

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

GPOL 2500 A
Debates in Comparative Politics
Fall 2023
Monday, 2:35-5:25 p.m.
Check Location on Carleton Central

Professor: Andrea Chandler (She/her)

Phone: 613-520-2600 ext 1418

Office: D694 Loeb

Office hours: Mondays, 12:00-2:00; Tuesdays, 11:30-11:45 and 1:15-2:45, or by appointment

E-mail: andrea.chandler@carleton.ca

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: building state power; the impact of capitalism on politics; and responding to contemporary crises (COVID-19 and climate change).

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.

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 select theoretical debates/concepts on global aspects of comparative politics, and begin to 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.
- Develop skills in oral presentation, and in giving constructive feedback to peers.
- 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.

Textbooks:

Manjari Chatterjee Miller. *Why Nations Rise: Narratives and the Path to Great Power*. New York, NY: Oxford University Press, 2021.

Branko Milanovic, *Capitalism Alone: The Future of the System that Rules the World* New York: Belknap, 2019.

Judith Butler, *What World is this? a Pandemic Phenomenology*. New York: Columbia University Press, 2022.

Additional required readings will be placed on ARES reserve through McOdrum Library. Go to Brightspace—Tools—ARES Reserves.

Course Requirements:

This table provides the items and their weight at a class. For details, see next page:	
	% of course grade
Attendance and Participation:	10%
Weeks 1-6	<u>+10%</u>
Weeks 7-12	20%
Written Assignment 1 (due October 2)	10%
Midterm Test (closed book, in-class) November 6	20%
Written Assignment 2: due December 4	20%
Final Exam (to be held during the regularly scheduled exam period, December 10-23)	30%
Total	100%

Continued on next page: →

Details of Course Requirements	% final grade
<p>Attendance and Participation. Students are expected to have read the assigned readings in advance of each class, and be prepared to discuss the readings in class. Attendance and participation hold equal weight. On any given class day (with the exception of Weeks 1 and 7), students may be expected to work in groups, to complete and submit a short in-class written exercise, and/or to provide constructive feedback on the work of their peers. For full marks students are expected to attend five classes in Weeks 1-6 and five classes in weeks 7-12. If you miss class, please contact the professor for guidance on making up the missed work.</p>	<p>Weeks 1-6 10%; Weeks 7-12, 10% = 20%</p>
<p>Written Assignment 1 (due October 2) The format and instructions for the first written assignment will be made available on the first day of class. 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</p>	10%
<p>Midterm Test (closed-book, in-class) November 6. Length of the test: 90 minutes. The test will include a mix of multiple-choice and short essay questions. It will cover material (lectures, readings and in-class exercises) from Weeks 1-5.</p>	20%
<p>Written Assignment 2: due December 4 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 on Brightspace, which will be loosely 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.</p>	20%
<p>Final Exam (to be held during the regularly scheduled exam period, December 10-23). Students will be expected to answer questions on all material covered in course lectures, required readings, and work completed in class.</p>	30%
Total	100%

Additional Information about Course Expectations

Students who have individual concerns or who wish to discuss an assignment are strongly encouraged to visit the professor's 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.

All written assignments should answer a specific question and should analyze, rather than describe, the issues and events discussed. Written assignments are expected to be the authentic writing of each individual student. 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.

Deadlines: When student work is submitted on time, it helps the professor to ensure that all students receive their marks as quickly as possible. Circumstances such as illness, injury or family emergency may make it difficult for students to complete work on time. Please contact the professor if you need an extension. Otherwise, late penalties will apply. The university establishes a deadline of December 8 for the completion of all course work assigned up to and including the last day of the term.

Course Schedule and Readings

Week 1 (September 11) Introduction

Week 2 (September 18) States and Statebuilding

Chatterjee Miller, *Why Nations Rise*, chapters 1-2.

Week 3 (September 25) Democracy and Capitalism

Chatterjee Miller, chapter 3.

Butler, *What World is this*, Introduction + pp. 26-44 (on page 26, start with "Under pandemic conditions" at line 3).

Week 4 (October 2) Assumptions, Ideas, and Development

Required Reading:

Milanovic, pp. 1-31; 42-50; 67-87.

Chatterjee Miller, chapter 4.

Week 5 (October 16) Critiques of Democratic Development: Imperialism, Inequality, Corruption

Required Reading:

Milanovic, *Capitalism Alone*, 31-42, pp. 87-128 and 159-175.

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-mattersinternational-relations-ir/>

Week 6 (October 30) Regimes, Regime Changes and Upheavals

Michael Ignatieff, "The Politics of Enemies." *Journal of Democracy*, vol. 33 no. 4, 2022, pp. 5-19.

Larry Diamond, "All Democracy Is Global." *Foreign Affairs*, vol. 101, no. 5, Sept. 2022, pp. 182–97.

Week 7 (November 6) Midterm Test (in-class)

No Reading Assigned

Week 8 (November 13) Contemporary Challenges in Democracy and Elections

Required Reading:

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.

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

Week 9 (November 20) Reform and Political Change 1: Ideas and Goals

Chatterjee Miller, chapters 6 and 7.

Week 10 (November 27) Reform and Political Change 2: Policies and Institutions

Required Reading:

Milanovic, pp. 51-66.

Simon Szreter, "How Seriously Should We Take Universal Basic Income?" *Political Quarterly*, vol. 93, no. 3, Jan. 2022, pp. 517–23.

Cédric Durand, "Hollow States," *New Left Review*, Sidecar, 15 May 2023. Online at <https://newleftreview.org/sidecar/posts/hollow-states>

Week 11 (December 4) Reform and Political Change 3: Responses to Global Challenges

Butler, chapters 2 and 3.

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 8) *Note Friday class due to missed class for Thanksgiving holiday
Comparative Politics since COVID-19; Conclusion and Review.

Required Reading:

Milanovic, chapter 5.

Butler, pp. 89-109.

.....

Appendix

Student Mental Health

As a university student, you may experience a range of mental health challenges that significantly impact your academic success and overall well-being. If you need help, please speak to someone. There are numerous resources available both on- and off-campus to support you. Here is a list that may be helpful:

Emergency Resources (on and off campus): <https://carleton.ca/health/emergencies-and-crisis/emergency-numbers/>

- ***Carleton Resources:***

- Mental Health and Wellbeing: <https://carleton.ca/wellness/>
- Health & Counselling Services: <https://carleton.ca/health/>
- Paul Menton Centre: <https://carleton.ca/pmc/>
- Academic Advising Centre (AAC): <https://carleton.ca/academicadvising/>
- Centre for Student Academic Support (CSAS): <https://carleton.ca/csas/>
- Equity & Inclusivity Communities: <https://carleton.ca/equity/>

- ***Off Campus Resources:***

- Distress Centre of Ottawa and Region: (613) 238-3311 or TEXT: 343-306-5550, <https://www.dcottawa.on.ca/>
- Mental Health Crisis Service: (613) 722-6914, 1-866-996-0991, <http://www.crisisline.ca/>
- Empower Me: 1-844-741-6389, <https://students.carleton.ca/services/empower-me-counselling-services/>
- Good2Talk: 1-866-925-5454, <https://good2talk.ca/>

- The Walk-In Counselling Clinic: <https://walkincounselling.com>

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 accommodation regarding a formally-scheduled final exam, you must complete the Pregnancy Accommodation Form ([click here](#)).

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 [click here](#).

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 details, [click here](#).

Accommodation for student activities: Carleton University recognizes the substantial benefits, both to the individual student and to the university, that result from a student participating in activities beyond the classroom. Reasonable accommodation will 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. For more information, please [click here](#).

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.

Academic Integrity

Academic integrity is an essential element of a productive and successful career as a student. Carleton's [Academic Integrity Policy](#) addresses academic integrity violations, including plagiarism, unauthorized collaboration, misrepresentation, impersonation, withholding of records, obstruction/interference, disruption of instruction or examinations, improper access to and/or dissemination of information, or violation of test and examination rules. Students are required to familiarize themselves with the university's academic integrity rules.

Plagiarism

The Academic Integrity Policy 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, websites, 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.

Use of Artificial Intelligence

Unless explicitly permitted by the instructor in a particular course, any use of generative artificial intelligence (AI) tools to produce assessed content (e.g., text, code, equations, image, summary, video, etc.) is considered a violation of academic integrity standards.

Procedures in Cases of Suspected Violations

Violations of the Academic Integrity Policy are serious offences which cannot be resolved directly with the course’s instructor. When an instructor suspects a violation of the Academic Integrity Policy, the Associate Dean of the Faculty conducts a rigorous investigation, including an interview with the student. Penalties are not trivial. They may include a mark of zero for the assignment/exam in question 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. 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.