

Course Profile - Department of International Relations

Course Number : POLS 204	Course Title : Comparative Politics
Required / Elective : Required	Pre / Co-requisites : -
Description: Similarities and differences between various political systems.	Textbook: Mark Kesselman , Joel Krieger , William A. Joseph (2007) <i>Introduction to Comparative Politics</i> , 4th edition, Houghton Mifflin.
Course Structure / Schedule : (3+0+0) 3 / 5 ECTS	
Extended Description: Similarities and differences between various political systems; state-society relations, parliaments and governments, democratic institutions, policy making processes, political parties and party systems, electoral systems, central-local relations and political culture. A comparative survey of various Western, non-Western, democratic and authoritarian systems.	
Design content : None	Computer usage: Required for writing country reports.
<p>Course Outcomes:</p> <p>By the end of this course, students will be able to</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Evaluate common themes and major differences between different countries • Develop cross-national comparisons and explanations • Evaluate current political structures in the light of varying historical paths 	
Teaching methods: Lectures, class discussion, report writing	
Course Outline	
Week	Topics
1	Introduction: What is Comparative Politics?
2	The Development of the Modern State I
3	The Development of the Modern State II
4	The Development of the Modern State III
5	Nationalism
6	Racism
7	Genocide
8	Democracy and Democratization I
9	Democracy and Democratization II
10	Development and its Discontents
11	Social Movements: Violent and Civil Forms of Disobedience
12	Gender Politics I
13	Gender Politics II

14	Gender Politics III
15	Review

Assessment methods:

Mid-term exam	30%
Final exam	40%
Quizzes and participation	15%
Country reports	15%

Contribution of Course Learning Outcomes to Program Outcomes

	Program Outcomes	*Level of Contribution				
		1	2	3	4	5
IR1	Understand the fundamental concepts and theories of the field of International Relations and be able to apply them to historical and current events		X			
IR2	Understand the historical processes of political structures and institutions	X				
IR3	Be able to follow the world political conjuncture					X
IR4	Grasp the structures and functions of international/regional/intergovernmental organizations					X
IR5	Be able to analyze the dynamics that form the political substructure of various events and phenomena, as well as their effects			X		
IR6	Understand the international legal framework		X			
IR7	Grasp and question the causes and consequences of economic developments and their impact on international relations			X		
PS1	Understand the fundamental concepts and theories of the field of Political Science and be able to apply them to historical and current events					X
PS2	Understand the historical processes, structures, and functions of political institutions				X	
PS3	Be able to analyze the dynamics that form the political substructure of various events and phenomena, as well as their effects			X		
PS4	Understand the mechanisms of political change (such as voting, lobbying, political movements, legal reforms, revolution, etc.)					X

PS5	Possess knowledge about those fundamental issues that shape political and societal life (such as race, gender, class, environment, security, religion, identity, etc.)					X
PS6	Acknowledge that political phenomena can be explained differently by different schools of thought				X	
PS7	Grasp and question the causes and consequences of economic developments and their impact on politics				X	
8	Think independently, creatively, and critically					X
9	Be an entrepreneur and take initiative	X				
10	Have self-confidence				X	
11	Have the ability to carry out systematic comparisons and rightly differentiate similarities and differences					X
12	Be open-minded and prepared to work together with people from different cultures and groups		X			
13	Be aware and a follower of social responsibilities as well as political rights and freedoms				X	
14	Internalize work ethics and behave accordingly		X			
15	Be able to speak and deliver presentations in front of public		X			
16	Understand, read, and write in English			X		
17	Have the ability to observe, analyze, and report				X	
18	Be able to implement the principles and methods of scientific research	X				
19	Understand and interpret statistical data	X				
20	Be prone to team work	X				
21	Possess computer and technological literacy	X				

*1 Lowest, 2 Low, 3 Average, 4 High, 5 Highest

Student workload:

Reading	35 hrs
Lectures	39 hrs
Preparing country reports	20 hrs
Exam preparations	26 hrs
Examinations	5 hrs
TOTAL	125 hrs (25x5) 5 ECTS

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