# Comparative Politics
# Summer B 2021

## Course Information

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|---|---|
| **Course Name & Credit Hours** | Comparative Politics: 3 Credit Hours |
| **Course ID & Section** | CPO 3103 BW60 |
| **Semester/Year & Location** | Summer B 2021 World Wide Web |
| **Prerequisites** | ENC 1102 or POS 2041 |
| **Corequisites** | None |

## Professor Contact

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| **Instructor** | **Dr. Anca Turcu** |
| **Office & Office Hours** | By appointment via Canvas conference chat. If you would like to chat with me, please e-mail me so we can make arrangements for an online discussion during regular business hours, Monday-Friday. |
| **E-mail** | Anca.Turcu@ucf.edu<br>You may e-mail me by using the Canvas e-mail/ message 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 answer. Please note that I answer e-mails during regular business hours. |
| **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. |
| **GTA** | N/A |

## Important: Requirements for a Six Weeks, Three Credits Online Class

Please keep in mind that this is a very short semester, but it will earn you the same number of credit hours (3) as a full-length term. Therefore, the material covered will be the same as a full-length term. This will amount to two book chapters per week, as well as a fast-paced testing regimen, with long, close book, closed notes quizzes and substantial written assignments. You should spend at least 10 hours a week focusing on this class. Keep in mind that online classes, especially very short ones, are extremely labor intensive and you need to be very pro-active and well organized. Please plan accordingly, make sure you keep up with all assignments and do not fall behind. I do not accept late work and do not grant extensions, except for documented medical emergencies and UCF sanctioned extracurriculars (for more on extensions and make-up work, see below).

## Catalog Description

Government and politics in selected nations, with emphasis upon comparative analysis of contemporary problems, politics, political culture, behavior, and institutions.

## 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 and Learning Outcomes

The course objectives and learning outcomes for Comparative Politics (CPO 3103) strive to meet the criteria outlined by the Department of Political Science Academic Learning Compacts: https://oeas.ucf.edu/doc/cos/alc_cos_political_science_ba.pdf
Therefore, 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

## Academic Calendar

| Week& Module | Topic(s) | Readings |
|---|---|---|
| Week 1: Module 1<br>6/28-7/6 | Class Overview and Introduction<br><br>Introduction to Comparative Politics<br><br>The Modern State | Syllabus<br><br>D&O Chapter 1<br><br>D&O Chapter 2 |
| Week 2: Module 2<br>7/6-7/12 | States, Citizens and Regimes<br><br>States and Identity | D&O Chapter 3<br><br>D&O Chapter 4 |
| Week 3: Module 3<br>7/12-7/19 | Governing Institutions in Democracies<br><br>Institutions of Participation and Representation in Democracies | D&O Chapter 5<br><br>D&O Chapter 6 |
| Week 4: Module 4<br>7/19-7/26 | Contentious Politics<br><br>Authoritarian Institutions | D&O Chapter 7<br><br>D&O Chapter 8 |
| Week 5: Module 5<br>7/26-8/2 | Regime Change<br><br>Political Economy of Wealth<br>Final Paper Posted on 7/26 | D&O Chapter 9<br><br>D&O Chapter 10 |
| Week 6: Module 6<br>8/2-8/9 | Political Economy of Development<br><br>Public Policies When Markets Fail<br>Final Paper Due on 8/2 | D&O Chapter 11<br><br>D&O Chapter 12 |

## Required Texts

- "*Introducing Comparative Politics- Concepts and Cases in Context*" by Stephen Orvis and Carol Ann Drogus, 5th edition, SAGE, January 2020, ISBN-13: 978-1544374451

**Note**: Comparative Politics texts change significantly from one edition to the next, as policy changes and current events reshape institutions and societies. Thus, it is imperative that you purchase the edition listed above. Also, with this being a very short semester, make sure you purchase the text in the first or second day of class (maybe opt for an electronic version for convenience and promptness), so that you may complete the first assignment in good time, by due date.

## Other Materials: Documentaries and Clips

For several modules in this class, you will be asked to watch documentaries, clips and other multimedia materials. Some of these clips will be available for free online via YouTube, PBS.org, TED Talks and other sources. For others, you might have to use a "Netflix" subscription. I will provide details about these video materials in each individual module and provide you with links or a clear indication where you can find the material. Not viewing these clips is not an option, since they are a central part of the class and quizzes and written assignments will draw on these materials quite extensively.

## Course Requirements

**Weekly Assignments**

Six module assignments (one assignment per module, starting with Week 1) will test your knowledge of the material from the module covered during each week.

Your lowest scoring module assignment will be dropped at the end of class, leaving you with five chapter assignment scores, worth 15% of your grade each. That is, five module assignments will make up 75% of your final grade. If you miss a module assignment, or fail to submit it on time, you will automatically be assigned a grade of 0 for that assignment. Module 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 (at 11:59 PM EST), of the following week. After an assignment closes, I will release grades and correct answers within a week and you will have one week to review your answers and let me know if you have questions regarding your grade. After that, assignment questions and correct answers will no longer be visible.Every week, you will be given a choice between a quiz (closed book, closed notes) and a written assignment. Please only complete one of the two assignments. If you complete both, only the quiz will be graded. **Make sure that you only click the "quiz" tab if you have chosen to take the quiz that week. Clicking the tab to only look at quiz questions is not allowed. Once you click on that tab, the system will give you a grade for that quiz, even if you have only been on that page for only a couple of seconds. In that case, the quiz grade will be the only one to count for that week, even if you submit a written paper for that week. So please, no 'peeking' at quizzes! Click the quiz tab only if you have committed to the quiz and you are ready to complete it.** You will have to answer forty multiple choice or true/ false questions at 2.5 points each, for 100 points total. The quiz will need to be taken in forty minutes or less. The alternative will be a written assignment which you can read prior to submission and which will be made up of some short questions about the topic of the week and other instructions.

I am aware that some students do better with quizzes than written answers, or vice versa. Therefore, I am giving you the choice. But, I encourage you to try each one of the two at least once during the semester **(not both during the same week!).** Even if you do not like writing, I encourage you to complete at least one weekly written assignment, so that you know what to expect and how to go about answering a written assignment, given that the final will be very similar to such written assignments. The last weekly assignment for the class, Quiz 6, (for Module 6) will be due on 8/9 and will open on 8/2. Due to the fact that the last assignment of the semester is due two days before final class grades must be turned in, and grading time will be short, Module 6 does not offer a written assignment option. All students will have to complete Quiz 6.

**Final Paper**
Students will have to submit a final paper. This paper will be worth 25% of your final grade. The final paper will be posted on Monday, 7/26 and will be due on Monday, 8/2 at 11:59 PM. Note that the final assignment must be submitted as a full text (not as an attachment) through the Canvas online submission system. This system 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 cheat, commit plagiarism or engage in any other type of dishonest academic behavior will fail the class, (will receive an FZ grade) and will also be subject to disciplinary proceedings.Please review the UCF Golden Rule: http://goldenrule.sdes.ucf.edu/ Please allow for plenty of time to complete each assignment, so that you avoid last minute submissions and the technical difficulties that sometimes accompany them. Final assignments should not be submitted late and will incur a 10 points penalty for every 24 hours delay post due date. Final assignments submitted more than 48 hours post due date will not be accepted and will be given a grade of 0. **Note:** students who request a review of final paper grading should be aware that I re-grade the whole paper once I receive such a request. This may sometimes result in a lower grade than the one previously granted.

## Due Dates

Weekly assignments: due weekly on Monday evenings by 11:59 PM EST EXCEPT for Week 1, which will be due on Tuesday, 7/6 (due to the Independence Day holiday). Final Paper: due by 8/2 at 11:59 PM EST.

## Unauthorized Use of Class Materials

There are many fraudulent websites claiming to offer study aids to students but are actually cheat sites. They encourage students to upload course materials, such as test questions, individual assignments, and examples of graded material. Such materials are the intellectual property of instructors, the university, or publishers and may not be distributed without prior authorization. Students who engage in such activity are in violation of academic conduct standards and will face penalties.

## Recording Policy

Outside of the notetaking and recording services offered by Student Accessibility Services, the creation of an audio or video recording of all or part of a class for personal use is allowed *only* with the advance and explicit written consent of the instructor. Such recordings are only acceptable in the context of personal, private studying and notetaking and are not authorized to be shared with *anyone* without the separate written approval of the instructor.

## Missed Assignments/Make-Ups

Students who represent the university in an authorized event or activity (for example, student-athletes) and who are unable to meet a course deadline due to a conflict with that event must provide the instructor with documentation in advance to arrange a make-up. No penalty will be applied. For more information, see the UCF policy.

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. You have to submit such documentation no later than a week after the due date of the missed assignment has passed. Documentation submitted after that date will not be deemed acceptable.

## Extra Credit

Your professor does not anticipate offering any extra credit assignments in this class. Should this change, you will be notified in a timely manner via Canvas e-mail.

## Evaluation and Grading

Grades will be recorded and released via Canvas.

| Assignment | Percentage of Grade |
|---|---|
| 5 Module Assignments | 75% |
| 1 Final Paper | 25% |
| 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

Final class grades will not display in Canvas. Use this formula to calculate your final class grade!

(final paper*.25) + [(sum of 5 highest scoring module assignments/5) *.75] = 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 Canvas before the due date, will receive 0 points. Missed quizzes cannot be retaken.

## Citing and Referencing

Students should follow citing and referencing requirements as outlined in the announcement sent out by the professor during the first day of class. Failing to do so will result in grade penalties.

## Student Complaints and Appeals

Procedures regarding student complaints and appeals can be found here: https://www.sdes.ucf.edu/student-complaints-and-appeals/

## Deployed Active Duty Military Students

Students who are deployed active duty military and/or National Guard personnel and require accommodation should contact their instructors as soon as possible after the semester begins and/or after they receive notification of deployment to make related arrangements.

## Religious Observances

Students must notify their instructor in advance if they intend to miss class for a religious observance. For more information, see the UCF policy.

## Academic Honesty

Students should familiarize themselves with UCF's Rules of Conduct. According to Section 1, "Academic Misconduct," students are prohibited from engaging in

1. Unauthorized assistance: Using or attempting to use unauthorized materials, information or study aids in any academic exercise unless specifically authorized by the instructor of record. The unauthorized possession of examination or course-related material also constitutes cheating.
2. Communication to another through written, visual, electronic (including GroupMe or similar apps or chat rooms), or oral means: The presentation of material which has not been studied or learned, but rather was obtained through someone else's efforts and used as part of an examination, course assignment, or project.
3. Commercial Use of Academic Material: Selling of course material to another person, student, and/or uploading course material to a third-party vendor without authorization or without the express written permission of the university and the instructor. Course materials include but are not limited to class notes, Instructor's PowerPoints, course syllabi, tests, quizzes, labs, instruction sheets, homework, study guides, handouts, etc.
4. Falsifying or misrepresenting the student's own academic work.
5. Plagiarism: Using or appropriating another's work without any indication of the source, thereby attempting to convey the impression that such work is the student's own.

6. Multiple Submissions: Submitting the same academic work for credit more than once without the express written permission of the instructor.
7. Helping another violate academic behavior standards. For more information about Academic Integrity, students may consult The Center for Academic Integrity. For more information about plagiarism and misuse of sources, see "Defining and Avoiding Plagiarism: The WPA Statement on Best Practices."

## Responses to Academic Dishonesty, Plagiarism and Cheating

Students should also familiarize themselves with the procedures for academic misconduct in UCF's student handbook, *The Golden Rule*. UCF faculty members have a responsibility for students' education and the value of a UCF degree, and so seek to prevent unethical behavior and when necessary respond to academic misconduct. Penalties can include a failing grade in an assignment or in the course, suspension or expulsion from the university, and/or a "Z Designation" on a student's official transcript indicating academic dishonesty, where the final grade for this course will be preceded by the letter Z. For more information about the Z Designation, click here.

## Federal Financial Aid Requirement

UCF must comply with a federal financial aid regulation that states that in order to receive federal aid, students must be actively academically engaged (according to a federal definition) in each course in which they are enrolled. All faculty are required to document students' academic activity at the beginning of each course. Without verification of this engagement, students will not receive their aid.

In order to document that you began this course, you will be required to complete a short quiz in Canvas during the first week of classes, and no later than end of business on the Friday of the first week of classes. Failure to do so may result in a delay in the disbursement of students' financial aid or will mean that students will not receive their aid.

## Student Accessibility

The University of Central Florida is committed to providing access and inclusion for all persons with disabilities. Students with disabilities who need disability-related access in this course should contact the professor as soon as possible. Students should also connect with Student Accessibility Services (SAS) <http://sas.sdes.ucf.edu/> (Ferrell Commons 185, sas@ucf.edu, phone 407-823-2371). Through Student Accessibility Services, a Course Accessibility Letter may be created and sent to professors, which informs faculty of potential access and accommodations that might be reasonable. Determining reasonable access and accommodations requires consideration of the

course design, course learning objectives and the individual academic and course barriers experienced by the student.

## Campus Safety Statement for Students in Online-Only Courses

Though most emergency situations are primarily relevant to courses that meet in person, such incidents can also impact online students, either when they are on or near campus to participate in other courses or activities or when their course work is affected by off-campus emergencies. The following policies apply to courses in online modalities.

To stay informed about emergency situations, students can sign up to receive UCF text alerts by going to ucf.edu and logging in. Click on “Student Self Service” located on the left side of the screen in the toolbar, scroll down to the blue “Personal Information” heading on the Student Center screen, click on “UCF Alert”, fill out the information, including e-mail address, cell phone number, and cell phone provider, click “Apply” to save the changes, and then click “OK.” Students with special needs related to emergency situations should speak with their instructors outside of class.

## Viruses

A virus can spell disaster. Your use of a reputable anti-virus program is a requirement for participation in this course (good ones include McAfee or Norton).

Also, back up your files: “My hard drive crashed.” “My modem doesn’t work.” “My printer is out of ink.” These are today’s equivalents of “My dog ate my homework.” These events really do occur and they are really inconvenient when they do. However, these are not valid excuses for failing to get your work in on time.

## E-mail Protocols

E-mail will be an integral part of this course. Make sure you: Check your e-mail at least once every 48 hours during regular business hours (more often is better).

Be patient. Don’t expect an immediate response when you send a message. Generally, two business days is considered reasonable amount of time to receive a reply. Please note that your professor only checks and answers to e-mails during regular business hours.

Include “Subject” headings: use something that is descriptive and refer to a particular assignment or topic.

Be courteous and considerate. Being honest and expressing yourself freely is very important, but being considerate of others online is just as important as in the classroom.

Make every effort to be clear. Online communication lacks the nonverbal cues that fill in much of the meaning in face-to-face communication.

Do not use all caps. This makes the message very hard to read and is considered "shouting." Check spelling, grammar, and punctuation (you may want to compose in a word processor, then cut and paste the message into the discussion or e-mail).

Break up large blocks of text into paragraphs and use a space between paragraphs.

Sign your e-mail messages.

Never assume that your e-mail can be read by no one except yourself; others may be able to read or access your mail. Never send or keep anything that you would mind seeing on the evening news.

## 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.

## Technical Assistance

For specific problems in any of the areas below or for further information go to the corresponding link for assistance. The UCF Home Page will help you find UCF resources. UCF Service Desk – You can also call the Service Desk at 407-823-5117.

Learning Online This site provides information on study skills for distance learners, the library and the writing center.

Buying a new computer or upgrading your current equipment – http://www.cstore.ucf.edu/

Technical Discussion Topic: If you have technical questions and/or problems, please post a message to the Technical Discussion Topic. I encourage members of the class who are technically proficient to also monitor this discussion topic and assist your classmates.

If your equipment problems prevent you from using e-mail from home, there are many computer labs on campus and virtually every public library offers Internet access.

## 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.