CPO4754.0W60: Comparative Political Institutions

School of Politics, Security, and International Affairs

3 Credit Hours

Professor Information

- Professor: Myunghee Kim
- Office Location: HPH311f, Online, zoom
- Office Hours: T 2:00-4:15pm, F 2:00-4:15pm
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Teaching Assistants

- GTA(s): TBA
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Course Information

- Term: Spring 2024
- Course Number & Section: CPO4754-0W60
- Course Name: Comparative Political Institutions
- Credit Hours: 3
- Course Modality: W
- Prerequisites: ENC 1102 or POS 2041 or CI

Course Description

The course analyzes major types of political institutions from a comparative perspective including electoral laws, division of power, types of democracy, federalism, and the judiciary.

Required Textbook

- Lijphart, Arend. *Patterns of Democracy: Government Forms and Performance in Thirty-Six Countries*. 2nd Edition. New Haven, CT: Yale University Press, 2012 (ISBN: 9780300172027).

- 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). Available via library website as an e-book. https://www.jstor.org/stable/j.ctt7sfxj.4?refreqid=excelsior%3A02d054bf7cc73bbaf5389dfc7fa0bb41&seq=1#metadata_info_tab_contents
- March, James, and Johan Olsen. "Institutional Perspectives on Political Institutions." *Governance* 9, 3 (1996): 247-64 (Pdf file is available in the corresponding module).
- Shepsle, Kenneth A., and Mark S. Boncheck. *Analyzing Politics: Rationality, Behavior, and Institutions*. New York: W. W. Norton, 1997. Ch. 11 "Institutions: General Remarks" (pp. 299-311) (Pdf file is available in the corresponding module).

Student Learning Outcomes

Comparative Politics 4754, Comparative Political Institutions, analyzes major types of political institutions from a comparative perspective. Political institutions include, but not limited to, electoral laws, division of power, types of democracy, and federalism. Three main objectives are:

- understandings of fundamental concepts in comparative politics as well as institutional designs
- comparisons of the major aspects of democratic institutions and institutional changes
- institutional performance and interaction with private sectors as well as the public, i.e., responsiveness and collective representation.

Course Activities

- Two assignments (5% each)
- Twelve quizzes (5% each) and one final exam (30%)
- No extra credit assignments will be permitted.
- The student should have regular access to the internet and plan on logging into the course at least twice each week, or students should plan on at least five hours' worth of homework outside of class each week.

Quiz Review Policy

After each quiz, you have <u>one</u> opportunity to see which one you missed. Make sure you are aware about those missing questions, and be diligent to find the correct answer.

Make-up Exams and Assignments

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.

Make-up quiz/exam will not be scheduled after the "classes end" date.

Late submissions are discouraged. Assignments submitted after the due date will be penalized by a deduction of one letter grade, and the deduction is accumulated by each class day. No work will be accepted more than a week after the due date.

You have one submission for each assignment. Only Word (docx.) and pdf files are accepted. All other forms of submission will not be considered.

Students who add this class later have a full responsibility to catch up with materials and announcements that they missed.

Extra Credit

No extra credit assignments will be permitted.

Assessment and Grading Procedures

Assignment	Percentage of Grade
Assignments 1 & 2	5% (each) = 10%
Quizzes 1-12	5% (each) = 60%
Final exam	30%
Total	100%

Letter Grade	Points
A	90-100
B	80-89
C	70-79
D	60-69
F	59 or below

Course Schedule

The success of online courses depends on your discipline. You need to follow this schedule your own: You have to follow the reading schedule, quiz, and assignment. If you have any question, contact me ahead. Do NOT wait until the last minute.

Theme	Assignments	Open	Close
Getting started	Two truths and one lie introduction (financial aid requirement)	Jan. 8, 8am	Due: Jan. 12, 11:59pm Close: Jan. 19, 11:59pm
Module 1: Analyzing Politics	King, Keohane, and Verba, pp. 3-33 Quiz 1	Jan. 8, 8am Jan. 17, 8am	 Jan. 18, 8am
Module 2: What are Political Institutions?	March and Olsen, pp.247-264 Shepsle and Boncheck, pp. 299-311 Lijphart, Ch1, pp. 1-8 Quiz 2	Jan. 18, 8am Jan. 24, 8am	 Jan. 25, 8am
Module 3: Two Models of Democracy: Westminster Model	Lijphart, Ch. 2, pp. 9-29 Quiz 3	Jan. 25, 8am Jan. 31, 8am	 Feb. 1, 8am
Module 4: Two Models of Democracy: Consensus Model, 36 Democracies	Lijphart, Ch. 3, pp. 30-45 Lijphart, Ch. 4, pp. 46-59 Quiz 4 Reaction paper 1	Feb. 1, 8am Feb. 7, 8am Feb. 1, 8am	 Feb. 8, 8am Due: Feb. 8, 11:59pm
Module 5: Electoral Systems	Lijphart, Ch. 8, pp. 130-157 Quiz 5 Reaction paper 2	Feb. 8, 8am Feb. 14, 8am Feb. 8, 8am	 Feb. 15, 8am Due: Feb. 15, 11:59pm

Module 6: Party Systems	Lijphart, Ch. 5, pp. 60-78 Quiz 6	Feb. 15, 8am Feb 21, 8am	 Feb. 22, 8am
Module 7: Interest Groups	Lijphart, Ch. 9, pp. 158-173 Quiz 7	Feb. 22, 8am Feb. 28, 8am	 Feb. 29, 8am
Module 8: Cabinets	Lijphart, Ch. 6, pp. 79-104 Quiz 8	Feb. 29, 8am Mar. 6, 8am	 Mar. 7, 8am
Module 9: Balance of Power	Lijphart, Ch. 7, pp. 105-129 Quiz 9	Mar.7, 8am Mar. 13, 8am	 Mar. 14, 8am
Module 10: Concentration of Power	Lijphart, Ch. 10, pp. 174-186 Lijphart, Ch. 11, pp. 187-203 Quiz 10	Mar. 14, 8am Mar.27, 8am	 Mar. 28, 8am
Module 11: Judicial Review	Lijphart, Ch. 12, pp. 204-225 Quiz 11	Mar. 28, 8am Apr. 3, 8am	 Apr. 4, 8am
Module 12: Performance of Democracy, Quality of Democracy	Lijphart, Ch. 15, pp. 255-273 Lijphart, Ch. 16, pp. 274-294 Quiz 12	Apr. 4, 8am Apr.10, 8am	 Apr. 11, 8am
Final Examination	Good Luck!	Apr. 29, 8am	Apr. 30, 8am

* Modules themselves open earlier and close later than quizzes. See module schedules.

University Services and Resources

Academic Services and Resources

A list of available academic support and learning services is available at UCF Student Services. Click on "Academic Support and Learning Services" on the right-hand side to filter.

Non-Academic Services and Resources

A list of non-academic support and services is also available at UCF Student Services. Click on "Support" on the right-hand side to filter.

If you are a UCF Online student, please consult the UCF Online Student Guidelines for more information about your access to non-academic services.

Policy Statements

Academic Integrity

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

- *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.
- *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.
- *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.
- *Falsifying or misrepresenting* the student's own academic work.
- *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.
- *Multiple Submissions*: Submitting the same academic work for credit more than once without the express written permission of the instructor.
- *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, or 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, see http://goldenrule.sdes.ucf.edu/zgrade.

Course Accessibility Statement

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 (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

Fully online course sections (W, V)

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 <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.

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.

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.

Make-Up Assignments for Authorized University Events or Co-curricular Activities

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 at <https://policies.ucf.edu/documents/4-401.pdf>

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 at <http://regulations.ucf.edu/chapter5/documents/5.020ReligiousObservancesFINALJan19.pdf>.

Regarding COVID-19

To protect members of our community, everyone is required to wear a facial covering inside all common spaces including classrooms (https://policies.ucf.edu/documents/PolicyEmergencyCOVIDReturnPolicy.pdf). Students who choose not to wear facial coverings will be asked to leave the classroom by the instructor. If they refuse to leave the classroom or put on a facial covering, they may be considered disruptive

(please see the Golden Rule for student behavior expectations). Faculty have the right to cancel class if the safety and well-being of class members are in jeopardy. Students will be responsible for the material that would have been covered in class as provided by the instructor.

Depending on the course of the pandemic during the semester, the university may make changes to the way classes are offered. If that happens, please look for announcements or messages in Webcourses@UCF or Knights email about changes specific to this course.

COVID-19 and Illness Notification – Students who believe they may have a COVID-19 diagnosis should contact UCF Student Health Services (407-823-2509) so proper contact tracing procedures can take place.

Students should not come to campus if they are ill, are experiencing any symptoms of COVID-19, have tested positive for COVID, or if anyone living in their residence has tested positive or is sick with COVID-19 symptoms. CDC guidance for COVID-19 symptoms is located here: (https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/symptoms-testing/symptoms.html)

Students should contact their instructor(s) as soon as possible if they miss class for any illness reason to discuss reasonable adjustments that might need to be made. When possible, students should contact their instructor(s) before missing class.

In Case of Faculty Illness – If the instructor falls ill during the semester, there may be changes to this course, including having a backup instructor take over the course. Please look for announcements or mail in Webcourses@UCF or Knights email for any alterations to this course.

Course Accessibility and Disability COVID-19 Supplemental Statement – Accommodations may need to be added or adjusted should this course shift from an on-campus to a remote format. Students with disabilities should speak with their instructor and should contact sas@ucf.edu to discuss specific accommodations for this or other courses.

The instructor reserves the right to adjust the syllabus in the course of the semester/session.

Announcements from the School of Politics, Security & International Affairs: