

Political Science 003
Spring 2008
TR 10:10 - 11:00am
121 Sparks
Recitation per schedule

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Office Hours: T 1:30-2:20
R 9:00-9:50, 11:10-12:00

INTRODUCTION TO COMPARATIVE POLITICS

Description of the course: A general survey of the world's political systems, intended to introduce novice political science students to the study of the domestic politics of foreign countries.

Prerequisites: none.

Requirements: *Attendance* of all lectures and recitations, and the *completion of all required readings* are mandatory. This in itself is not sufficient to do well in the course. Students must demonstrate mastery of the course material in *two mid-terms* and *a final*. Informed and intelligent *class participation* is encouraged. You may improve your grade by doing so.

The Professor and Teach Assistants – Responsibilities: This course is team taught. Professor Bernhard lectures on Tuesday and Thursday. You also attend a recitation with a teaching assistant on Friday. The teaching assistants are responsible for the front-line administration and grading of the course. In case of an administrative concern, contact them first. For questions concerning course content you may either contact your TA or the professor. If you have a problem with your TA, please contact the professor.

Electronic Resources: Course materials will be posted to a webpage linked to my departmental home page -- <http://www.personal.psu.edu/mhb5/plsc003.htm> . The syllabus will also be posted to the Angel course page. If you use Angel to contact me or the TAs, please send the email to our internet email accounts (click the box at the bottom of the Angel "compose message" frame). Some students have expectations of an instant response to email. In my case, this is an unreasonable expectation especially if sent on evenings and weekends.

Follow N-etiquette in your emails. You will need to do this when you get a job anyway -- <http://www.albion.com/netiquette/index.html> . If you do not follow the procedures above for whom to contact, your email may go unanswered. Office hours for the professor and TAs are posted on the webpage of the Department of Political Science and on our syllabi. Consult the syllabus before shooting off an email to me or the TAs about publically available information.

Grading Criteria:

- ✓ Attendance: 5%
- ✓ Participation: 15%
- ✓ Homework: 10%
- ✓ Midterm 1: 20%
- ✓ Midterm 2: 20%
- ✓ Final Exam: 30%

Attendance Policy: You are expected to attend all lectures and recitation sections. Attendance will be taken regularly at recitation. There are no routine excused absences except for regularly scheduled, University-approved curricular and extracurricular activities. The only reason students should contact the TAs with an attendance matter is to present documentation for an excused absence, if they have a *severe* health or personal crisis which leads to the missing of a large number of classes, or if they need to miss class because of religious observance. Do not seek to be excused on the basis of minor illness, job interviews or social engagements. University policy on attendance is available at <http://www.psu.edu/ufs/policies/42-00.html#42-27>.

Participation: Participation will be largely judged on the basis of discussion in recitation sections. However, lectures will be peppered with questions to the audience. Intelligent responses to those and the asking good questions of your own will also be taken into consideration.

Homework: Certain of the recitation sessions (6 in total, clearly marked on the syllabus) will require you to prepare readings for class. The TAs will distribute a worksheet that will require you to summarize the main points of the reading. Answers to these questions must be written out and turned in

to the TAs prior to the start of discussion in recitation. These will answers will be given full credit for good work, half-credit for mediocre or incomplete work, and no credit for poor or no work.

Testing: You will have two midterms (marked clearly on the syllabus) and a final exam (tba: during finals week). The midterms will be short-answer in nature and will allow for a choice of questions to be answered. The final will include short-answer questions and a longer essay. The short-answer part of the final will only be on the last third of the course. The essay will be cumulative in nature, requiring you to synthesize material from the course as a whole. If you miss either midterm, a make-up will be scheduled. You need to come to the first lecture after that midterm to have a say in when the make-up is scheduled. Meet with me at the classroom podium following the lecture.

Conflict Final: There are two reasons why students can file for a conflict exam, direct and overload. A direct conflict occurs when two exams are scheduled at the same time. Students with a direct conflict must file for a conflict exam. Overload exams are when three or more exams scheduled within one calendar day or three consecutive exam periods over two days. Students may elect to take a conflict exam in this case if they wish. Students may file for direct and overload conflict examinations in the Registrar's office, 112 Shields Building, between February 18, and March 2.

Academic Integrity: Penn State defines academic integrity as the pursuit of scholarly activity in an open, honest and responsible manner. All students should act with personal integrity, respect other students' dignity, rights and property, and help create and maintain an environment in which all can succeed through the fruits of their efforts (Faculty Senate Policy 49-20).

Dishonesty of any kind will not be tolerated in this course. Dishonesty includes, but is not limited to, cheating, plagiarizing, fabricating information or citations, facilitating acts of academic dishonesty by others, having unauthorized possession of examinations, submitting work of another person or work previously used without informing the instructor, or tampering with the academic work of other students. Students who are found to be dishonest will receive academic sanctions and may be reported to the University's Judicial Affairs office for possible further disciplinary sanction.

Disability Access: The Pennsylvania State University encourages qualified people with disabilities to participate in its programs and activities and is committed to the policy that all people shall have equal access to programs, facilities, and admissions without regard to personal characteristics not related to ability, performance, or qualifications as determined by University policy or by state or federal authorities. If you anticipate needing any type of accommodation in this course or have questions about physical access, please tell the instructor as soon as possible.

Required Readings:

A Newspaper: All students are expected to read The New York Times, Christian Science Monitor, or Washington Post (or another newspaper with quality international coverage) on a daily basis to keep track of current developments in politics. The week's comparative politics stories will be discussed in recitation. Any and all material of this type discussed in class is fair-game for the exams. Students will be expected to have read that week's papers prior to recitation.

Texts:

You will read almost all of the following books --

Alan Siaroff, Introduction to Comparing Political Regimes, Orchard Park, NY: Broadview, 2005 [being acquired].

Howard J. Wiarda, Introduction to Comparative Politics, Concepts and Processes, Second Edition. Belmont, CA: Wadsworth, 1999. [JF128.W5 1993]

Georg Sørensen, Democracy and Democratization, Second Edition. Boulder, CO: Westview, 1997. [JC423.S69 1993]

These books have been ordered at the local bookstores and have been placed on reserve at the Reserve Room in Pattee Library. It is often cheaper to buy your books on line. Many of the large commercial sites will have used copies for a pittance. I favor the site www.abebooks.com because the books come from independent, used bookstores.

Additional Readings: Other selections have been listed under topics on the

syllabus. They have been put on reserve at Pattee [LC#'s in brackets]. They are also available in a PSU packet on sale at the bookstore.

Course Outline

Week I

Section A -- Introduction

T/1/15 -- Procedures, Readings, and Requirements

R/1/17 -- Introduction: What is Comparative Politics?

Readings:

Wiarda, Chapter 1

Siaroff, Chapter 1

F/1/20 -- Recitation, Introductory Meeting

Week II

Section B -- Power

T/1/22 -- Power, the State, and Domination

Readings:

Max Weber, "Politics as a Vocation," in From Max Weber: Essays in Sociology, Hans Gerth and C. Wright Mills, eds. 77-83 (end of first paragraph). [H33.W36 1991]

Max Weber, "Power and Domination" and "Political and Hierocratic Organizations," in Economy and Society, Guenther Roth and Claus Wittich, eds. 53-56. [HM57.W342]

R/1/24 -- The State as Sovereign Power

Readings:

Gianfranco Poggi, The Development of the Modern State, 1-15. [JN5.P63]

F/1/25 -- Recitation, The History of Comparative Politics

Readings:

Wiarda, Chapter 2 (**homework assignment 1 due**)

Week III

T/1/29 -- The Exercise of Power

Readings:

Amatai Etzioni, "Classification of Means of Control," Modern Organizations, 59-61. [HM131.E83]

Amatai Etzioni, "A Classification of Power," The Active Society, 357-59. [HM101.E77]

R/1/31 -- The Legitimation of Domination (I)

Readings:

Max Weber, "Domination and Legitimacy," "The Three Pure Types of Authority," "Legal Authority: The Pure Type," "Legal Authority: The Pure Type -- (*continued*)," "Traditional Authority, The Pure Type, The Pure Type (*continued*)," "Charismatic Authority and the Charismatic Community," Economy and Society, 212-223, 226-231, 241-5.

F/2/1 -- Recitation, Review of First Three Weeks of Material

Week IV

T/2/5 -- The Legitimation of Domination (ii)

Section C -- Types of States: Regimes

R/2/7 -- Polyarchy (I)

Readings:

Robert Dahl, Polyarchy: Participation and Opposition, 1-16. [JF518.D32]

F/2/8 -- Recitation, What is democracy?

Readings:

Sørensen, Chapter 1 (**homework assignment 2 due**)

Week V

T/2/12—Review Session for Midterm 1

R/2/14 -- **Midterm 1** (Sections A & B)

F/2/15 -- Recitation, Go over Midterm 1

Week VI

T/2/19 -- Polyarchy (ii)

Readings:

Siaroff, Chapter 3.

R/2/21 -- Varieties of Executive Power in Polyarchies

Readings:

Siaroff, Chapter 6.

F/2/22 -- Recitation, Competitive Authoritarianism?

Readings: Steven Levitsky and Lucan Way. 2002. "The Rise of Competitive Authoritarianism." *Journal of Democracy* 13 (2): 51-65. [Available through Muse, go through library e-resources [<http://www.lias.psu.edu/alallrem.html>] (**homework assignment 3 due**).

Week VII

T/2/26 -- Party and Voting Systems

Readings:

Siaroff, Chapter 7.

R/2/28 -- Modern Dictatorships (I)

Readings:

Juan Linz (1975). "Totalitarian and Authoritarian Regimes," in Handbook of Political Science, Fred I. Greenstein and Nelson Polsby, eds., vol 3. :175-196, 264-274. [JA71.H35 Vol. 3]

F/2/29 -- Recitation, review polyarchy sections

Week VIII

T/3/4 -- Modern Dictatorships (ii) / Totalitarian Regimes (I)

Readings:

Siaroff, pp. 203-216.

R/3/6 -- Totalitarian Regimes (ii)

F/3/7 -- Recitation, Revolution, Autocratic Old Regimes, and Modern Dictatorships

Readings:

Samuel Huntington, Political Order in Changing Societies, (New Haven: Yale University Press, 1968), 264-274. [JA66.H795]
(homework assignment 4 due)

[SPRING BREAK]

Week IX

T/3/18 -- Authoritarian Regimes (I)

Readings:

Siaroff, pp. 217-226, ch. 4

R/3/20-- Authoritarian Regimes (ii)

F/3/21 – Recitation, Review non-democratic regimes

Week X

Section D: Politics and Economics

T/3/25 -- Development

Readings:

Wiarda, Chapter 3, 4

Siaroff, Chapter 2

R/3/27 -- Development/Underdevelopment and Regime-type

Readings:

Wiarda Chapter 7

Sørensen, Chapter 3

F/3/28 -- Recitation, Review for Midterm 2

Week XI

T/4/1 -- Capitalist Systems, Main features

Readings:

Charles E. Lindblom, Politics and Markets, The World's Political Economic Systems, Chapters 3 & 8 [HD82.L475].

R/4/3 -- **Midterm 2** (Section C)

F/4/4 – Recitation, Go over midterm 2

Week XII

T/4/8 -- Market Failure and State Intervention under Capitalism

Readings:

Lindblom, Chapters 6, 11

R/4/10 -- Market, Capitalism, and Democracy

Readings:

Lindblom, Chapters 12, 13, 14

F/4/11 – Recitation, The Future of Capitalist Democracies

Readings:

Wiarda, Chapter 8 (**homework assignment 5 due**)
[late drop deadline]

Week XIII

T/4/15 -- Communist Systems as a Developmental Alternative

Readings:

Zbigniew Fallenbuchl, "How Does the Soviet Economy Function without a Free Market," in The Soviet Economy, 4th Edition, Morris Bornstein and Daniel R. Furfeld, eds., Homewood, IL: Irwin, 1974, 3-16. [HD82.B577 1974]

Alan A. Brown and Egon Neuberger, "Basic Features of a Centrally Planned Economy," in Comparative Economic Systems, 3rd Edition, Morris Bornstein, ed., Homewood, IL: Irwin, 1974, 236-

246. [HC336.23.B64 1974]

R/4/17 -- Communism as a Failed Form of Modernity

Readings:

Wiarda, 103-111.

Daniel Chirot, "The Eastern European Revolutions of 1989," in
Revolutions: Theoretical, Comparative and Historical Studies,
Jack A. Goldstone, ed., 165-180 [only in reserve room --
HM283.R45 1994]

Macridis and Burg, 185-208.

F/4/18 -- Recitation, review Politics and Economics Section.

Week XIV

Section E -- Regime Change

R/4/22 -- The Search for Democratic Prerequisites (i)

Readings:

Wiarda, 83-93.

Sørensen 25-40.

Siaroff, Chapter 5.

R/4/24 -- The Search for Democratic Prerequisites (ii)/ Processes of Regime Change: Breakdown, Liberalization, Transition, and Consolidation (i)

Readings:

Sørensen, 40-6

Siaroff, Chapter 9.

F/4/25 -- Recitation, The Problems Facing the New Democracies.

Readings:

Wiarda, 93-102, 111-20.

Sørensen, 47-60.

Siaroff, Chapter 10.

(homework assignment 6 due)

Week XV

T/4/29 -- Processes of Regime Change: Breakdown, Liberalization, Transition, and Consolidation (ii)

R/5/1 -- Evaluation, Exam Procedures, Review

F/5/2 -- Recitation, Review for Final

Final Exam