Political Science 120: Introduction to Comparative Politics
Spring 2016

Class Meeting Time: MWF 9-9:50, White Hall 206
Instructor: Prof. Hubert Tworzecki, Tarbutton 316, (404) 727-2244
(htworze@emory.edu), Office hours: W 10-12 or by appointment at http://meetme.so/huberttworzecki.
Teaching Assistants: Bethany Nanamaker (bethany.nanamaker@gmail.com), Rebecca Hartsough (rhartsough@gmail.com)

Course Description
This course offers an introduction to the comparative study of modern political systems. It outlines the major concepts and methods of comparative political analysis and applies them to a selection of advanced industrial democracies, communist and post-communist states, and developing countries. In each case we will examine the key institutions and patterns of political behavior, as well as the historical and social contexts of present-day politics.

Textbooks and Reading Assignments
Textbooks:
- J. Tyler Dickovick and Jonathan Eastwood, Comparative Politics: Integrating Theories, Methods and Cases. 2nd edition. Oxford University Press, 2015 (hereafter referred to as D&E). Available from the Emory Bookstore or as an ebook (see Blackboard “Announcements” section for details)

Reserve Items:
- Reading assignments marked "Reserve" are available online at http://ereserves.library.emory.edu.

Blackboard:
- Lecture slides and other supplemental materials, as well as information about any changes to the course schedule or reading assignments will be posted on BB at http://classes.emory.edu.

Course Requirements
Grading summary:
- 25% Test 1 (Feb. 19)
- 25% Test 2 (Apr. 1)
- 30% Final exam (May 2)
- 15% Discussion group participation
- 5% Lecture participation

Tests and final examination:
Each test and exam will feature some combination of the following question types: multiple choice, fill-in-the-blank, paragraph answer and essay. The paragraph answer questions will typically ask you to define a term or concept encountered in the lectures or readings. For example, if you are asked about "proportional representation," you will be expected to write a paragraph of four to five sentences describing the term's meaning and significance. The essay questions will generally be analytical in
character, and will ask that you synthesize information gained from class lectures, discussion sections and reading assignments.

Discussion group participation:
In addition to the three lectures, each week you will attend one discussion group session (day, time and classroom depends on your section number – please check OPUS). Discussion groups will give you the opportunity to follow up on the material presented in lectures through a variety of activities and exercises. Attendance at discussion group sessions is mandatory. Absences for medical reasons or for attending an official university event will be excused with a note from physician, coach, etc.

Lecture participation:
Although this is a very large class taught in an auditorium setting, active and informed participation in lecture sessions is expected, and you will be asked to sign an attendance sheet.

Letter grades:
Final grades for the course will be determined as follows: A [93-100%], A- [90-92%], B+ [87-89%], B [83-86%], B- [80-82%], C+ [77-79%], C [73-76%], C- [70-72%], D+ [67-69%], D [63-66%], D- [60-62%], F [0-59%]

Students with special needs:
Emory University is committed under the Americans with Disabilities Act and its Amendments and Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act to providing appropriate accommodations to individuals with documented disabilities. If you have a disability-related need for reasonable academic adjustments in this course, provide the instructor(s) with an accommodation notification letter from Access, Disabilities Services and Resources office. Students are expected to give two weeks’ notice of the need for accommodations. If you need immediate accommodations or physical access, please arrange to meet with instructor(s) as soon as your accommodations have been finalized.

Honor Code:
The honor code is in effect throughout the semester. By taking this course, you affirm that it is a violation of the code to cheat on exams, to plagiarize, to deviate from the teacher’s instructions about collaboration on work that is submitted for grades, to give false information to a faculty member, and to undertake any other form of academic misconduct. You agree that the teacher is entitled to move you to another seat during examinations, without explanation. You also affirm that if you witness others violating the code you have a duty to report them to the honor council.

Course Outline and Reading Assignments

1. Introduction (Jan. 13)
   Reading: Heywood, “What is Politics” (Reserve)

2. Fundamentals of Comparative Political Analysis (Jan. 15, 20, 22)
   Reading: D&E, Chapters 1 and 2

3. States (Jan. 25, 27)
   Reading: D&E, Chapter 3
   Reading: Fukuyama, “The Coming of the Leviathan” (Reserve)
   Reading: Mecham, “How Much of a State is the Islamic State?” (Reserve)

4. Nations (Jan. 29)
   Reading: D&E, Chapter 13
   Optional: Connor, “A Nation is a Nation, Is a State, Is an Ethnic Group, is a...” (Reserve)
5. Political Economy (Feb. 1)
   Reading: D&E, Chapter 4

6. Constitutions and Constitutional Courts (Feb. 3, 5)
   Reading: D&E, Chapter 8
   Reading: Lansberg-Rodriguez, “Wiki-constitutionalism” (Reserve)
   Reading: Greenhouse, “Law and Politics” (Reserve)

7. Ideologies (Feb. 8, 10)
   Reading: Bloor, The Definitive Guide to Political Ideologies. Chapters 1, 2, 3 and 7 (Amazon)
   Optional: D&E, Chapter 15

8. Case study: United Kingdom (Feb. 12, 15)
   Reading: D&E, pp. 539-552

   Review session (Feb. 17)
   Test 1 (Feb. 19), covers sections 1 to 8

   Reading: D&E, Chapter 11
   Reading: Inglehart, “Inequality and Modernization” (Reserve)
   Optional: Malik, “What is Britain's Labour Party For?” (Reserve)
   Optional: Vinocur, “Marine Le Pen Takes Sharp Left Turn” (Reserve)

10. Legislatures and Electoral Systems (Feb. 29, Mar. 2, 4)
    Reading: D&E, Chapter 9
    Reading: “What is First Past the Post” (Reserve)
    Reading: “All about Party List PR” (Reserve)

11. Executives (Mar. 14, 16, 18)
    Reading: D&E, Chapter 10
    Reading: De Winter and Dumont, “Parties into Government: Still Many Puzzles” (Reserve)
    Optional: Casal Bértoa, “After Spain’s Startling Election, Here Are the Five Ways it Can Form a Government” (Reserve)

    Reading: Hix, “The EU as a New Political System” (Reserve)

13. Democracy and Democratization (Mar. 28, 30)
    Reading: D&E, Chapter 6
    Reading: Inglehart and Welzel, “How Development Leads to Democracy” (Reserve)
    Reading: Youngs, “Can Democracy Work for the World’s Values Voters?” (Reserve)

   Test 2 (Apr. 1), covers sections 9 to 13

14. Authoritarianism and Democratic Breakdown (Apr. 4, 6)
    Reading: D&E, Chapter 7
    Reading: Robertson, “Think Again: Dictators” (Reserve)
    Reading: Guriev and Treisman, “New Dictators Rule by Velvet Fist” (Reserve)
15. Revolution (Apr. 8)
   Reading: D&E, Chapter 12
   Reading: Edsall, “Why Don't the Poor Rise Up?” (Reserve)

16. Case study: Russia’s Revolutions (Apr. 11, 13)
   Reading: D&E, pp. 525-538
   Reading: Blank, “Russia, the Patrimonial State and Its Future” (Reserve)

17. Development and Globalization (Apr. 15, 18)
   Reading: D&E, Chapters 5 and pp. 376-380
   Reading: Rodrik, “The Paradox of Globalization” (Reserve)

18. Case study: Development in China (Apr. 20, 22)
   Reading: D&E, pp. 412-426
   Reading: Bell, Garton Ash, Nathan and Zhang, “Is the China Model Better than Democracy?” (Reserve)

Review Session (Apr. 25)
Final Exam (Mon., May 2, 11:30-2:00), cumulative with emphasis on sections 14-18