

Carleton University  
Fall 2019  
Department of Political Science  
<https://carleton.ca/polisci/>

**PSCI 2101A**  
**Comparative Politics**  
Monday, 12:35-2:25 pm

**Please confirm location on Carleton Central**

**Instructor:** Al McDougall  
**Office:** B641 Loeb  
**Office Hours:** Wednesday 5:30-6:00  
**Email:** [alex.mcdougall@carleton.ca](mailto:alex.mcdougall@carleton.ca)  
**Telephone:** 613-520-2600 extension 3052

- **Course description**

This course introduces students to the study of comparative politics through survey of major topics, including the state, democracy, authoritarianism, constitutions, political parties, and political economy. The course is delivered through weekly lectures and supplemented by teaching assistant-led seminar groups, in which students will have the opportunity to discuss course material.

- **Reading Material**

Tyler Divocik and Jonathan Eastwood, *Comparative Politics: Integrating Theories, Methods, and Cases* (either 2<sup>nd</sup> or 3<sup>rd</sup> Edition is fine).

Other reading materials: available through culearn (the course webpage) and the library's electronic resources.

- **Evaluation**

<i>Item</i>	<i>Description</i>	<i>Due Date</i>	<i>% of total grade</i>
Tutorial Groups	Students must attend and participate, as required, in teaching assistant-led tutorial groups. The intent of tutorial groups is to provide students with the opportunity to discuss political science issues in a seminar-style setting. Students will receive credit for attendance and for completing other assignments or activities determined by the TA.	Groups begin the week of September 16 and continue until the week of Dec 6.	15
Quiz 1	Students will complete a short quiz on course material. The quiz will cover	<b>October 7</b> (12:35 pm)	10

	lecture slides and readings between September 9 and October 7.	start time)	
Quiz 2	Students will complete a quiz on course material. The quiz will cover lecture slides and readings between October 28 and December 2.	<b>December 6</b> (12:35 pm start time).	25
Short Essay	Students will complete a 750-1000 word essay on any of the "required readings" listed below on the course outline (in the "schedule" section), <u>except for the textbook</u> . The paper should: 1) summarizes the core argument of the reading; 2) provide critical analysis of the reading. If choosing a book, students can respond to the general argument of the entire book or to specific chapters (even if they are not covered in class).	October 7 - submit electronic copy through culearn module.	20
Term Paper	Students will complete a 2000-2500 word essay on a subject pertaining to politics in the Global North, using the comparative method. Students may choose from a list of questions that will be posted on culearn. Essays will be based on outside research as well as course material as applicable. Further instructions and guidelines will also be posted.	December 6.	30

- **Other issues**

*Lateness policy:* late assignments will be penalized by 1/3 of a letter grade per day (i.e. A reduced to A-).

- **Schedule**

Date	Topic	Reading
September 9	The Comparative Approach: An Introduction Asking Why: Research Questions in Comparative Politics	Chapter 1 - Tyler Divocik and Jonathan Eastwood, <i>Comparative Politics</i> Charles Tilly, 1985, "State making as organized crime".
September 16	Approaches and methods	Chapter 2 - <i>Comparative Politics</i>  Case study: Italy's political institutins - Robert Putnum - making democracy work.  1-27 of Karl Marx, the communist manifesto.
September 23	The Modern State	Chapter 3 - Tyler Divocik and Jonathan

		Eastwood, <i>Comparative Politics</i>
September 30	Political Economy and welfare states	Chapter 4 (first, half) - Tyler Divocik and Jonathan Eastwood, <i>Comparative Politics</i>
October 7	Democratization	Chapter 6 (second half)- Tyler Divocik and Jonathan Eastwood, <i>Comparative Politics</i>
October 14	Thanksgiving - no class	
October 21	Fall break - no class	
October 28	Authoritarianism	Chapter 7 - Tyler Divocik and Jonathan Eastwood, <i>Comparative Politics</i>
November 4	Behavioralism and voting in the global north	Selections of "The myth of the rational voter"
November 11	Public Choice and interest groups	Chapter 11 - Tyler Divocik and Jonathan Eastwood, <i>Comparative Politics</i>  Ch 7 of Teles and Lindsay, <i>The captured economy</i>
November 18	Political Parties and Social Movements	Chapter 15 - Tyler Divocik and Jonathan Eastwood, <i>Comparative Politics</i>  Selections of Liliana Mason: <i>Uncivil Agreement</i> .
November 25	New Economic issues in modern democracies	Chapter 1 of Mike Munger, "tomorrow 3.0", and Chapter 4 of Tyler Cowen, <i>Big Business: A love letter to an American anti-hero</i>
December 2	Democratic socialism and capitalist authoritarianism	Chapter 14 of Divocik and Eastwood, <i>Comparative Politics</i>
December 6	Populism and nationalism	Chapter 16 - Tyler Divocik and Jonathan Eastwood, <i>Comparative Politics</i>  Selections of Eric Kauffman, 2019, <i>Whiteshift</i>

### **Academic Accommodations**

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#### **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 obligation**

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](https://carleton.ca/equity/wp-content/uploads/Student-Guide-to-Academic-Accommodation.pdf)

### **Religious obligation**

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](https://carleton.ca/equity/wp-content/uploads/Student-Guide-to-Academic-Accommodation.pdf)

### **Academic 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](mailto: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, meet with your instructor as soon as possible to ensure accommodation arrangements are made. [carleton.ca/pmc](https://carleton.ca/pmc)

### **Survivors of Sexual Violence**

As a community, Carleton University is committed to maintaining a positive learning, working and living environment where sexual violence will not be tolerated, and its 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](https://carleton.ca/sexual-violence-support)

### **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 compete or perform 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](https://students.carleton.ca/course-outline)

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

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 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. Final exams are intended solely for the purpose of evaluation and will not be returned.

#### **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

#### **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.

**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 cuLearn. As important course and University information is distributed this way, it is the student's responsibility to monitor their Carleton and cuLearn accounts.

**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/> and our website <https://carletonpss.com/>, or stop by our office in Loeb D688!"

**Official Course Outline**

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