

Carleton University
 Department of Political Science
<https://carleton.ca/polisci/>

Fall 2021

Global Politics GPOL 2500
Debates in Comparative Politics
Mondays, 2:35-5:25 p.m.
Check Carleton Central for location

Professor: Andrea Chandler She/her
Phone: 613-520-2600 ext 1418
Office hours: Mondays, 12:00-2:00 Virtual office hours (see Brightspace for details); please contact the professor if you wish to speak by Zoom or telephone on another day/time. If public health conditions permit, in-person one-on-one meetings may be arranged by appointment.
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Course Description

This course is available to students in the Bachelor of Global and International Studies program, specialization in Global Politics. In this course, we will examine selected political questions in comparative politics, with an emphasis on those questions which overlap with international relations. As politics has become increasingly globalized in the past several decades, the boundary lines between domestic and global politics have become increasingly blurred. Rather than giving a survey overview of comparative politics, this course will pursue a problem – driven approach. Students will be encouraged to look at a selection of contentious issues, to examine various perspectives rigorously, and to develop their analytical research skills. Rather than using a conventional textbook, we will read three recent, influential books. These books focus on three key themes: human rights in historical perspective; the impact of capitalism on politics; and reform.

Students are urged to keep up with course materials on a weekly basis according to the course schedule, and to complete course materials in the order presented. At the time of writing of this course outline, the course has been scheduled for in-person teaching, however the situation regarding COVID-19 continues to evolve. Students should be aware that public health recommendations may require changes in course delivery that are beyond the professor's control, in which case the professor will endeavour to minimize disruption and maintain continuity in the overall workload. Students with concerns about meeting course requirements should feel free to contact the professor.

Learning Objectives. By the end of the course, students who successfully complete the required work should be able to do the following:

- Demonstrate an understanding of key theoretical debates/concepts on global aspects of comparative politics, and apply that understanding to specific events and countries,
- Show an ability to identify and form hypotheses, and to develop a plan to research those hypotheses systematically, using appropriate sources and methods.

- Grasp the main arguments in an academic book or peer-reviewed journal article in comparative politics, at a reading level appropriate for an undergraduate student.
- In the final examination, the student should be able to formulate a clear argument in response to complex question, and to support that argument with specific relevant details and examples.

Books: ordered for university bookstore. There are three:

1. Branko Milanovic, *Capitalism Alone: The Future of the System that Rules the World*. Cambridge, MA: Belknap Press, 2019.
2. Cass R. Sunstein. *How Change Happens*. Cambridge, MA: MIT Press 2019.
3. Kathryn Sikkink. *Evidence for Hope: Making Human Rights Work in the 21st century*. Princeton, NJ: Princeton University Press, 2017.

Additional readings will be made available electronically on library reserve. Students will be able to access them in Brightspace by going to the Tools menu and clicking on “Ares Reserves.”

Course Requirements:

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

12% Participation in class dialogue (in person and/or online), details below

18% Online quiz, to be completed between November 1 at 11:25 a.m. (Ottawa time) and November 9, 11:59 p.m. (Ottawa time)

20% First written assignment due October 18 (submitted online at Brightspace)

20% Second written assignment due on or before December 6, to be submitted online at Brightspace according to instructions below.

30% Final examination, to take place in the scheduled examination period (December 11-23)
Exam will be held in in person, assuming public health conditions permit.

Total 100%

Participation in class dialogue: For weeks 2, 3, 5, 6, 8, 9, 10, 11 and 12, the professor will post a question a week in advance related to the course material for the following week. Each student is expected to choose three of these questions and prepare a response that shows thoughtful preparation of the reading assigned for that week. For each question chosen, the student may either a) verbally present their answer to the class for which it is assigned (please speak conversationally and maintain eye contact rather than simply reading), OR b) post a written response to the designated online forum in Brightspace, in advance of the class that it will be discussed (on the understanding that other students will be able to see your post and that your post may be discussed in class. *Students are encouraged to reflect upon all questions even if they do not present or post, as the questions will be discussed in class and will be help to guide reading comprehension.*

On-line test, to be completed online through Brightspace, between between November 1, 11:25 a.m. (Ottawa time) and November 9, 11:59 p.m. (Ottawa time) The goal of this test will be to measure students’ comprehension of basic concepts, and their ability to apply them. The test will consist of twenty-four multiple-choice questions. Students will have one hour to write the

test; do not open the test until you are prepared to complete it. Questions will be based on course material from weeks 2-6, including lectures and all assigned readings.

Since students will complete the quiz on their own, they will be able to refer to hard copy books and notes during the quiz, however, it is strongly recommended that students study for the quiz and write it without referring to notes. The questions will require the use of reasoning, not simply the memorization of information. Students are expected to write the test on their own, on the honour system, without sharing their answers with their fellow students. University examination rules can be found online at

<https://calendar.carleton.ca/undergrad/regulations/academicregulationsoftheuniversity/examinations/>

Written assignments:

The written assignments are intended to develop cumulative skills in hypothesis building, evidence-gathering, engagement with comparative politics literature, and concise writing.

First written assignment: Online submission, due October 18. The format and instructions for the first written assignment will be posted online. The assignment will require students to find particular research sources online; to answer in their own words a series of questions that will encourage students to familiarize themselves with these research sources, to consider the strengths and weaknesses of these sources, and to explore ways in which these sources could provide evidence for research projects. Students' marks will be based on the completeness of their answers, the demonstrated ability to evaluate research sources, and the effort to provide clear hypotheses relevant to the research sources.

Second written assignment: Online submission, due December 6. This assignment will build on the first written assignment. Each written assignment must include: a) a brief hypothesis in response to one of the research questions posted online, which will be related to the topics explored in the first written assignment, b) at least three specific pieces of evidence that could prove or disprove the hypothesis, c) an alternative hypothesis on the question and a comment on its relevance in light of the evidence found d) a brief discussion of one or more countries that would be relevant to future research on the topic, explaining why that country is relevant.

- Each written assignment must be brief: maximum 750 words (excluding bibliography). (Given the brevity of the assignment, you are advised to avoid elaborate introductions and conclusions).
- Assignments are expected to be written in complete sentences and paragraphs. Each assignment should flow as a cohesive work, rather than as an assembly of separate components. See additional requirements for written work below.
- In addition to the 750 words, students will attach a bibliography to include at least five peer-reviewed or primary sources (and other sources, if used) to indicate the references used in the paper.

Final Examination: will cover all course material, including all assigned readings and material covered in lectures/class discussions. The exam will be requested to take place in the scheduled examination period (December 11-23) Exam will be held in in person, assuming public health conditions permit.

CONSULTATIONS WITH THE PROFESSOR

Students who have individual concerns or who wish to discuss an assignment are strongly encouraged to visit the professor's virtual office hours, or request an appointment for an individual conversation. Students can use e-mail to contact the professor; e-mail communication works best for brief exchanges of factual information, so please note that the professor keeps her email replies brief. The instructor normally replies to e-mail messages within 2 days, Monday through Friday.

STATEMENT ON WRITTEN WORK

*All written assignments should answer a specific question and should analyze, rather than describe, the issues and events discussed. Papers should use footnotes, endnotes or parenthetical references as appropriate to acknowledge sources consulted, and provide a complete bibliography. 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. Instead, you are encouraged to summarize a point in your own words, providing the appropriate acknowledgment of source and reference. Students are encouraged to use the MLA style of referencing.*** If you are unsure about how to reference your written assignments, please contact the professor for advice.*

LATE ASSIGNMENTS

Assignments are expected to be submitted on or before the deadline. When assignments are submitted on time, it facilitates prompt marking which benefits all students. Marks will be deducted for lateness unless an extension has been given as an accommodation. Feel free to request an extension if it is in the best interest of your health. The university schedule establishes a final deadline of December 11 for all assignments. After this date, late papers will require permission to defer term work. For more information see the last two pages of this course outline.

SCHEDULE OF COURSE LECTURES AND ASSIGNED READINGS

Week 1 (September 13). Introduction

Week 2 (September 20). Problem-based comparative politics research: states and citizens
Required Reading: Sikkink, chapters 1-2.

Week 3 (September 27). Democracy and the state
Required Reading: Sikkink, chapters 3-4; Sunstein, pp. 3-18.

Week 4 (October 4). Assumptions, Ideas, and Development
Required Reading: Milanovic, pp. 1-31; 42-50; 67-87.

Week 5 (October 18)

Towards evidence-based comparative politics research: Human Rights and Inequality as Examples

Required Reading:

Sikkink, chapter 5.

Milanovic, 31-42.

Kelebogile Zvogbo and Meredith Loken, "Why Race Matters in International Relations."

Foreign Policy, 237, 2020: pp. 11–13. <https://foreignpolicy.com/2020/06/19/why-race-matters-international-relations-ir/>

READING WEEK OCTOBER 25-29

Week 6 (November 1) Reflection on Key Concepts – 1) China; 2) CorruptionRequired Reading:

Milanovic, pp. 87-128 and 159-175.

Week 7 (November 8) Regimes, Regime Changes and UpheavalsRequired Reading:

Sikkink, chapter 6.

Sunstein, pp. 19-36.

Steven Levitsky and Lucan Way. "The New Competitive Authoritarianism." *Journal of Democracy*, vol. 31 no. 1, 2020, p. 51-65.

Week 8 (November 15) Contemporary Challenges in Democracy and ElectionsRequired Reading:

Sunstein, chapter 16.

Sheri Berman, "The Causes of Populism in the West." *Annual Review of Political Science*, vol. 24, May 2021, pp. 71–88.

Mona Lena Krook and Juliana Restrepo Sanín. "The Cost of Doing Politics? Analyzing Violence and Harassment against Female Politicians." *Perspectives on Politics*, vol. 18, no. 3, 2020, pp. 740–755.

Week 9 (November 22) Reform and Political Change 1: Changing PeopleRequired Reading:

Sunstein, pp. 39-77 and chapter 7.

Week 10 (November 29) Reform and Political Change 2: Policies and InstitutionsRequired Reading:

Sunstein, 79-94 and chapters 8-11.

Milanovic, pp. 51-66.

Week 11 (December 6) Reform and Political Change 3: Social MovementsRequired Reading:

Sikkink, chapter 7. (*required reading continued on next page →*)

(Week 11, continued):

Catherine Rottenburg, “#MeToo and the Prospects of Political Change,” *Soundings: a Journal of Politics and Culture*, no. 71, spring 2019, pp. 40-49.

Geoffrey Pleyers, “The Pandemic Is a Battlefield. Social Movements in the COVID-19 Lockdown.” *Journal of Civil Society*, vol. 16, no. 4, Oct. 2020, pp. 295–312.

Week 12 (December 10) Comparative Politics in the COVID-19 Era; Conclusion and Review.

** Since our last class is scheduled for a Friday as per the university schedule, the session may be held virtually and/or asynchronously; details to be announced towards the end of term.*

Required Reading:

Milanovic, chapter 5.

Kim Yi Dionne and Fulya Felicity Turkmen. “The Politics of Pandemic Othering: Putting Covid-19 in Global and Historical Context.” *International Organization*, vol. 74, no S1, December 2020, E213-E230.

Christian Welzel, “Why the Future is Democratic,” *Journal of Democracy*, vol. 32, no. 2, April 2021, pp. 132-44.

Appendix

Covid-19 Information

All members of the Carleton community are required to follow COVID-19 prevention measures and all mandatory public health requirements (e.g. wearing a mask, physical distancing, hand hygiene, respiratory and cough etiquette) and [mandatory self-screening](#) prior to coming to campus daily.

If you feel ill or exhibit COVID-19 symptoms while on campus or in class, please leave campus immediately, self-isolate, and complete the mandatory [symptom reporting tool](#). For purposes of contact tracing, attendance will be recorded in all classes and labs. Participants can check in using posted QR codes through the cuScreen platform where provided. Students who do not have a smartphone will be required to complete a paper process as indicated on the [COVID-19 website](#).

All members of the Carleton community are required to follow guidelines regarding safe movement and seating on campus (e.g. directional arrows, designated entrances and exits, designated seats that maintain physical distancing). In order to avoid congestion, allow all previous occupants to fully vacate a classroom before entering. No food or drinks are permitted in any classrooms or labs.

For the most recent information about Carleton's COVID-19 response and required measures, please see the [University's COVID-19 webpage](#) and review the [Frequently Asked Questions \(FAQs\)](#). Should you have additional questions after reviewing, please contact covidinfo@carleton.ca

Please note that failure to comply with University policies and mandatory public health requirements, and endangering the safety of others are considered misconduct under the [Student Rights and Responsibilities Policy](#). Failure to comply with Carleton's COVID-19 procedures may lead to supplementary action involving Campus Safety and/or Student Affairs.

Requests for Academic Accommodation

You may need special arrangements to meet your academic obligations during the term. For an accommodation request, the processes are as follows:

Pregnancy accommodation: Please contact your instructor with any requests for academic accommodation during the first two weeks of class, or as soon as possible after the need for accommodation is known to exist. For more details, visit the Equity Services website: carleton.ca/equity/wp-content/uploads/Student-Guide-to-Academic-Accommodation.pdf.

Religious accommodation: Please contact your instructor with any requests for academic accommodation during the first two weeks of class, or as soon as possible

after the need for accommodation is known to exist. For more details, visit the Equity Services website: carleton.ca/equity/wp-content/uploads/Student-Guide-to-Academic-Accommodation.pdf.

Accommodations for students with disabilities: If you have a documented disability requiring academic accommodations in this course, please contact the Paul Menton Centre for Students with Disabilities (PMC) at 613-520-6608 or pmc@carleton.ca for a formal evaluation or contact your PMC coordinator to send your instructor your Letter of Accommodation at the beginning of the term. You must also contact the PMC no later than two weeks before the first in-class scheduled test or exam requiring accommodation (if applicable). After requesting accommodation from PMC, reach out to your instructor as soon as possible to ensure accommodation arrangements are made. For more information, please visit carleton.ca/pmc.

Accommodation for student activities: Carleton University recognizes the substantial benefits, both to the individual student and for the university, that result from a student participating in activities beyond the classroom experience. Reasonable accommodation must be provided to students who engage in student activities at the national or international level. Please contact your instructor with any requests for academic accommodation during the first two weeks of class, or as soon as possible after the need for accommodation is known to exist. <https://carleton.ca/senate/wp-content/uploads/Accommodation-for-Student-Activities-1.pdf>.

For more information on academic accommodation, please contact the departmental administrator or visit: students.carleton.ca/course-outline.

Sexual Violence Policy

As a community, Carleton University is committed to maintaining a positive learning, working and living environment where sexual violence will not be tolerated. Survivors are supported through academic accommodations as per Carleton's Sexual Violence Policy. For more information about the services available at the university and to obtain information about sexual violence and/or support, visit: carleton.ca/sexual-violence-support.

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 includes 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. Examples of sources from which the ideas, expressions of ideas or works of others may be drawn from include but are not limited to: books, articles, papers, literary compositions and phrases, performance compositions, chemical compounds, art works, laboratory reports, research results, calculations and

the results of calculations, diagrams, constructions, computer reports, computer code/software, material on the internet and/or conversations.

Examples of plagiarism include, but are not limited to:

- any submission prepared in whole or in part, by someone else;
- using ideas or direct, verbatim quotations, paraphrased material, algorithms, formulae, scientific or mathematical concepts, or ideas without appropriate acknowledgment in any academic assignment;
- using another's data or research findings without appropriate acknowledgement;
- submitting a computer program developed in whole or in part by someone else, with or without modifications, as one's own; and
- failing to acknowledge sources through the use of proper citations when using another's work and/or failing to use quotations marks.

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 may include a mark of zero for the plagiarized work or a final grade of "F" for the course.

More information on the University's Academic Integrity Policy can be found at: <https://carleton.ca/registrar/academic-integrity/>.

Intellectual property

Student or professor materials created for this course (including presentations and posted notes, labs, case studies, assignments and exams) remain the intellectual property of the author(s). They are intended for personal use and may not be reproduced or redistributed without prior written consent of the author(s).

Submission and Return of Term Work

Papers must be submitted directly to the instructor according to the instructions in the course outline. During the COVID-19 pandemic, the departmental office will not accept assignments submitted in hard copy.

Grading

Standing in a course is determined by the course instructor, subject to the approval of the faculty Dean. Final standing in courses will be shown by alphabetical grades. The system of grades used, with corresponding grade points is:

| Percentage | Letter grade | 12-point scale | Percentage | Letter grade | 12-point scale |
|------------|--------------|----------------|------------|--------------|----------------|
| 90-100 | A+ | 12 | 67-69 | C+ | 6 |
| 85-89 | A | 11 | 63-66 | C | 5 |
| 80-84 | A- | 10 | 60-62 | C- | 4 |
| 77-79 | B+ | 9 | 57-59 | D+ | 3 |
| 73-76 | B | 8 | 53-56 | D | 2 |
| 70-72 | B- | 7 | 50-52 | D- | 1 |

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.

Carleton E-mail Accounts

All email communication to students from the Department of Political Science will be via official Carleton University e-mail accounts and/or Brightspace. As important course and university information is distributed this way, it is the student's responsibility to monitor their Carleton University email accounts and Brightspace.

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. By hosting social events, including Model Parliament, debates, professional development sessions and more, CPSS aims to involve all political science students 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 our networking opportunities, academic engagement initiatives and numerous events which aim to complement both academic and social life at Carleton University. To find out more, visit us on Facebook <https://www.facebook.com/CarletonPoliticalScienceSociety/>.

Official Course Outline

The course outline posted to the Political Science website is the official course outline.