

Days 24 and 25 (March 14, 17). Nondemocracies
Reading:

- O'Neil, Ch. 6 "Nondemocratic Regimes" (pp. 162-191)

Day 26 (March 19). Examination II

Days 26, 27 and 28 (March 19, 21, 24). Communism
Reading:

- O'Neil, Ch. 9 "Communism and Postcommunism" (pp. 256-273)

Days 29 and 30 (March 26, 28). Postcommunism
Reading:

- O'Neil, Ch. 9 "Communism and Postcommunism" (pp. 273-289)

Days 31, 32 and 33 (March 31, April 2, 4). Imperialism, Post Imperialism, Democratization
Reading:

- O'Neil, Ch. 10 "Less-Developed and Newly Industrializing Countries" (pp. 290-321)

Day 34 (April 7). Globalization
Reading:

- O'Neil, Ch. 11 "Globalization" (pp. 322-350)

Day 35 (April 9). Examination III

Days 36 and 37 (April 11, 14). Globalization
Reading:

- O'Neil, Ch. 11 "Globalization" (pp. 322-350)

Days 38, 39 and 40 (April 16, 18, 21). Political Violence
Reading:

- O'Neil, Ch. 7 "Political Violence" (pp. 192-223)

Day 41 (April 23, 10:00-12:50pm). Final Examination
Good luck!