

Carleton University
Department of Political Science

Fall 2010

PSCI 2101A
Comparative Politics of the Global North
Friday 11:35-13:25
Please confirm location on Carleton Central

Professor: Andrea Chandler
Office: Loeb D691
Office Hours: Monday, 11:30-1:30, and Friday, 9:15 to 11:15 or by appointment
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Course Description:

In comparative politics, we examine how political processes work within states, and why political changes occur within societies. We are interested primarily in domestic (internal) politics, and we seek to explain the similarities and differences between particular countries. In this course, we focus in particular on the states of the world's North, primarily in Europe and North America. Traditionally, comparative politics has focussed primarily on political systems, with a strong emphasis on the role of state institutions. However, as in all fields of political science, we must be attentive to the increased role of globalization.

Comparative politics is a rich, complex and changing field of political science. Rather than to attempt to cover all countries and concepts, the instructor's approach is to focus on selected questions and problems, and to introduce concepts, terms and examples through the course of examining those questions. Students are encouraged to explore further the details of particular countries and events in their own research projects and in supplementary reading.

This course has the following goals: 1) to introduce students to major concepts, debates and approaches in comparative politics, 2) to illustrate political problems using selected case studies of countries and events, 3) to convey a sense of the diversity and complexity of politics in the twenty-first century, 4) to encourage students to develop sophisticated individual research strategies, through critical reading, discussion of research methods and sources, and work on a sustained research paper. Lectures will focus on concepts, debates and case studies; discussion sections will allow students to discuss the readings in more depth, to practice writing, and to consider the value of diverse research approaches.

Course Readings:

The course readings include the textbook (in the University Bookstore) as well as additional required readings which have been placed on reserve in McOdrum Library. All readings listed are required unless otherwise specified. The course textbook is:

Lowell Barrington, *et al* (Michael J. Bosia, Kathleen Bruhn, Susan Giaimo, and Dean E. McHenry, Jr.). *Comparative Politics: Structures and Choices*. Boston: Wadsworth, 2010.

*** (Note: the textbook is a source of assigned readings. The instructor does not use for course purposes any online resources that may accompany this textbook).**

Course Requirements:

An explanation of each component follows the list of course requirements.

- 15% Attendance and participation in discussion sections, including group work and completion of in-class written assignments.
- 20% In-class midterm examination. 1 hour. Due **October 15**.
- 10% On-line assignment, to communicate the student's interim progress in research towards the final paper. Due **October 29**
- 30% Final research paper, due on or before **December 3** in lecture to Professor Chandler.
- 25% Final examination (3-hour time limit, to be completed online through WebCT, to be completed by **December 22** at 12:00 noon).

Attendance and participation: Students are required to attend weekly discussion groups with a teaching assistant (TA) once the groups have been organized early in the fall term. TAs will record attendance, and students are expected to come to discussion groups prepared to discuss the readings, as well as any discussion questions posted on WebCT in advance. It is expected that discussion groups will include group work.

In-class midterm examination: 1 hour. The examination will include a combination of short-answer and short essay questions about course material covered to date. The test will include course material (including lectures, discussions and readings) covered up to and including October 1. *University examination regulations will apply.*

On-line research-in-progress assignment: A solid research paper develops cumulatively in stages over a sustained period of time. Students are required to submit a written assignment, on-line via WebCT, which demonstrates advance planning of the final research project, and which shows reasoned consideration of the analytical challenges of the research. The assignment should include: 1) the research question or hypothesis for the project, which should aim to explain a puzzling event, a political change, or a contrast between two or more countries relevant to the theme of the course; 2) an explanation of the specifics of the topic in order to make it manageable for a research paper (e.g., country, time period, case study to be examined), with an explanation of why these choices have been made, 3) a preliminary bibliography of at least ten peer-reviewed journal articles or academic books relevant to the topic, 4) a discussion of the sequence of points to be examined in the final paper; it should be clear to the reader why each point is relevant, and how an argument will unfold. The suggested total length of the assignment is 750-1000 words. A list of suggested topics will be posted to WebCT early in the term.

A student may write on a topic of his or her own choice, provided the professor has approved their topic in advance of the due date of the assignment.

Final Research Paper. The final research paper will develop the topic approved in the assignment assigned in October, and will examine a particular analytical question to explain a puzzling event, a political change, or a contrast between two or more countries relevant to the theme of the course. Students are expected to make a clear and original argument developed in a logical sequence drawing on thorough and appropriate evidence. Papers will be evaluated on the basis of the cogency of the argument, the depth of the research (which by definition must demonstrate original research), the accuracy of the material presented, and the clarity of the paper's organization. It is expected that papers will undertake broad scholarly research, drawing on analysis at least eight to ten scholarly sources and including empirical evidence as appropriate to the topic. All papers should include complete references and bibliography. Papers should be 10-12 pages long. The research paper will include as a marking criterion whether the student took feedback on the earlier online assignment into account. Papers which simply assemble or reiterate information, which do not demonstrate sufficient intellectual engagement with scholarly sources, or which rely for source material on online encyclopedias such as Wikipedia, will not be considered satisfactory assignments and will be assigned a grade of F.

Final Examination: will cover all course material, including all readings and lectures. The final examination will be completed online, via WebCT, with a three-hour time limit. Students will be able to access the final exam by 9:00 a.m. on December 6 and it must be completed by December 22, at 12:00 noon. Students may refer to readings and notes during the test, but since doing so will use up valuable time, it is strongly recommended that students study hard in advance. ***Students are strongly encouraged to complete a practice quiz in advance on WebCT, which will not count towards the final grade. The instructor will make an announcement when the practice quiz is available.***

STATEMENT ON WRITTEN WORK

All written assignments should answer a specific question and make a clear argument, providing facts and evidence to back up statements made. Papers should analyze, rather than describe, the issues and events discussed. All papers should use footnotes or endnotes to acknowledge sources consulted, and provide a complete bibliography. In particular, the final assignment is a research paper and should demonstrate that you have consulted a range of scholarly sources: a minimum of eight published books or articles. Footnotes should be complete and accurate, inserted into the text of your paper as appropriate whenever you have referred to someone else's idea, argument, or research. Any time you quote directly from a source, the citation should be indicated in quotation marks and footnoted. Quotations from secondary sources are to be avoided, as are quotations of more than fifty words in length from any one source. *** If you are unsure about how to use footnotes or endnotes, please see the instructor for advice. Students who do not write the final examination, but whose term work is otherwise complete and satisfactory, will receive a grade of ABS. All course requirements must be

completed for the student to receive a passing grade. Marks will be deducted for lateness (extensions will be considered only for family emergencies and for documented medical reasons) and university deadlines apply. Assignments must be submitted in person to the instructor or teaching assistant.

Office hours and e-mail: Students with questions for the professor may reach her by coming to her office hours (no appointment needed), by arranging an individual consultation outside of office hours, by phone, or by e-mail. Following university policy, the instructor will use “Connect” e-mail addresses when communicating by e-mail with students. Normally, the professor expects to reply to e-mail or voicemail messages within 2 days during the working week. The professor generally does not send e-mail messages on evenings or weekends. The professor uses e-mail to communicate with students in order to exchange general information about the course or suggestions about reading and research: e-mail will not be used for communicating marks.

Students are expected to use WebCT regularly for course purposes, and are encouraged to check WebCT before class for possible announcements.

Schedule of Course Lectures and Discussions

Week 1 (September 10) Introduction

Week 2 (September 17) Concepts and Categories in Comparative Politics

Barrington, chapters 1 and 2.

Week 3 (September 24) Development and Modernization

Barrington, chapter 3.

Ronald Inglehart, “How development leads to democracy,” *Foreign Affairs*, vol. 88, no. 2, March-April 2009, pp. 33-48.

Perry Anderson, “Two Revolutions,” *New Left Review*, no. 61, January-February 2010, pp. 59-96.

Week 4 (October 1) Regimes and Systems

Barrington, chapter 6.

Philippe C. Schmitter and Terry Lynn Karl, “What Democracy is... and is Not,” *Journal of Democracy*, vol. 2, no. 3, summer 1991, pp. 75-80.

Andrew Roberts, “The State of Socialism: a Note on Terminology,” *Slavic Review*, vol. 63, no. 2, 2004, pp. 349-66. 237 PP IN source

NO CLASS OCTOBER 8 – UNIVERSITY DAY

Week 5 (October 15) Midterm test, 1 hour. No lecture today. Following the midterm, from 12:40 to 1:25, students can be dismissed early or can stay for consultations with the professor.

Week 6 (October 22) States and institutions

Barrington, chapter 7-8.

Peter Mair, "Ruling the Void? The Hollowing of Western Democracy," *New Left Review*, no. 42, November-December 2006, pp. 25-51.

Week 7 (October 29) Political parties and civil society

Barrington, chapter 9-10.

John Grundy and Miriam Smith, 'The Politics of Multiscalar Citizenship: the Case of Lesbian and Gay Organizing in Canada,' *Citizenship Studies*, vol. 9, no. 4, September 2005, pp. 389-404.

Kay Lehman Schlozman, Sidney Verba and Henry E. Brady, "Weapon of the Strong: Participatory Inequality and the Internet," *Perspectives on Politics*, vol. 8, no. 2, June 2010, pp. 487-509.

Week 8 (November 5) Revolution and Dramatic Change

Stephan Auer, "Violence and the End of Revolution after 1989," *Thesis Eleven*, no. 97, May 2009, 6-25.

Branko Milanovic, "Why Have Communist Federations Collapsed?" *Challenge*, vol. 37, no. 3, March-April 1994, pp. 61-4.

Mitchell Orenstein, "What Happened in East European Political Economies? A Balance Sheet for Neoliberal Reform," *EEPS*, 23, 4, November 2009, pp. 479-90.

Week 9 (November 12) Democracy and Democratization

Barrington, chapter 12.

Georgina Waylen, "A Comparative Politics of Gender: Limits and Possibilities," *Perspectives on Politics*, vol. 8, no. 1, 223-31.

Thomas H. Sander and Robert D. Putnam, "Still Bowling Alone? The 9/11 Split," *Journal of Democracy*, vol. 21, no. 1, January 2010, pp. 9-16.

Week 10 (November 19) Ethnicity and Identity

Barrington, chapter 5.

Margaret MacMillan, "History and Nationalism," in *The Uses and Abuses of History*, Toronto: Penguin Canada, 2008, 87-99.

W. Shadid and P. S. Von Koningsveld, "Muslim Dress in Europe: Debates on the Headscarf," *Journal of Islamic Studies*, vol. 16, no. 1 (2005), pp. 35-61.

Week 11 (November 26) Comparative politics and globalization

Stephanie Lee Mudge, "What is Neo-Liberalism?" *Socio-Economic Review*, vol. 6, no. 4, 2008, 708-31.

Nick Fraser, "The Case for Europe," *The Walrus*, vol. 6, no. 6, July-August 2009, pp. 38-42.

Stephen Rosefelde, "The Illusion of Westernization in Russia and China," *Comparative Economic Studies*, vol. 49, no. 4, (Dec 2007), pp. 495-514.

Week 12 (December 3). Capitalism, Inclusion, and the Welfare State

Amartya Sen, "Capitalism beyond the Crisis," *New York Review of Books*, vol. 56, no. 5, March 26, 2009, pp. 27-30.

Barrington, chapter 13.

Academic Accommodations

For students with Disabilities: Students with disabilities requiring academic accommodations in this course must register with the Paul Menton Centre for Students with Disabilities (500 University Centre) for a formal evaluation of disability-related needs. Registered PMC students are required to contact the centre (613-520-6608) every term to ensure that the instructor receives your request for accommodation. After registering with the PMC, make an appointment to meet with the instructor in order to discuss your needs **at least two weeks before the first assignment is due or the first in-class test/midterm requiring accommodations**. If you require accommodation for your formally scheduled exam(s) in this course, please submit your request for accommodation to PMC by **November 15 2010 for December examinations and March 11 2011 for April examinations**.

For Religious Observance: Students requesting accommodation for religious observances should apply in writing to their instructor for alternate dates and/or means of satisfying academic requirements. Such requests should be made during the first two weeks of class, or as soon as possible after the need for accommodation is known to exist, but no later than two weeks before the compulsory academic event. Accommodation is to be worked out directly and on an individual basis between the student and the instructor(s) involved. Instructors will make accommodations in a way that avoids academic disadvantage to the student. Instructors and students may contact an Equity Services Advisor for assistance (www.carleton.ca/equity).

For Pregnancy: Pregnant students requiring academic accommodations are encouraged to contact an Equity Advisor in Equity Services to complete a *letter of accommodation*. Then, make an appointment to discuss your needs with the instructor at least two weeks prior to the first academic event in which it is anticipated the accommodation will be required.

Plagiarism: The University Senate defines plagiarism as "presenting, whether intentional or not, the ideas, expression of ideas or work of others as one's own." This can include:

- reproducing or paraphrasing portions of someone else's published or unpublished material, regardless of the source, and presenting these as one's own without proper citation or reference to the original source;
- submitting a take-home examination, essay, laboratory report or other assignment written, in whole or in part, by someone else;
- using ideas or direct, verbatim quotations, or paraphrased material, concepts, or ideas without appropriate acknowledgment in any academic assignment;
- using another's data or research findings;
- failing to acknowledge sources through the use of proper citations when using another's works and/or failing to use quotation marks;

- handing in "substantially the same piece of work for academic credit more than once without prior written permission of the course instructor in which the submission occurs.

Plagiarism is a serious offence which cannot be resolved directly with the course's instructor. The Associate Deans of the Faculty conduct a rigorous investigation, including an interview with the student, when an instructor suspects a piece of work has been plagiarized. Penalties are not trivial. They include a mark of zero for the plagiarized work or a final grade of "F" for the course.

Oral Examination: At the discretion of the instructor, students may be required to pass a brief oral examination on research papers and essays.

Submission and Return of Term Work: Papers must be handed directly to the instructor and will not be date-stamped in the departmental office. Late assignments may be submitted to the drop box in the corridor outside B640 Loeb. Assignments will be retrieved every business day at **4 p.m.**, stamped with that day's date, and then distributed to the instructor. For essays not returned in class please attach a **stamped, self-addressed envelope** if you wish to have your assignment returned by mail. Please note that assignments sent via fax or email will not be accepted. Final exams are intended solely for the purpose of evaluation and will not be returned.

Approval of final grades: Standing in a course is determined by the course instructor subject to the approval of the Faculty Dean. This means that grades submitted by an instructor may be subject to revision. No grades are final until they have been approved by the Dean.

Course Requirements: Failure to write the final exam will result in a grade of ABS. FND (Failure No Deferred) is assigned when a student's performance is so poor during the term that they cannot pass the course even with 100% on the final examination. In such cases, instructors may use this notation on the Final Grade Report to indicate that a student has already failed the course due to inadequate term work and should not be permitted access to a deferral of the examination. Deferred final exams are available **ONLY** if the student is in good standing in the course.

Connect Email Accounts: All email communication to students from the Department of Political Science will be via Connect. Important course and University information is also distributed via the Connect email system. It is the student's responsibility to monitor their Connect account.

Carleton Political Science Society: The Carleton Political Science Society (CPSS) has made its mission to provide a social environment for politically inclined students and faculty. Holding social events, debates, and panel discussions, CPSS aims to involve all political science students in the after-hours academic life at Carleton University. Our mandate is to arrange social and academic activities in order to instill a sense of belonging within the Department and the larger University community. Members can benefit through numerous opportunities which will complement both academic and social life at Carleton University. To find out more, please email carletonpss@gmail.com, visit our website at poliscisociety.com, or come to our office in Loeb D688.

Official Course Outline: The course outline posted to the Political Science website is the official course outline.