
COMPARATIVE POLITICS in Fall 2019 (PO2015)

Course Code	PO2015	Professor(s)	Oleg Kobtzeff
Prerequisites	None	Office Number	G-L16
Class Schedule	TF: 15:20-16:40 in Q-A101	Office Hours	Tuesdays & Fridays 9:45am-10:30am & 12:30-13:30 or by appointment
Credits	4	Email	okobtzeff@aup.edu
Semester	Fall 2019	Office Tel. Ext.	688

Course Description

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Why should we analyze the different systems of government and political processes of a variety of states, cities and other types of communities? For Indiana University and Purdue University scholars Patricia Fox¹ and Stephen Hundley, it is globalization that forces future professionals to become familiar with a variety of cultures throughout the globe.

“the demand in business and industry to hire people who can work with people of other nations and cultures and if need be can travel independently internationally to promote their business or industry. In addition, the world faces global challenges that will take interdisciplinary groups to solve these challenges. These global challenges will need to be solved through the gathering and sharing of knowledge across disciplines, institutions, and other entities institutions on a global scale.”

This class will focus on the political cultures of the globe. The political systems that we will focus upon (those of the United Kingdom, France, the United States, Germany, and several other selected) will not only reveal how great world powers are governed but—because they are models—how they have influenced scores of other states (among commonwealth states, former African and Asian colonies of France or the UK, Central European countries, etc.) in the way that their electoral systems, and their legislative, executive and judicial branches of government administer the different states of the globe in different or similar ways. Unfortunately,

Course Learning Outcomes

Students should be able to analyse current affairs from three levels of analysis (structural, political and governmental).

They should be able to define key concepts of comparative politics and should be familiar with contemporary theories of the discipline.

They should be able to compare political institutions, norms and cultures across and within regions of the world, and should be in a position to reasonably evaluate them.

General Education

[PLEASE EDIT OR REMOVE THE FOLLOWING TEXT AS APPLICABLE]

The general education program at AUP consists of four requirements: Speaking the World, Modeling the World, Mapping the World, and Comparing Worlds Past and Present.

This course can be used to fulfill the [INDICATE THE REQUIREMENT(S) FULFILLED BY THE COURSE] requirement and as such has the following learning outcomes:

[INDICATE THE GENERAL EDUCATION LEARNING OUTCOMES]

Course Outline

CLASS SCHEDULE/OUTLINE of LECTURES (count 1 to 2 class sessions per lecture)

Lecture 1: The Nation, the State and nation-states READ: • Hauss: pp. 27-35 • Anonymous, "Nation-state" (available on Blackboard) • Students will research entries such as a "nation", "state", "nation-state", "empire", "unitary state", "federal state" and "confederate state" by comparing entries in Boix & Stokes and 'Goodin'

Lecture 2: Democracies & Democracy and Authoritarian Regimes READ: Students will research examples of states presenting characteristics of regimes discussed in this chapter by comparing entries in Boix & Stokes and 'Goodin' and other scholarly dictionaries. They will also research other dictionaries for the following entries: "fascism", "totalitarianism", "authoritarianism", "banana republic"

Lecture 3: "Left" and "right", political parties READ: • Hauss: pp. 27-44 • Students will research the meaning of "left", "right" and "democracy" in the dictionaries featured in the list above (under "required" and "recommended") • Students will also research examples of states presenting characteristics of regimes discussed in this chapter by comparing entries in Boix & Stokes and 'Goodin'

Lecture 4: Electoral systems part 1 READ: Students will research "Electoral Systems" in the listed dictionaries (hint: look for author Shaun Bowler)

Lecture 5 Electoral systems part 2 READ: Students will research "Electoral Systems" in the listed dictionaries (hint: look for author Rein Taagepera)

Lecture 6 The United Kingdom – part 1 READ: Hauss: chapter on United Kingdom (pp. 73-106)

Lecture 7 The United Kingdom – part 2 READ: Continue Hauss: chapter on United Kingdom.

Lecture 8 The United Kingdom – part 3 (Brexit will be a major topic of this lecture) READ: Continue Hauss: chapter on United Kingdom Friday October 11 - deadline : Exercise 1: "you are the instructor" (covers all the lectures listed above)

Lecture 9 The United States – part 1 READ: Hauss: chapter on United States (pp. 51-72) Friday October 18 : Midterm : Exercise 2: 1st quiz - multiple choice questions covering chapters 1 to 4 part 1

Lecture 10 The United States – part 2

READ: Continue Hauss: chapter on United States Friday October 18 : Midterm : Exercise 2: 1st quiz - multiple choice questions covering chapters 1 to 4 30 October - 3 November (Wednesday to Sunday) : Fall break – no classes Tuesday November 12 : no classes

Lecture 11 France – part 1 READ: Hauss: chapter on France (pp. 107-140)

Lecture 12 : France – part 2 READ: Continue Hauss: chapter on France

Lecture 13 France – part 3 READ: Continue Hauss: chapter on France

Lecture 14 Germany – part 1 READ: Hauss: chapter on Germany (pp. 141-172)

Lecture 15 Lecture : Germany – part 2 READ: Continue Hauss: chapter on Germany

Lecture 16 the smaller countries of Europe compared (a brief overview) READ: Lansford: "Belgium", "Finland", "Switzerland", "Portugal "

Lecture 17 The smaller countries of Europe compared (a brief overview) – part 2 READ: Lansford: "Italy", "Spain", Portugal , "Greece", "Belarus"

Lecture 18 The European Union READ: Hauss: chapter on the European Union (pp. 173-198)

Lecture 19 The European Union – part 2 READ: Continue Hauss: chapter on the European Union

Lecture 20 China READ: Hauss: chapter on "Current and Former Communist Régimes" (pp. 199-220)

Lecture 21 China – part 2 READ: Hauss: chapter on China (pp. 257-290)

Lecture 22 Russia READ: Hauss: chapter on Russia (pp. 221-256)

Lecture 23 Russia – part 2 READ: Continue Hauss: chapter on Russia

Lecture 24 India READ: Hauss: chapter on India (pp. 323-356) Tuesday December 8: deadline :
Exercise 3: “you are the prof”

Lecture 25 India– part 2 READ: continue Haus chapter on India Friday Dec. 13 (first 15 minutes
of final exam session: Exercise 4 : 2nd Quiz covering

Lectures 9 to 25 Friday Dec. 13 (last 135 minutes of final exam session): Exercise 5: Final
essay(s), cumulative (choose between a menu including four short 1-page essays or 1 four-
page essay

Textbooks

Title	Author	Publisher	ISBN	Required
COMPARATIVE POLITICS: DOMESTIC RESPONSES TO GLOBAL CHALLENGES	HAUSS, CHARLES	Wadsworth	9781285465500	Yes

Attendance Policy

ATTENDANCE POLICY:

Students studying at The American University of Paris are expected to attend ALL scheduled classes, and in case of absence, should contact their professors to explain the situation. It is the student’s responsibility to be aware of any specific attendance policy that a faculty member might have set in the course syllabus.

The French Department, for example, has its own attendance policy, and students are responsible for compliance. Academic Affairs will excuse an absence for students’ participation in study trips related to their courses.

Attendance at all exams is mandatory. IN ALL CASES OF MISSED COURSE MEETINGS, THE RESPONSIBILITY FOR COMMUNICATION WITH THE PROFESSOR, AND FOR

ARRANGING TO MAKE UP MISSED WORK, RESTS SOLELY WITH THE STUDENT.

Whether an absence is excused or not is ALWAYS up to the discretion of the professor or the department. Unexcused absences can result in a low or failing participation grade. In the case of excessive absences, it is up to the professor or the department to decide if the student will receive an "F" for the course. An instructor may recommend that a student withdraw, if absences have made it impossible to continue in the course at a satisfactory level.

Students must be mindful of this policy when making their travel arrangements, and especially during the Drop/Add and Exam Periods. ENGLISH LANGUAGE PROFICIENCY STATEMENT:

As an Anglophone university, The American University of Paris is strongly committed to effective English language mastery at the undergraduate level.

Most courses require scholarly research and formal written and oral presentations in English, and AUP students are expected to strive to achieve excellence in these domains as part of their course work. To that end, professors include English proficiency among the criteria in student evaluation, often referring students to the university Writing Lab where they may obtain help on specific academic assignments.

Proficiency in English is monitored at various points throughout the student's academic career, most notably during the admissions and advising processes, while the student is completing general education requirements, and during the accomplishment of degree program courses and senior theses.

Grading Policy

GRADING and OUTCOMES:

6 Exercises will assess how learning goals are being met.

Students will obtain points for each exercise. To obtain "A" as a final grade, students must accumulate a minimum of 38 points (maximum is 40; minimum for A- = 36, for B+ = 33, for B = 30, for B- = 27, for C+ = 23, for C = 20, for C- = 17, for D+ = 13, for D = 10, for D- = 7; below 7 = F)

1. Exercise 1: "You are the Prof" = 5% (pass or fail) : maximum number of points obtainable: 2
2. Exercise 2: midterm Quiz = 20%: 16 short questions to answer : maximum number of points obtainable: 8 points (0.5 point/question)
3. Exercise 3: "You are the Prof" = 5% (pass or fail) : maximum number of points obtainable: 2

4. Exercise 4: Final Quiz = 20%: 16 short questions to answer : maximum number of points obtainable: 8 points (0.5 point/question)

5. Exercise 5: Final essay or essays = 40% = 16 points

6. Participation : 10% = 4 points

6 Exercises will assess how learning goals are being met.

Students will obtain points for each exercise. To obtain "A" as a final grade, students must accumulate a minimum of 38 points (maximum is 40; minimum for A- = 36, for B+ = 33, for B = 30, for B- = 27, for C+ = 23, for C = 20, for C- = 17, for D+ = 13, for D = 10, for D- = 7; below 7 = F)

7. Exercise 1: "You are the Prof" = 5% (pass or fail) : maximum number of points obtainable: 2

8. Exercise 2: midterm Quiz = 20%: 16 short questions to answer : maximum number of points obtainable: 8 points (0.5 point/question)

9. Exercise 3: "You are the Prof" = 5% (pass or fail) : maximum number of points obtainable: 2

10. Exercise 4: Final Quiz = 20%: 16 short questions to answer : maximum number of points obtainable: 8 points (0.5 point/question)

11. Exercise 5: Final essay or essays = 40% = 16 points

12. Participation : 10% = 4 points

Other
