

**POLS 2 Course Outline as of Fall 2019****CATALOG INFORMATION**

Dept and Nbr: POLS 2 Title: INTRO/COMPAR GOVT

Full Title: Introduction to Comparative Government

Last Reviewed: 4/8/2024

Units		Course Hours per Week		Nbr of Weeks	Course Hours Total	
Maximum	3.00	Lecture Scheduled	3.00	17.5	Lecture Scheduled	52.50
Minimum	3.00	Lab Scheduled	0	6	Lab Scheduled	0
		Contact DHR	0		Contact DHR	0
		Contact Total	3.00		Contact Total	52.50
		Non-contact DHR	0		Non-contact DHR	0

Total Out of Class Hours: 105.00

Total Student Learning Hours: 157.50

Title 5 Category: AA Degree Applicable

Grading: Grade or P/NP

Repeatability: 00 - Two Repeats if Grade was D, F, NC, or NP

Also Listed As:

Formerly:

**Catalog Description:**

This course addresses the basic processes and challenges that all political systems face and examines their expression in industrialized democracies, former and current communist states, and newly-industrialized and developing states.

**Prerequisites/Corequisites:****Recommended Preparation:**

Eligibility for ENGL 1A or equivalent

**Limits on Enrollment:****Schedule of Classes Information:**

Description: This course addresses the basic processes and challenges that all political systems face and examines their expression in industrialized democracies, former and current communist states, and newly-industrialized and developing states. (Grade or P/NP)

Prerequisites/Corequisites:

Recommended: Eligibility for ENGL 1A or equivalent

Limits on Enrollment:

Transfer Credit: CSU;UC.

Repeatability: Two Repeats if Grade was D, F, NC, or NP

## **ARTICULATION, MAJOR, and CERTIFICATION INFORMATION:**

<b>AS Degree:</b>	<b>Area</b>		Effective:	Inactive:
	D	Social and Behavioral Sciences	Fall 1981	
<b>CSU GE:</b>	<b>Transfer Area</b>		Effective:	Inactive:
	D	Social Science	Fall 2012	
	D8	Political Science, Govt, Legal Instutns		
	D	Social Science	Fall 1991	Summer 2012
	D2	Economics		
	D4	Gender Studies		
	D8	Political Science, Govt, Legal Instutns		
	D	Social Science	Fall 1981	Summer 1991
	D2	Economics		
	D4	Gender Studies		

<b>IGETC:</b>	<b>Transfer Area</b>		Effective:	Inactive:
	4	Social and Behavioral Science	Fall 1981	
	4H	Political Science:Govt and Legal Instutn		

**CSU Transfer:** Transferable      Effective:      Fall 1981      Inactive:

**UC Transfer:** Transferable      Effective:      Fall 1981      Inactive:

### **CID:**

CID Descriptor: POLS 130      Introduction to Comparative Government and Politics  
SRJC Equivalent Course(s):      POLS2

### **Certificate/Major Applicable:**

Major Applicable Course

## **COURSE CONTENT**

### **Student Learning Outcomes:**

At the conclusion of this course, the student should be able to:

1. Compare and contrast the historical, political, economic, and cultural development of Western and non-Western states.
2. Identify and evaluate institutional alternatives to explain differences in processes and policy outcomes of different states.
3. Evaluate the impact of domestic issues and globalization challenges on individual states.

### **Objectives:**

At the conclusion of this course, the student should be able to:

1. Define key terms and concepts used in comparative politics.
2. Apply basic concepts of comparative politics to identify similarities and differences between and among states, as well as political institutions, processes, and policies.
3. Compare and contrast the patterns of political and economic development of industrialized

- democracies, current and post-communist states, and newly-industrialized developing states.
4. Examine how identity, political socialization and political participation impact political culture in both Western and non-Western states.
  5. Examine how individual countries deal with domestic issues and globalization challenges that impact our daily lives by comparing their public policy approaches and outcomes.

## **Topics and Scope:**

### **I. Comparative Politics**

- A. Comparison of States
- B. Comparison of Political Regimes
- C. Comparison of Political Culture and Participation
- D. Comparison of Political Economies
- E. Comparison of Public Policy Issues and Challenges
- F. Interplay of National, Regional, and Global Forces

### **II. Industrialized Democracies**

- A. Origins of the Democratic States
- B. Presidential, Parliamentary and Semi-Presidential Systems
- C. Political Culture and Participation
- D. Public Policy
  1. Domestic Trends and Challenges
  2. Regional and Globalization Forces and Challenges
- E. Selected Countries - Case Studies on countries determined by the instructor.
  1. Historical Development of the State
  2. Political Institutions
  3. Political Culture and Participation
    - a. Party System and Elections
    - b. Ideology
    - c. Identity (class, ethnic, national)
  4. Political Economy
  5. Public Policy
    - a. Domestic Policy Issues
    - b. Regional and Globalization Forces and Impact

### **III. Former and Current Communist States**

- A. The Institutional Bases of Communist States
- B. Command Economies
- C. Collapse of Communist Regimes
- D. Post-communism
- E. Selected Countries - Case Studies countries determined by the instructor.
  1. Historical Development of the State
  2. Political Institutions
  3. Political Culture and Participation
    - a. Party system and elections
    - b. Ideology
    - c. Identity
  4. Political Economy
  5. Public Policy
    - a. Domestic Trends and Challenges
    - b. Regional and Globalization Forces and Impact

### **IV. Newly Industrialized and Developing States**

- A. Evolution of Politics in the Developing States

1. Imperialism and its Legacy
2. Postcolonial Political Regimes
- B. Political Economy of Development and Underdevelopment
- C. Political Culture and Participation
- D. Public Policy
- E. Selected Countries - Case Studies countries determined by the instructor.
  1. Historical Development of the State
  2. Political Institutions
  3. Political Culture and Participation
    - a. Party System and Elections
    - b. Ideology
    - c. Identity
  4. Political Economy
  5. Public Policy
    - a. Domestic trends and challenges
    - b. Regional and Globalization Forces and Impact

**Assignment:**

1. Read and study 30 to 50 pages in the text and additional readings weekly
2. Two to four essay examinations including a final. Examinations may include additional multiple-choice components
3. Analytical writing (2000-3000 words). These may be in the form of analytical essays, reaction or research papers or discussion posts
4. Optional assignments may include written summaries of current events, oral presentations, simulations, or group work

**Methods of Evaluation/Basis of Grade:**

**Writing:** Assessment tools that demonstrate writing skills and/or require students to select, organize and explain ideas in writing.

Analytical writing (essays, research or reaction papers or discussion posts)

Writing  
25 - 45%

**Problem Solving:** Assessment tools, other than exams, that demonstrate competence in computational or non-computational problem solving skills.

None

Problem solving  
0 - 0%

**Skill Demonstrations:** All skill-based and physical demonstrations used for assessment purposes including skill performance exams.

None

Skill Demonstrations  
0 - 0%

**Exams:** All forms of formal testing, other than skill performance exams.

Multiple-choice, True/false, Essay exams

Exams  
40 - 60%

**Other:** Includes any assessment tools that do not logically fit into the above categories.

Oral presentations, simulations, and group work

Other Category  
0 - 30%

**Representative Textbooks and Materials:**

Comparative Politics: Domestic Responses to Global Challenges. 10th ed. Hauss, Charles. Cengage. 2019

Cases and Concepts in Comparative Politics. O'Neill, Patrick and Fields, Karl and Share, Don. Norton. 2017

Comparative Politics: Integrating Theories, Methods, and Cases. 2nd ed. Dickovick, Tyler and Eastwood, Jonathan. Oxford University Press. 2015