CPO 4754 - Comparative Political Institutions

Section: 0W60

College of Sciences

School of Politics, Security, and Intl Affairs

Course Information

Term: Spring 2025
Class Meeting Days: ASC
Class Meeting Location: Online
Modality: WW
Credit Hours: 3.00

Course Description

CPO 4754 COS-POLS 3(3,0)Comparative Political Institutions: PR: ENC 1102 or POS 2041 or C.I. 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. Occasional.

Policies for Course Grade

Makeup Work Policy

- 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.

Missed/Late Assignments

- 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.

Attendance

- 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.
- 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.

Quiz Review

- After you finish each quiz, you have one chance to see which one you answered wrong. Accordingly, after each quiz, make sure you review those questions.

Course Accessibility

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) (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.

Academic Integrity

Students should familiarize themselves with UCF's Code of Conduct at Student Conduct and Integrity Office. According to Section 1, "Academic Misconduct," students are prohibited from engaging in:

a. Academic misconduct is defined as any submitted work or behavior that obstructs the instructor of record's ability to accurately assess the student's understanding or completion of the course materials or degree requirements (e.g., assignment, quiz, and/or exam). Examples of academic misconduct include but are not limited to: plagiarism, unauthorized assistance to complete an academic exercise; unauthorized communication with others during an examination, course assignment, or project; falsifying or misrepresenting academic work; providing misleading information to create a personal advantage to complete course/degree requirements; or multiple submission(s) of academic work without permission of the instructor of record.

b. Any student who knowingly helps another violate academic behavior standards is also in violation of the standards.

c. Commercial Use of Academic Material. Selling of course material to another person and/or uploading course material to a third-party vendor without authorization or without the express written permission of the University and the instructor of record. Course materials include but are not limited to class notes, the instructor of record's slide deck, tests, quizzes, labs, instruction sheets, homework, study guides, and handouts.

d. Soliciting assistance with academic coursework and/or degree requirements. The solicitation of assistance with an assignment, lab, quiz, test, paper, etc., without authorization of the instructor of record or designee is prohibited. This includes but is not limited to asking for answers to a quiz, trading answers, or offering to pay another to complete an assignment. It is considered Academic Misconduct to solicit assistance with academic coursework and/or degree requirements, even if the solicitation did not yield actual assistance (for example, if there was no response to the solicitation).

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 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 and Academic Integrity, 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.

Title IX

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 Let's Be Clear and UCF Cares.

For more information on diversity and inclusion, Title IX, accessibility, or UCF's complaint processes contact:

- Title IX – OIE – Office of Institutional Equity & askanadvocate@ucf.edu
- Disability Accommodation – Student Accessibility Services – Student Accessibility Services & sas@ucf.edu

- Access and Community Engagement (including the Ginsberg Center for Inclusion and Community Engagement, Military and Veteran Student Success, and HSI Initiatives)
- UCF Compliance and Ethics Office – Compliance, Ethics, and Risk Office & complianceandethics@ucf.edu
- The Ombuds Office is a safe place to discuss concerns.

Reporting an Incident or Issue

If you believe you have experienced abusive or discriminatory behavior by any faculty or staff member, contact the Office of Institutional Equity online or at 407-823-1336. You can also choose to report using the UCF Integrity Line and can report anonymously or as yourself at 1-855-877-6049 or using the online form. UCF cares about you and takes every report seriously. For more information see the Reporting an Incident or Issue Webpage.

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.

Campus Safety

At UCF Public Safety and Police, safety is the top priority. Emergencies on campus are rare, but if one should arise, it's important to be familiar with some basic safety and security concepts.

- In an emergency, always dial 911.
- Every UCF classroom has an **Emergency Procedure Guide** posted on a wall near the door, which will show you how to respond to a variety of situations. This guide can also be found online here.

- In the event of an active threat, remember **AVOID, DENY, DEFEND**. Choose the best course of action and act immediately. Watch the video here to learn more.
    - **AVOID**. Pay attention to your surroundings and have an exit plan. Get as much distance and as many barriers between you and the threat as quickly as possible.
    - **DENY.** When avoiding is difficult or impossible, deny the threat access to you and your space. Lockdown by creating barriers, turning the lights off and remaining quiet and out of sight. Make sure your cell phone is silenced, but do not turn it off.
    - **DEFEND.** When you are unable to put distance between yourself and the threat, be prepared to protect yourself. Commit to your actions, be aggressive and do not fight fairly. Do whatever it takes to survive.
- For emergencies on campus, UCF will utilize the UCF Alert system. All UCF students, faculty and staff are automatically enrolled to receive these email and text alerts, however, it's a good idea to frequently ensure your contact information is up to date.

Financial Aid Accountability

All instructors/faculty are required to document students' academic activity at the beginning of each course. In order to document that you began this course, please complete this activity by the end of the first week of classes or as soon as possible after adding the course. Failure to do so may result in a delay in the disbursement of your financial aid.

Class Schedule

Theme	Assignments	Open	Close
Getting started	Two truths and one lie introduction (financial aid requirement)	Jan. 6, 8am	Due: Jan. 10, 11:59pm Close: Jan. 17, 11:59pm
Module 1: Analyzing Politics	King, Keohane, and Verba, pp. 3-33 Quiz 1	Jan. 6, 8am Jan. 15, 8am	 Jan. 16, 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. 16, 8am Jan. 22, 8am	 Jan. 23, 8am
Module 3: Two Models of Democracy: Westminster Model	Lijphart, Ch. 2, pp. 9-29 Quiz 3	Jan. 23, 8am Jan. 29, 8am	 Jan. 30, 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	Jan. 30, 8am Feb. 5, 8am Jan. 30, 8am	 Feb. 6, 8am Feb. 6, 11:59pm
Module 5: Electoral Systems	Lijphart, Ch. 8, pp. 130-157 Quiz 5 Reaction paper 2	Feb. 6, 8am Feb. 12, 8am Feb. 6, 8am	 Feb. 13, 8am Feb. 13, 11:59pm
Module 6: Party Systems	Lijphart, Ch. 5, pp. 60-78 Quiz 6	Feb. 13, 8am Feb 19, 8am	 Feb. 20, 8am
Module 7: Interest Groups	Lijphart, Ch. 9, pp. 158-173 Quiz 7	Feb. 20, 8am Feb. 26, 8am	 Feb. 27, 8am
Module 8: Cabinets	Lijphart, Ch. 6, pp. 79-104 Quiz 8	Feb. 27, 8am Mar. 5, 8am	 Mar. 6, 8am
Module 9: Balance of Power	Lijphart, Ch. 7, pp. 105-129 Quiz 9	Mar. 6, 8am Mar. 12, 8am	 Mar. 13, 8am
Module 10: Concentration of Power	Lijphart, Ch. 10, pp. 174-186 Lijphart, Ch. 11, pp. 187-203 Quiz 10	Mar. 13, 8am Mar.26, 8am	 Mar. 27, 8am
Module 11: Judicial Review	Lijphart, Ch. 12, pp. 204-225 Quiz 11	Mar. 27, 8am Apr. 2, 8am	 Apr. 3, 8am
Module 12: Performance of Democracy, Quality of Democracy	Lijphart, Ch. 15, pp. 255-273 Lijphart, Ch. 16, pp. 274-294 Quiz 12	Apr. 3, 8am Apr.9, 8am	 Apr. 10, 8am
Final Examination	Good Luck!	Apr. 28, 8am	Apr. 29, 8am

Disclaimer

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