

**Political Science 2245E**  
**Introduction to Comparative Politics**  
**First Term, Fall 2011**

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Office hours: Thursday 10:30-12:00 or by appointment

This course has the aim of setting out the major themes and approaches to comparative politics while at the same time providing students with an introductory look at the character of political life in a variety of areas of the world. It will emphasize that comparative politics is both a subject and a method. Accordingly, its practitioners aspire to learn not simply by studying other countries, but by systematically comparing and contrasting their political processes and structures in the hope of deriving more general knowledge. This comparative enterprise is, however, best conducted on a solid historical and theoretical foundation, the examination of which will concern us greatly over the course of the year. The first term will give priority to the experience of the advanced industrialized areas of the world, and Europe in particular, though with the European experience immediately and consistently set in comparison to that of the rest of the world. The focus will be placed on a critical and comparative introduction to the major concepts and explanatory models derived from the first waves of economic, social, and political modernity.

**Requirements and Evaluation:** (1) a two-hour exam, which will take place during the formal exam period in December (40%); (2) a one-hour mid-term exam, to take place in tutorial on October 19, on the basis of questions circulated in advance (15%); (3) a research paper of 7-9 pages in length, which will be due late in the term (35%); and (4) regular, active and informed participation, where possible in the Thursday lecture sessions, but especially in the Wednesday discussion meetings (10%).

**Books Available for Purchase:**

Patrick O'Neil, *Essentials of Comparative Politics* (Third Edition: W.W. Norton & Co., 2010).  
Patrick O'Neil and Ronald Rogowski, *Essential Readings in Comparative Politics* (W.W. Norton & Co., 2010).

**IMPORTANT NOTICE RE PREREQUISITES/ANTIREQUISITES**

You are responsible for ensuring that you have successfully completed all course prerequisites, and that you have not taken an antirequisite course. Lack of prerequisites may not be used as a basis for appeal. If you are found to be ineligible for a course, you may be removed from it at any time and you will receive no adjustment to your fees. **This decision cannot be appealed.** If you find that you do not have the course requisites, it is in your best interest to drop the course well before the end of the add/drop period. Your prompt attention to this matter will not only help protect your academic record, but will ensure that spaces become available for students who require the course in question for graduation.

Office of the Dean  
Faculty of Social Science

## COURSE READINGS

### **Introduction: Methods and Approaches**

(September 14)

O'Neil, *Essentials of Comparative Politics*, chapter 1.

O'Neil and Rogowski, *Essential Readings in Comparative Politics*, chapter 1 (Lichbach and Zuckerman) and chapter 10 (Skocpol).

### **The State**

(September 21)

O'Neil, *Essentials*, chapter 2.

O'Neil and Rogowski, *Essential Readings*, chapter 2 (Weber; Herbst; Rotberg).

### **The Nation-State and Citizenship**

(September 28, October 5)

O'Neil, *Essentials*, chapter 3 (pp. 47-55).

O'Neil and Rogowski, *Essential Readings*, chapter 2 (Juergensmeyer), and chapter 3 (Hobsbawm; Fearon and Laitin; Huntington; Ajami).

Benedict Anderson, *Imagined Communities: Reflections on the Origin and Spread of Nationalism* (Verso, 1983), pp. 1-7.

Rogers Brubaker, "Immigration, Citizenship, and the Nation-State in France and Germany: A Comparative Historical Analysis." *International Sociology* vol. 5, no. 4 (1990).

Eva-Maria Asari, Daphne Halikiopoulou, Steven Mock, "British National Identity and the Dilemmas of Multiculturalism." *Nationalism and Ethnic Politics* vol. 14 (2008).

### **Capitalism, Cleavages, and Ideology**

(October 12)

O'Neil, *Essentials*, chapter 3 (pp. 56-71), and chapter 4 (pp. 77-96, 104-108).

O'Neil and Rogowski, *Essential Readings*, chapter 4 (Smith; Ricardo; Crook; North), and chapter 8 (Marx and Engels).

O'Neil, *Essentials*, chapter 8 (pp. 198-203).

### **Civil Society and the Case for Social Capital**

(October 19)

Robert Putnam, *Making Democracy Work: Civic Traditions in Modern Italy* (Princeton University Press, 1993), selections.

O'Neil and Rogowski, *Essential Readings*, chapter 5 (Putnam).

### **Political Regimes I: Sources and Varieties of Authoritarianism**

(October 26)

O'Neil, *Essentials*, chapter 5 (pp. 141-64), and chapter 8 (pp. 197-8. 203-10).

O'Neil and Rogowski, *Essential Readings*, chapter 6 (Linz and Stepan; Zakaria).

Sheri Berman, "Civil Society and the Collapse of the Weimar Republic." *World Politics* vol. 49, no. 3 (April 1997).

## **Political Regimes II: Democracy and Democratization**

### A. *Sources* (November 2)

O'Neil, *Essentials*, chapter 5 (pp. 164-6), and chapter 5 (pp. 109-18), and chapter 8 (pp. 210-29).  
O'Neil and Rogowski, *Essential Readings*, chapter 5 (Zakaria; Schmitter and Karl), and chapter 7 (Lipset), and chapter 8 (Bunce).

### B. *Democratic Institutions, Democratic Degradation* (November 9, 16)

Jan-Erik Lane, *Constitutions and Political Theory* (Manchester: Manchester University Press, 1996), chapter 4.

O'Neil, *Essentials*, chapter 5 (pp. 118-40).

O'Neil and Rogowski, *Essential Readings*, chapter 5 (Lijphart, Caplan), and chapter 7 (Duverger).

Alfred Stepan and Cindy Skach, "Constitutional Frameworks and Democratic Consolidation: Parliamentary vs. Presidentialism." *World Politics* vol. 46, no. 1 (1993).

Alan Renwick, "How Likely is Proportional Representation in the House of Commons? Lessons from International Experience." *Government and Opposition* vol. 44, no. 4 (Oct. 2009).

O'Neil and Rogowski, *Essential Readings*, chapter 6 (Diamond; Weintal and Jones Luong), and chapter 8 (McFaul; Gat).

## **Regime Performance**

(November 23)

O'Neil, chapter 4 (pp. 96-104), and chapter 7 (pp. 167-77).

O'Neil and Rogowski, *Essential Readings*, chapter 7 (Iversen and Soskice; *The Economist*), and chapter 9 (Pritchett; Barro; Przeworski et al.).

Stephen Driver and Luke Martell, "Third Ways in Britain and Europe," in Oliver Schmidtke (ed.), *The Third Way Transformation of Social Democracy: Normative Claims and Policy Initiatives in the 21<sup>st</sup> Century* (Ashgate, 2002).

## **Extra-Institutional Politics: Social Movements and Political Violence**

(November 30)

\*Sidney Tarrow, *Power in Movement: Social Movements and Contentious Politics* (Cambridge University Press, 1998), pp. 29-42 ("Modular Collective Action"), 54-67 ("State Building and Social Movements").

O'Neil, *Essentials*, chapter 7 (pp. 186-96), and chapter 10.

O'Neil and Rogowski, *Essential Readings*, chapter 10 (Crenshaw).

## **Globalization and the State: Recent Challenges**

(December 7)

O'Neil, *Essentials*, chapter 11.

O'Neil and Rogowski, *Essential Readings*, chapter 11 (Hoffmann; Ferguson).

**APPENDIX TO UNDERGRADUATE COURSE OUTLINES  
DEPARTMENT OF POLITICAL SCIENCE**

**Prerequisite checking - the student's responsibility**

"Unless you have either the requisites for this course or written special permission from your Dean to enroll in it, you may be removed from this course and it will be deleted from your record. This decision may not be appealed. You will receive no adjustment to your fees in the event that you are dropped from a course for failing to have the necessary prerequisites."

**Essay course requirements**

With the exception of 1000-level courses, most courses in the Department of Political Science are essay courses. Total written assignments (excluding examinations) will be at least 3,000 words in Politics 1020E, at least 5,000 words in a full course numbered 2000 or above, and at least 2,500 words in a half course numbered 2000 or above.

**Use of Personal Response Systems ("Clickers")**

"Personal Response Systems ("clickers") may be used in some classes. If clickers are to be used in a class, it is the responsibility of the student to ensure that the device is activated and functional. Students must see their instructor if they have any concerns about whether the clicker is malfunctioning.

Students must use only their own clicker. If clicker records are used to compute a portion of the course grade:

- the use of somebody else's clicker in class constitutes a scholastic offence,
- the possession of a clicker belonging to another student will be interpreted as an attempt to commit a scholastic offence."

**Security and Confidentiality of Student Work** (refer to current *Western Academic Calendar* (<http://www.westerncalendar.uwo.ca/>))

"**Submitting or Returning Student Assignments, Tests and Exams** - All student assignments, tests and exams will be handled in a secure and confidential manner. Particularly in this respect, leaving student work unattended in public areas for pickup is not permitted."

**Duplication of work**

Undergraduate students who submit similar assignments on closely related topics in two different courses must obtain the consent of both instructors prior to the submission of the assignment. If prior approval is not obtained, each instructor reserves the right not to accept the assignment.

**Grade adjustments**

In order to ensure that comparable standards are applied in political science courses, the Department may require instructors to adjust final marks to conform to Departmental guidelines.

**Academic Offences**

"Scholastic offences are taken seriously and students are directed to read the appropriate policy, specifically, the definition of what constitutes a Scholastic Offence, at the following Web site:

<http://www.uwo.ca/univsec/handbook/appeals/scholoff.pdf>."

## Submission of Course Requirements

ESSAYS, ASSIGNMENTS, TAKE-HOME EXAMS **MUST** BE SUBMITTED ACCORDING TO PROCEDURES SPECIFIED BY YOUR INSTRUCTOR (I.E., IN CLASS, DURING OFFICE HOURS, TA'S OFFICE HOURS) OR UNDER THE INSTRUCTOR'S OFFICE DOOR.

THE MAIN OFFICE DOES NOT DATE-STAMP OR ACCEPT ANY OF THE ABOVE.

Note: Information excerpted and quoted above are Senate regulations from the Handbook of Scholarship and Academic Policy. <http://www.uwo.ca/univsec/handbook/>

Students registered in Social Science should refer to <http://counselling.ssc.uwo.ca/> <http://counselling.ssc.uwo.ca/procedures/havingproblems.asp> for information on Medical Policy, Term Tests, Final Examinations, Late Assignments, Short Absences, Extended Absences, Documentation and other Academic Concerns. Non-Social Science students should refer to their home faculty's academic counselling office.

## Plagiarism

"Plagiarism: Students must write their essays and assignments in their own words. Whenever students take an idea, or a passage from another author, they must acknowledge their debt both by using quotation marks where appropriate and by proper referencing such as footnotes or citations. Plagiarism is a major academic offence." (see Scholastic Offence Policy in the Western Academic Calendar).

**Plagiarism Checking:** "All required papers may be subject to submission for textual similarity review to the commercial plagiarism detection software under license to the University for the detection of plagiarism. All papers submitted for such checking will be included as source documents in the reference database for the purpose of detecting plagiarism of papers subsequently submitted to the system. Use of the service is subject to the licensing agreement, currently between The University of Western Ontario and Turnitin.com ( <http://www.turnitin.com> )."

**Multiple-choice tests/exams:** "Computer-marked multiple-choice tests and/or exams may be subject to submission for similarity review by software that will check for unusual coincidences in answer patterns that may indicate cheating."

Note: Information excerpted and quoted above are Senate regulations from the Handbook of Scholarship and Academic Policy. <http://www.uwo.ca/univsec/handbook/>

### **PLAGIARISM\***

In writing scholarly papers, you must keep firmly in mind the need to avoid plagiarism. Plagiarism is the unacknowledged borrowing of another writer's words or ideas. Different forms of writing require different types of acknowledgement. The following rules pertain to the acknowledgements necessary in academic papers.

**A. In using another writer's words, you must both place the words in quotation marks and acknowledge that the words are those of another writer.**

You are plagiarizing if you use a sequence of words, a sentence or a paragraph taken from other writers without acknowledging them to be theirs. Acknowledgement is indicated either by (1) mentioning the author and work from which the words are borrowed in the text of your paper; or by (2) placing a footnote number at the end of the quotation in your text, and including a correspondingly numbered footnote at the bottom of the page (or in a separate reference section at the end of your essay). This footnote should indicate author, title of the work, place and date of publication, and page number.

Method (2) given above is usually preferable for academic essays because it provides the reader with more information about your sources and leaves your text uncluttered with parenthetical and tangential references. In either case words taken from another author must be enclosed in quotation marks or set off from your text by single spacing and indentation in such a way that they cannot be mistaken for your own words. Note that you cannot avoid indicating quotation simply by changing a word or phrase in a sentence or paragraph which is not your own.

**B. In adopting other writers' ideas, you must acknowledge that they are theirs.**

You are plagiarizing if you adopt, summarize, or paraphrase other writers' trains of argument, ideas or sequences of ideas without acknowledging their authorship according to the method of acknowledgement given in 'A' above. Since the words are your own, they need not be enclosed in quotation marks. Be certain, however, that the words you use are entirely your own; where you must use words or phrases from your source, these should be enclosed in quotation marks, as in 'A' above.

Clearly, it is possible for you to formulate arguments or ideas independently of another writer who has expounded the same ideas, and whom you have not read. Where you got your ideas is the important consideration here. Do not be afraid to present an argument or idea without acknowledgement to another writer, if you have arrived at it entirely independently. Acknowledge it if you have derived it from a source outside your own thinking on the subject.

In short, use of acknowledgements and, when necessary, quotation marks is necessary to distinguish clearly between what is yours and what is not. Since the rules have been explained to you, if you fail to make this distinction your instructor very likely will do so for you, and they will be forced to regard your omission as intentional literary theft. Plagiarism is a serious offence which may result in a student's receiving an 'F' in a course or, in extreme cases in their suspension from the University.

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Adopted by the council of the Faculty of Social Science, October, 1970; approved by the Dept. of History August 13, 1991

**Accessibility at Western**

Please contact [poliscie@uwo.ca](mailto:poliscie@uwo.ca) if you require any information in plain text format, or if any other accommodation can make the course material and/or physical space accessible to you.