Comparative Politics Spring 2024

Course ID & Section	CPO 3103 Section 001
Credit Hours	3
Location and Meeting Times	CB1, Room O103 Tuesday-Thursday 1:30-2:50 PM
Prerequisites	ENC 1102 or POS 2041
Corequisites	None

Professor and GTA Contact

Professor	Dr. Anca Turcu
Office	302 Howard Phillips Hall, Orlando Main Campus. Also available in Canvas Chat during office hours.
Office Hours	In person Tuesdays 12:00- 1:30 PM EST, or by appointment. Also available in Canvas Chat during office hours.
E-mail	Anca.Turcu@ucf.edu You may also 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 respond. Please note that I do only respond to e-mail during regular business hours. Also please note that I cannot share grades via e-mail.
GTA	Mohammed.AlAwwad@ucf.edu

Catalog Course Description

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

Course Description: Global Learning Designation

This class was designated by UCF as a **Global Learning High Impact Educational Practices Course**. As such, it 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 several country. In an effort to provide an inclusive, diverse outlook and evaluation of political systems and realities, this class aims at achieving **a balanced approach in its coverage of a broad and representative number of countries and perspectives from all hemispheres**, while moving away form the Western-centric approaches typical to the discipline.

Course Objectives: Global Learning Designation

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) and the **High Impact Practices (HIP) criteria for Global Learning**. Therefore, on completing this course students will be able to:

1. Describe and analyze differences between the institutions and governmental systems of different countries, (also with reference to the United States)
2. Discuss the implications of different electoral systems for institutional change in various countries around the Globe
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

Course Materials

Required Text: "Introducing Comparative Politics" by Carol Ann Drogus and Stephen Orvis, Sage-CQPress, 5th edition, 2021. Please note that this text is accompanied by web material that we may use in this class and that will be helpful in assisting you prepare for tests and assignments. I strongly encourage you to access the textbook companion website and use the student resources for every chapter. Just copy and paste this link in your browser: https://edge.sagepub.com/orvis5e **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 edition listed above.**

Academic Calendar

Date	Topic(s)	Readings
1/9	Introduction and Class Overview	Syllabus and Introductory Materials
1/11	Introduction to Comparative Politics	Drogus and Orvis Ch. 1 (Full)
1/16	The Modern State	Drogus and Orvis Ch.2 Pages 28-49
1/18	The Modern State	Drogus and Orvis Ch.2 Pages 50-81
1/23	States, Citizens and Regimes	Drogus and Orvis Ch.3 Pages 82-103
1/25	States, Citizens and Regimes	Drogus and Orvis Ch.3 Pages 103-121
1/30	States and Identity	Drogus and Orvis Ch. 4 Pages 122-148
2/1	States and Identity	Drogus and Orvis Ch. 4 Pages 148-182
2/6	**Exam 1**	
2/8	Governing Institutions in Democracies	Drogus and Orvis Ch. 5 Pages 184-210
2/13	Governing Institutions in Democracies	Drogus and Orvis Ch. 5 Pages 210-242
2/15	Institutions of Participation and Representation in Democracies	Drogus and Orvis Ch. 6 Pages 244-276
2/20	Institutions of Participation and Representation in Democracies	Drogus and Orvis Ch. 6 Pages 276-305
2/22	Contentious Politics: Social Movements, Political Violence and Revolution	Drogus and Orvis Ch. 7 Pages 306-329
2/27	Contentious Politics: Social Movements, Political Violence and Revolution	Drogus and Orvis Ch. 7 Pages 330-349
2/29	Authoritarian Institutions	Drogus and Orvis Ch. 8 Pages 350-375
3/5	Authoritarian Institutions	Drogus and Orvis Ch. 8 Pages 375-392

3/7	Regime Change	Drogus and Orvis Ch. 9 Pages 394-418
3/12	Regime Change	Drogus and Orvis Ch. 9 Pages 418-443
3/14	Political Economy of Wealth	Drogus and Orvis Ch. 10 Pages 446-470
3/18-23	SPRING BREAK	
3/26	**Exam 2**	
3/28	Political Economy of Wealth	Drogus and Orvis Ch. 10 Pages 470-495
4/2	Political Economy of Development	Drogus and Orvis Ch. 11 Pages 496-518
4/4	Political Economy of Development	Drogus and Orvis Ch. 11 Pages 519-541
4/9	Public Policies when Markets Fail	Drogus and Orvis Ch. 12 Pages 542-569
4/11	Public Policies when Markets Fail	Drogus and Orvis Ch. 12 Pages 570-601
4/16	**Exam 3**	
4/18	Review for Final Exam	
4/30	**Final Exam**	1:00-2:15 PM

Course Policies

Exams and Grading Criteria	**Exams** There will be four exams in this class. Three exams are compulsory. If you do not take one of the three exams during the semester, the final exam will be compulsory. If you take the three exams during the semester and you are satisfied with your grade, you can choose not to take the final. If you take three exams and also decide to take the final, your lowest scoring exam will be replaced with the grade you receive for the final exam. There will be no exceptions: even if your grade in the final is lower than the grade you were seeking to replace, the grade in the final will be the one I will take into account in calculating your final grade. Please note that the final exam is comprehensive. Also note that once you sit for an exam you will receive a grade for that exam. Exams will cover material from the readings and from the lectures. Exam #1 will constitute 30% of your final grade, while exams #2 and #3 will each constitute 35% of your final grade. The value of the final exam will be assigned in accordance to the exam you missed during the semester. Bring picture identification to each exam. Students will need to be able to complete an analytical comparison of one of the following: systems of government, legislative institutions, executive institutions, judiciaries, electoral systems, (or similar) across global regions or countries studied in the class. Students will need to reflect on how one of these systems compare to a corresponding system/ institution in the United States. (Global Learning Objectives) **Grading Formula** (exam1 *.3)+ (exam2*.35) +(exam3*.35)= final grade **Grading Scale** 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 (Below 60%).
Make-up Exams	Exams are scheduled well in advance so that you can plan around these dates. No one may make up a test at will. There are two exceptions. First, for personal emergencies (a death in the family, medical problems), students should obtain a note from the dean of students or their physician.

	Second, for students with extra-curricular activities that conflict with deadlines, arrangements for an alternate test date must be made at least a week in advance of the scheduled test or deadline. Students must provide verification of the activity in order to be eligible for an alternate test date. I do not accept notification after the fact ("I did not take the test last week because I had a match/concert").
Grade Release	Please note that grades will not be shared through phone, e-mail or mail. If you are not in class when I return exams, you will have to log on to Canvas in order to find out your grades. Students who have concerns about grades should put them in writing and contact the professor 24 hours after they find out their grade. Students are not allowed to take exams home. The university needs to keep exams and papers for official records, thus students have to return them to the instructor. If a student fails to return an exam or paper, s/he will not be allowed to sit for the next exam or will be given a grade of zero for that exam.
Extra Credit	For now, there are no extra credit opportunities offered in this class. Your professor may modify this policy during the semester and will announce the change in a timely manner.
Media Resources, Documentaries and Clips (GL Designation)	In order to do well in this and any Political Science class, students should have a good awareness and a good understanding of current events. I encourage students to keep informed through accessing visual, print and web media. Some credible and reliable news outlets include, among others: BBC World, the New York Times, The Washington Post, CNN, The National Public Radio, Financial Times, The Economist, The Atlantic Monthly, Time Magazine, Newsweek, Haaretz, Jerusalem Post, Radio Canada, The Canadian Broadcasting Corporations, Al Jazeera, The Guardian, Deutsche Welle English, France 24 Enghlish (among many others). I will provide links to current events through the Canvas Web Link folder. I will prompt you each time I add material to that folder and will let you know if I expect to test you on that material. You will be asked to watch some (foreign) documentaries, clips and other (foreign) 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 an online subscription. I will provide details about these video materials in each individual class and will 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 exams will draw on these materials.

Canvas	Canvas will be used to send e-mails, post announcements, post assigned articles, host a discussion forum, and post grades. Students should be familiar with Canvas and check class updates and Canvas e-mail regularly.
Class Attendance	Attendance is required. Lectures cover material that you will not be able to find in the book, so it is important that you attend all lectures. In case of illness, however, I strongly encourage you to stay home and contact me with medical documentation, so that we may discuss how I can accommodate you. (Please note that these requirements could change if UCF changes its Coronavirus response during the semester).
In-Class Recordings	Students may record video or audio of a class lecture for a class in which the student is enrolled for their own personal educational use. A class lecture is defined as a formal or methodical oral presentation as part of a university course intended to present information or teach students about a particular subject. Recording classroom activities other than class lectures, including but not limited to lab sessions, student presentations (whether individually or part of a group), class discussion (except when incidental to and incorporated within a class lecture), clinical presentations such as patient history, academic exercises involving student participation, test or examination administrations, field trips, and private conversations is prohibited**. Recordings may not be used as a substitute for class participation and class attendance, and may not be published or shared without the written consent of the faculty member**. Failure to adhere to these requirements may constitute a violation of the University's Student Code of Conduct as described in the Golden Rule.
Unauthorized Distribution of Class Notes/ Materials	Third parties may attempt to connect with you to sell your notes and other course information from this class. **Distributing course materials to a third party without my authorization is a violation of our University's Rules of Conduct.** Please be aware that such class materials that may have already been given to such third parties may contain errors, which could affect your performance or grade. Recommendations for success in this course include coming to class on a routine basis, visiting me during my office hours, connecting with the Teaching Assistant (TA), and making use of the Student Academic Resource Center (SARC), the University Writing Center (UWC), the Math Lab, etc. If a third party should contact you regarding such an offer, I would appreciate your bringing this to my attention. We all play a part in creating a course climate of integrity.
Use of WhatsApp, GroupMe and	Students are not allowed to use GroupMe, WhatsApp, or any other form of technology to exchange course material associated with a graded assignment, quiz, test, etc.

Academic Misconduct	The completion of graded work in a course should be considered a formal process: The following is not all inclusive of what is considered academic misconduct. These examples show how the use of technology can be considered academic misconduct and could result in the same penalties as cheating in a face-to-face class: • Taking a screen shot of an online quiz or test question, posting it to GroupMe or WhatsApp, and asking for assistance is considered academic misconduct. • Answering a quiz or test question posted to GroupMe or WhatsApp is considered academic misconduct. Giving advice, assistance, or suggestions on how to complete a question associated with an online assignment, quiz, or test is considered academic misconduct. • The use of outside assistance from another student or by searching the internet, Googling for answers, use of websites such as Quizlet, Course Hero, Chegg Study, etc. is considered academic misconduct. •Gathering to take a quiz or test with others and sharing answers in the process is considered academic misconduct. If a student or group of students are found to be exchanging material associated with a graded assignment, quiz, or test through any form of technology (GroupMe, WhatsApp, etc.), or use outside assistance (Googling answers, use of websites such as Quizlet, Course Hero, Chegg Study, etc.), they could receive anywhere from a zero grade on the exercise to an “F” in the course depending on the act.
Unauthorized Use of Websites, AI and Internet Resources	There are many websites claiming to offer study aids to students, but in using such websites, students could find themselves in violation of academic conduct guidelines. These websites include (but are not limited to) Quizlet, Course Hero, Chegg Study, and Clutch Prep. UCF does not endorse the use of these products in an unethical manner, which could lead to a violation of our University’s Rules of Conduct. 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 could be found in violation of academic conduct standards and could face course and/or University penalties. Please let me know if you are uncertain about the use of a website so I can determine its legitimacy.

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, **no later than the first Friday after start of classes**. Failure to do so may result in a delay in the disbursement of your financial aid, or will mean that students will not receive their aid.
Classroom Citizenship	Besides interactive participation, I expect discipline in the class room. Be courteous to others, **be on time** and do not leave early, unless there is a pertinent reason and you have notified me. Do not eat, text or talk to your colleagues during lecture. An important part of being a college student is having manners and respecting those around you. **Turn off** your cell phones and **store them away** in your book bag, for the duration of the class. Set your laptop's volume on mute. **Laptop users:** make sure you are using your laptop exclusively for taking notes while in class. Laptop usage is a privilege and I reserve the right to revoke it at any time during the semester if you do not follow these rules.
Time Commitment and UCF Resources	For most students striving for B grades or higher, **I recommend that you schedule about 7-8 hours per week for engaging with this course outside the classroom**. Your background knowledge/experience and other variables may require you to spend additional time. Please plan accordingly by scheduling time on your calendar now. Several factors influence student academic performance and long-term learning. Active engagement in all course activities (e.g., class participation, readings, homework, assignments, projects, studying, etc.) will contribute to your learning and to success in this course. UCF offers a wide range of free academic resources to support student success, including services offered by KARS (Knights Academic Resource Services), SARC (Student Academic Resource Center), UCF Libraries, the University Writing Center, and VARC (Veterans Academic Resource Center). I am available, as listed above, if you are seeking more information on how to be successful in this course. Your academic advisor is another helpful resource to assist you in meeting the requirements of this course.
Academic Integrity	Students should familiarize themselves with UCF's Rules of Conduct at <https://scai.sdes.ucf.edu/student-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, 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. This includes all AI generated content. 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. 8. Soliciting assistance with academic coursework and/or degree requirements.
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* <https://goldenrule.sdes.ucf.edu/>. UCF faculty members have a responsibility for students’ education and the value of a UCF degree, and so seek to prevent unethical behavior and respond to academic misconduct when necessary. Penalties for violating rules, policies, and instructions within this course can range from a zero on

	the exercise to an “F” letter grade in the course. In addition, an Academic Misconduct report could be filed with the Office of Student Conduct, which could lead to disciplinary warning, disciplinary probation, or deferred suspension or separation from the University through suspension, dismissal, or expulsion with the addition of a “Z” designation on one’s transcript. Being found in violation of academic conduct standards could result in a student having to disclose such behavior on a graduate school application, being removed from a leadership position within a student organization, the recipient of scholarships, participation in University activities such as study abroad, internships, etc. Let’s avoid all of this by demonstrating values of honesty, trust, and integrity. No grade is worth compromising your integrity and moving your moral compass. Stay true to doing the right thing: take the zero, not a shortcut.
Class Withdrawal	Procedures regarding withdrawal policies can be found here: https://www.ucf.edu/catalog/undergraduate/#/policies
Student Grievance Procedures	Procedures regarding student grievances can be found here: https://www.sdes.ucf.edu/student-complaints-and-appeals/
Incomplete Grades	Procedures regarding incomplete grades can be found here: https://www.ucf.edu/catalog/undergraduate/#/policies
Student Accessibility Resources	The University of Central Florida is committed to providing access and inclusion for all persons with disabilities. Students with disabilities who need access to course content due to course design limitations 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). For students connected with SAS, a Course Accessibility Letter may be created and sent to professors, which informs faculty of potential course access and accommodations that might be necessary and 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. Further conversation with SAS, faculty and the student may be warranted to ensure an accessible course experience.
Campus Safety	Emergencies on campus are rare, but if one should arise during class, everyone needs to work together. Students should be aware of their surroundings and familiar with some basic safety and security concepts.

	• In case of an emergency, dial 911 for assistance. • Every UCF classroom contains an emergency procedure guide posted on a wall near the door. Students should make a note of the guide's physical location and review the online version at <https://centralflorida-prod.modolabs.net/student/safety/index>. • Students should know the evacuation routes from each of their classrooms and have a plan for finding safety in case of an emergency. • If there is a medical emergency during class, students may need to access a first-aid kit or AED (Automated External Defibrillator). To learn where those are located, see <https://ehs.ucf.edu/automated-external-defibrillator-aed-locations>. • To stay informed about emergency situations, students can sign up to receive UCF text alerts by going to <https://my.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. • To learn about how to manage an active-shooter situation on campus or elsewhere, consider viewing this video (<https://youtu.be/NIKYajEx4pk>).
Religious Holidays	The University of Central Florida welcomes diversity of religious beliefs and practices, recognizing the contributions differing experiences and viewpoints can bring to the community. There may be times when an academic or work requirement conflicts with religious observances and practices. If that happens, students may request reasonable accommodation of their religious practices. In all cases, you must put your request in writing and present it to the instructor at the beginning of the semester, no later than the tenth day of classes. For more information, see the UCF policy at <http://regulations.ucf.edu/chapter5/documents/5.020ReligiousObservancesFINALJan19.pdf>.
Accommodations of Active-	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

Duty Military Students	they receive notification of deployment to make related arrangements.
Diversity and Inclusion	The University of Central Florida considers the diversity of its students, faculty, and staff to be a strength and critical to its educational mission. UCF expects every member of the university community to contribute to an inclusive and respectful culture for all in its classrooms, work environments, and at campus events. Dimensions of diversity can include sex, race, age, national origin, ethnicity, gender identity and expression, intellectual and physical ability, sexual orientation, income, faith and non-faith perspectives, socio-economic class, political ideology, education, primary language, family status, military experience, cognitive style, and communication style. The individual intersection of these experiences and characteristics must be valued in our community. Title IX prohibits sex discrimination, including sexual misconduct, sexual violence, sexual harassment, and retaliation. If you or someone you know has been harassed or assaulted, you can find resources available to support the victim, including confidential resources and information concerning reporting options at https://letsbeclear.ucf.edu and http://cares.sdes.ucf.edu/. For more information on diversity and inclusion, Title IX, accessibility, or UCF's complaint processes contact: • Title IX – OIE – http://oie.ucf.edu/ & askanadvocate@ucf.edu • Disability Accommodation – Student Accessibility Services – http://sas.sdes.ucf.edu/ & sas@ucf.edu • Diversity and Inclusion Training and Events – www.diversity.ucf.edu • UCF Compliance and Ethics Office – http://compliance.ucf.edu/ & complianceandethics@ucf.edu • Ombuds Office – http://www.ombuds.ucf.edu
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.

Please note that the academic calendar, policies, procedures and assignments listed in this syllabus are subject to change at the discretion of the professor.

Fundamental to University of Central Florida's mission is support for an environment where divergent ideas, theories, and philosophies can be openly exchanged and critically evaluated. Consistent with these principles, this course may involve discussion of ideas that you find uncomfortable, disagreeable, or even offensive. These ideas are intended to be presented in an objective manner and not as an endorsement of what you should personally believe. Objective means that the idea presented can be tested by critical peer review and rigorous debate, and that the idea is supported by credible research. Not all ideas can be supported by objective methods or criteria. Regardless, you may decide that certain ideas are worthy of your personal belief. In this course, however, you may be asked to engage with complex ideas and to demonstrate an understanding of the ideas. Understanding an idea does not mean that you are required to believe it or agree with it.