Purpose: This class satisfies both a General Education and a Non-Western Perspective requirement. As such, the class will:
1) be conducted treating the subject matter as a social science;
2) discuss methods as applied by the social sciences to human behavior;
3) provide a social scientific perspective to an understanding of human behavior;
4) demonstrate an understanding of non-Western culture;
5) explain the differences and significance of Western and non-Western cultures; and
6) will explain the development of various cultural systems.

Aims: I aim to introduce students to the study of politics at the international level with a comparative perspective. We will focus, primarily but not entirely, on concepts of political systems, regimes, governments, states, and ideologies, as distinct from the more parochial approach of comparative government. While the principal method of instruction will be delivery via lecture, interaction with the instructor is strongly encouraged. Class discussion is an important component to the subject matter of this class and can only be of assistance to students.


Grades: Grades will be assigned according to the following approximately weighted formula:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Component</th>
<th>Weight</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Tests</td>
<td>25%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Quizzes</td>
<td>20%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Major Assignment</td>
<td>25%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Final Exam</td>
<td>30%</td>
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</tbody>
</table>


Tests: There will be three (3) tests given during the course of the semester. The format will be essay. There will be no make-ups given. If for any reason, you can not or choose not to take the test, the grade you earn from your [comprehensive] final exam will be substituted for any and all tests missed.

Quizzes: There will be four (4) quizzes administered, primarily based on the text. There will be no make-ups for any quizzes missed.

Major Assignment: This project is a particular pedagogical approach to challenge students, allowing them to blend the accumulation of factual information or knowledge with a more sophisticated comparative political analysis. Each student will represent a country, chosen from the list below:
You have been employed by the United States Department of State as a country expert on your assigned country. A new ambassador has been assigned to replace the former ambassador in your country of expertise. You have been asked by the new ambassador, who knows little about the new country post since it was a patronage appointment, as opposed to a promotion from within the Foreign Service, to provide a report on why your country is democratic or non-democratic. Because the ambassador will take up his/her post within the next four months, you have been assigned to put together the relevant information. The report, therefore, must include a professional double-spaced, 15-20 page report. All references should be properly attributed with a composite bibliography attached. Because the ambassador is older and his/her eyesight is failing, s/he requires the font to be Times New Roman with a 12 point font. The ambassador is particularly interested in finding out why the country you have been assigned to has or has not become democratic. S/he would like to have some background information on the basic functioning of the country, but is mainly interested in a sophisticated analysis and policy recommendations as to how the country can become democratic if it is not, or how it can maintain its democratic nature if it already is. The report is due NLT the last day of class.

Attendance: It is incumbent on all students to make every effort to attend class on a daily basis. Education, it should be noted, is an interactive process; the instructor merely facilitates the learning process. Absences will be noted and subjectively taken into consideration for final grade assignment. Additionally, missing a quarter of all classes, will earn the student a failing grade.

A useful source for data is UNDP statistics, available at http://www.undp.org, Go to the UNDP (United Nations Development Program) website and go to the most recent UNDP: Human Development Report available.

Abbreviations: APSR=American Political Science Review
CP=Comparative Politics
CPS=Comparative Political Studies
FA=Foreign Affairs
WP=World Politics

**Topics Offered in Sequence of Presentation**

Introduction and Course Overview
The Comparative Method
The State and the Concept of Authority
Read: O'Nelligan, chaps. 1-2
Lijphard, Arend. "Comparative Politics and the Comparative

Ethnicity, Nationality, Citizenship
Political Attitudes and Political Ideology
Read: O'Neill, chap. 3, pp. 46-66

Political Attitudes and Ideology
Read: O'Neill, chap. 3, pp. 66-81

Political Institutions
Read: O'Neill, pp. 15-18

States and Regimes
Read: O'Neill, chap. 2

Legitimacy
Read: O'Neill, pp. 36-40

Political Economy: The Interaction of Politics and Economics
Read: O'Neill, chap. 4

Democracy: Its Origins and Development
Read: O'Neill, chap. 6

Democratic Institutions
Advanced Democracies
Read: O'Neill, chap. 7

Authoritarianism
Read: O'Neill, chap. 5

Communism
   Read: O'Neill, chap. 8

Post-Communist Transition
   Read: O'Neill, chap. 8

Lesser Developed and Newly Emergent Industrial States
   Read: O'Neill, chap. 9

Globalization
   Read: O'Neill, chap. 10, pp. 281-299
   Evans, Peter. "The Eclipse of the State?" WP, 50 (October 1997): 62-87

Final Exam