

**Global Politics (GPOL 2500)**  
**Debates in Comparative Politics**  
**Tuesday 2:35-5:25**  
**Check Carleton Central for location**

Instructor: Said Yaqub Ibrahim  
Office: Loeb Building, B659  
Office Hours: Tuesday: 1:00 – 2:00 pm  
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**I. Course Description and Objective**

This course examines comparative politics theories, debates, and issues and their relationship with global politics discussions. Selected concepts and problems of comparative politics will be discussed and the relationship between domestic and international politics in a globalizing world will be explained. This course will examine comparative and global politics topics and issues including political perspectives, modern state, nation and nationalism, governance, democracy, authoritarianism, political parties and protests, comparative political economy, conflict and violence, and global politics in the post-Covid-19 era. In this course, students are expected to learn comparative politics theories and methods, develop a broad understanding of the selected topics and cases, and understand the overlap of comparative politics and global politics.

**II. Required Reading:**

- J. Tyler Dickovick and J. Eastwood, and D. MacDonald. *Comparative Politics: Integrating Theories, Methods, and Cases*, (New York: Oxford University Press, 2020).
- Francis Fukuyama. *Political Order and Political Decay: From the Industrial Revolution to the Globalization of Democracy*, Reprint Edition (New York: Farrar, Straus and Giroux, 2015).
- Other readings are available online.

**III. Course Evaluation**

Course evaluation includes attendance and participation (20%), short paper (15%), term paper (30%), and final exam (35%) and will be calculated on the following basis:

**A) Attendance and Participation (20%)**

Attendance and participation in class discussions are key components of course evaluation. Students are urged to actively participate in class discussions and group works which are designed to examine comparative politics concepts and problems and link them to global politics issues and debates. Both the quality and quantity of your participation will be taken into account. Students receive 50% grade for attendance and 50% for the quality and quantity of participation in class discussions.

### **B) Short Paper (15%)**

Due October 11 (submitted online at brightspace)

Students should write a short paper on a specific concept, theory, or method of comparative politics. Papers should not exceed **5-6 pages** (double-spaced in 12-point font). The format and instructions for this assignment will be posted at brightspace.

### **C) Term Paper (30%)**

Due December 6 (submitted online at brightspace)

Students are required to study a specific comparative politics issue in two countries. Issues/topics include (but are not limited to) modern state, modern nation, democracy, authoritarianism, political parties and protests, governance, political economy, conflict and violence, and politics in the post-pandemic era. Students will choose one issue/topic and examine/compare them in two cases/countries. Papers should not exceed **10-12 pages** including bibliography and footnotes (double-spaced in 12-point font). Papers should critically engage with the literature and develop a clear argument about the topic and explain how it is related to global politics. The format and instructions for this assignment will be posted at brightspace.

### **D) Final Exam (35%)**

Final examination will cover all course material and take place in the scheduled examination period. The format and instructions for the final exam will be discussed in the last class on December 6.

## **IV. Late Submission Policy**

Assignments should be submitted online at Brightspace. E-mailed assignments will not be accepted. Late submissions will be penalized on a daily basis (i.e., 3% per day). If you need an extension, please contact prior to the due dates.

## **V. Class Schedule**

### **Week 1 (September 13): Introduction to Course**

Instructor reviews the syllabus, discusses the course content, the requirements, and the evaluation criteria.

### **Week 2 (September 20): Comparative Politics: perspectives and methods**

- Fukuyama, Chapters 1, 2
- Dickovick, Eastwood, and MacDonald, Chapters 1, 2

### **Week 3 (September 27): Modern State**

- Dickovick, Eastwood, and MacDonald, Chapter 3
- Fukuyama, Chapter 3, 4

### **Week 4 (October 4): Nation and Nationalism**

- Dickovick, Eastwood, and MacDonald, Chapter 13
- Fukuyama, Chapter 12

### **Week 5 (October 11): Liberal Democracy and Democratization**

- Dickovick, Eastwood, and MacDonald, Chapter 6

- Fukuyama, Chapter 6, 27, 28

**Week 6 (October 18): Authoritarianism**

- Dickovick, Eastwood, and MacDonald, Chapter 7
- Steven Levitsky and Lucan Way, *Competitive Authoritarianism: Hybrid Regimes After the Cold War*, Chapter 1, 2.

**Week 7 (October 25): Fall break, no class**

**Week 8 (November 1): Government and Governance**

- Dickovick, Eastwood, and MacDonald, Chapter 10
- Fukuyama, Chapter 13
- Ali Farazman, *Modern Systems of Government: Exploring the Role of Bureaucrats and Politicians* (London: SAGE Publications, 1997), Introduction & Chapter 2.

**Week 9 (November 8): Comparative Political Economy**

- Dickovick, Eastwood, and MacDonald, Chapter 4
- Georg Menz, *Comparative Political Economy: Contours of a Subfield* (Oxford: Oxford University Press, 2017), Chapter 2

**Week 10 (November 15): Political Parties and Political Protests**

- Dickovick, Eastwood, and MacDonald, Chapter 11, 12
- Fukuyama, Chapter 32

**Week 11 (November 22): Conflict and Violence: Evidence from the Global South**

- Josjah Kunkeler, 2011, "The Boys Are Coming to Town": Youth, Armed Conflict and Urban Violence in Developing Countries," *International Journal of Conflict and Violence*, 5 (2): 277– 291.
- Berman, Nicolas, et al., 2017, "This mine is mine! How minerals fuel conflicts in Africa." *American Economic Review* 107(6): 1564-1610.
- Martin-Shields, Charles P., and Wolfgang Stojetz., 2019, "Food security and conflict: Empirical challenges and future opportunities for research and policy making on food security and conflict." *World Development* 119: 150-164.
- Ch, Rafael, et al. "Endogenous taxation in ongoing internal conflict: The case of Colombia." *American Political Science Review* 112.4 (2018): 996-1015.

**Week 12 (November 29): Comparative & Global Politics During & After COVID-19**

- Stephen M. Walt, "Global Order after Covid 19." *Harvard Kenedy School: Belfer Center*, May 2020 (Working Paper).  
<https://www.belfercenter.org/sites/default/files/files/publication/paper-for-institute-for-security-policy-austria.pdf>
- 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.

## **Week 13 (December 6): Course overview, final exam discussion**

Instructor will overview the course material and provide instructions about the format and requirements of the final exam.

## **Appendix**

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### **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](mailto: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>

### **Academic Accommodations**

The Paul Menton Centre for Students with Disabilities (PMC) provides services to students with Learning Disabilities (LD), psychiatric/mental health disabilities, Attention Deficit Hyperactivity Disorder (ADHD), Autism Spectrum Disorders (ASD), chronic medical conditions, and impairments in mobility, hearing, and vision. If you have a disability requiring academic accommodations in this course, please contact PMC at 613-520-6608 or [pmc@carleton.ca](mailto:pmc@carleton.ca) for a formal evaluation. If you are already registered with the PMC, contact your PMC coordinator to send me your **Letter of Accommodation** at the beginning of the term, and 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 me to ensure accommodation arrangements are made. Please consult the PMC website for the deadline to request accommodations for the formally-scheduled exam (*if applicable*).

**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](http://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 may include a mark of zero for the plagiarized work or a final grade of "F" for the course.

**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 Brightspace. As important

course and University information is distributed this way, it is the student's responsibility to monitor their Carleton and Brightspace 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. Holding social events, debates, and panel discussions, 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 numerous opportunities which will complement both academic and social life at Carleton University. To find out more, visit <https://www.facebook.com/groups/politicalsciencesociety/> 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.