

PSCI 2101B
Comparative Politics of Global South
Fridays: 11:35 am - 1:25 pm
Location: Nicol Building 4020

I) **General information**

Instructor: Dr. Isaac Odoom

Office: D684 Loeb

Student Hours: Friday 2:30-4:30pm in person or via zoom

Email: isaac.odoom@carleton.ca

Contact Policy: Email is the best way to contact me. I normally reply within 24-48 hours, weekends excluded. All email must be through official Carleton University email accounts. For longer questions I recommend scheduling a Zoom appointment or regular office hours.

II) **Course description**

This course is designed to introduce students to the study of comparative politics. The course examines the concepts and approaches used to compare political issues across countries and regions in the global South. It provides students with a solid grounding in methods, theories, and concepts of comparative politics. The overarching goal is to introduce students to the comparative approach to theory-making in the social sciences. The course is structured thematically introducing students to important concepts in comparative politics, such as democracy, race, ethnicity and development. The course thus progresses from a discussion of the different comparative methods to a survey of concepts popular in comparative politics, concluding with some case studies of countries located in the global South. Throughout the semester, students will be challenged to systematically think about the historical development of nation-states, societies, and institutions.

III **Course Format**

This course will consist of both lectures and tutorials that students are expected to attend. You are expected to attend every lecture having done all the assigned readings and having prepared to engage in the day's topic. Attendance and participation in tutorial sessions will be graded.

IV **Learning outcomes**

After completing this course, students should be able to demonstrate:

- knowledge of some of the most important perspectives and theories which inform our understanding of comparative politics;

- basic understanding of the methods of comparative politics and their limits;
- ability to use various conceptual tools in the field of comparative politics to better analyze, understand and/or explain significant events and processes throughout the world.
- The course also emphasizes skill development through written exercises, class discussions, and team assignments

V **Required Text**

J. Tyler Dickovick, Jonathan Eastwood, and David B. MacDonald, *Comparative Politics: Integrating Theories, Methods, and Cases*, 1st Canadian Edition (Oxford University Press, 2020). The textbook is available in hardcopy from the bookstore or digital versions.

VI **Evaluation at a glance**

Evaluation of the following course requirements will determine students' grades

Component	Weight	Due Date
1. Attendance/Participation	15%	Throughout the course
2. Midterm Test	25%	Feb 17
3. Research Outline	10%	Feb 27
4. Research Paper	20%	March 20
5. Final Exam	30%	University scheduled
Total	100%	

VII **Evaluation in detail**

1. **Attendance and Participation (15%)**

Students should attend and participate in tutorials. Participation in class discussions is essential to support a well-rounded understanding of each week's topic for students. Students should be prepared to respectfully express their views on the readings, and lectures. Students will be graded on their attendance and the quality of your comments. The mark for attendance and participation is a cumulative score which involves the following: attendance in tutorial/seminar discussions, the quality and quantity of participation in seminar discussions, small group or individual in-class exercises, and attentiveness and engagement with other students.

2. Research Outline (10%)

Students will submit an outline of their paper that includes: (a) the topic; (b) a tentative thesis statement; (c) a preliminary summary of the paper's core points; (d) an annotated bibliography of at least 5 peer-reviewed sources. The annotated bibliography should briefly summarize each source (e.g. 1 paragraph per source).

3. Research paper (20%)

Students are required to write and submit a term paper of approx. 2000-2500 words, double-spaced, Times New Roman font size 12 on a comparative politics topic pertaining to the global South using the comparative method. The research paper should be comparative in nature working across cases. Students will choose from a list of topics provided on BrightSpace or choose their own in consultation with the Instructor or TA.

The paper must use a minimum of five (5) peer reviewed sources. An e-copy (Doc or Pdf) of the essay is due on Monday March 20 at 11:59PM EST via Brightspace.

Additional information about the comparative paper will be provided to students in a separate handout.

4. Midterm Test (25%)

Students will write a closed-book in-class midterm test which will include material covered in the first half of the course. Details of the test will be announced in class and posted on BrightSpace.

5. Final Exam (30%)

There will be a final exam conducted during the final exam period on the content of the course. Instructor will conduct exam review on the final day of class.

LATE PENALTIES:

Late assignments: It is student responsibility to inform the instructor as soon as it becomes clear that their work will be late. If you do not communicate in advance, and your reasons for being late does not also explain this lack of communication, and if, in the judgement of the instructor, there is no valid reason for a late assignment (e.g health or domestic affliction) then you should be prepared to be penalized by one grade per day on the letter scale. For example, a B would become a B- on the first day, a C+ on the second day, and so on. Term papers more than two weeks late may not be accepted.

Students are welcome to use laptops and other electronic note-taking devices for notetaking during classes. Please be considerate of others and switch off all cell phones when you enter the classroom. Sending/receiving texts and browsing Social Media and the Web is extremely disruptive to others and will not be tolerated.

VIII COURSE SCHEDULE

The weekly reading list are subject to changes by the instructor in the course of the term.
Instructor will inform students of any changes ahead of time.

Week 1

(Jan 13): Introduction to Course

- Course organisation and overview
- What is comparative politics, why compare?

Week 2

(Jan 20): The Comparative Approach

- What role do theories have in the comparative method?
- How do we form and test hypotheses?
- How to compare?

Readings:

- Chapter 1: The Comparative Approach: An introduction
- Chapter 2: Theories, Hypotheses, and Evidence

Week 3

(Jan 27): The Modern State

- What makes a modern state?
- How do states form?
- What are the typologies of the state?

Readings:

- Chapter 3: The Modern State + Cases in Context readings

Week 4

(Feb 3): Political Economy and Development

- How do we measure development?
- What role do economic and cultural systems have on development?
- What structures and institutions impact development?

Readings:

- Chapter 4: Political Economy + Cases in Context readings
- Chapter 5: Development + Cases in Context readings

Week 5

(Feb 10): Democracy and Authoritarianism

- What are the types of democracies?
- What are the key processes involved in democratization?
- What are authoritarian regimes/ what types?

Readings:

- Chapter 6: Democracy and Democratization + Cases in Context readings (D&E)
- Chapter 7: Authoritarianism and Authoritarian Regimes + Cases in Context readings (D&E)

Mid-term exam review

Week 6

In-class Mid-term Test on Friday, Feb 17

Week 7

(Feb 24): Reading Week (No class)

Week 8

(Feb 27): Legislatures and executives

- What is the role of legislatures?
- What electoral systems exist for electing legislators?
- What powers do executives have?

Readings:

- Chapter 9: Legislatures and Legislative Elections + Cases in Context readings
- Chapter 10: The Executive + Cases in Context readings

*****Research Outline Due***

Week 9

(March 10): Political Parties, Party Systems, and Interest Groups

- What is the role of political parties in political systems?
- What types of political parties exist?
- How do party systems impact representation?
- What role do interest groups play in a political system?
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Readings:

- Chapter 11: Political Parties, Party Systems, and Interest Groups + Cases in Context readings

Week 10

(March 17): Contentious Politics: Revolutions and Nationalism

- What leads to revolutions?
- What are the approaches to nationalism?
- Why/how does nationalism emerge?

Readings:

- Chapter 12: Revolutions and Contention + Cases in Context readings
- Chapter 13: Nationalism and National Identity + Cases in Context readings

*****Research Paper Due on March 20***

Week 11

(March 24): Race, Ethnicity, and Gender/Ideology and Religion

- How do we understand race and ethnicity?
- How do structures account for minority rights?
- How does modernization impact the role of religion in politics?

Readings:

- Chapter 14: Gender, Race and Ethnicity + Cases in Context readings
- Chapter 15: Religion and Ideology + Cases in Context readings

Week 12

(March 31): Globalisation and Politics

- What are some of the key global issues facing states today?
- Can these issues be dealt with at a national level?
- What mechanisms are available to states to deal with global issues?

Readings:

- Chapter 16: Comparative Politics and International Relations + Cases in Context readings

Course Conclusion and Final Exam review

Appendix

Covid-19 Pandemic Measures

It is important to remember that COVID is still present in Ottawa. The situation can change at any time and the risks of new variants and outbreaks are very real. There are [a number of actions you can take](#) to lower your risk and the risk you pose to those around you including being vaccinated, wearing a mask, staying home when you're sick, washing your hands and maintaining proper respiratory and cough etiquette.

Feeling sick? Remaining vigilant and not attending work or school when sick or with symptoms is critically important. If you feel ill or exhibit COVID-19 symptoms do not come to class or campus. If you feel ill or exhibit symptoms while on campus or in class, please leave campus immediately. In all situations, you should follow Carleton's [symptom reporting protocols](#).

Masks: Masks are no longer mandatory in university buildings and facilities. However, we continue to recommend masking when indoors, particularly if physical distancing cannot be maintained. We are aware that personal preferences regarding optional mask use will vary greatly, and we ask that we all show consideration and care for each other during this transition.

Vaccines: While proof of vaccination is no longer required to access campus or participate in in-person Carleton activities, it may become necessary for the University to bring back proof of vaccination requirements on short notice if the situation and public health advice changes. Students are strongly encouraged to get a full course of vaccination, including booster doses as soon as they are eligible and submit their booster dose information in [cuScreen](#) as soon as possible. Please note that Carleton cannot guarantee that it will be able to offer virtual or hybrid learning options for those who are unable to attend the campus.

All members of the Carleton community are required to follow requirements and guidelines regarding health and safety which may change from time to time. For the most recent information about Carleton's COVID-19 response and health and safety requirements please see the [University's COVID-19 website](#) and review the [Frequently Asked Questions \(FAQs\)](#). Should you have additional questions after reviewing, please contact covidinfo@carleton.ca.

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 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

Carleton's [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.

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. 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.