

Huron Brief Course Outlines

Fall/Winter 2023-2024

Course Title: Introduction to Comparative Politics

Course Number and Section

POLISCI

2245E - 550

Instructor Name(s): Dr. Laszlo Sarkany

Instructor Email(s): lsarkan@uwo.ca

Disclaimer: Information in the brief course outline is subject to change. The syllabus posted on OWL is the official and authoritative source of information for the course.

Course Description:

The aim of this course is to introduce students to both, the methodological foundations of comparing political structures, processes and systems, and the critical analysis of states and nations located in global 'south' and the global 'north'. Students will, therefore, strive to understand 'how' comparative political analysis takes place, and to understand 'what' the subjects of analysis within comparative political analysis are. The thematic foci of this course will be on methods, regimes, institutions, the nation, identity, nation-building, ethnicity and nationalism, political economy, capitalism, and civil society. The lectures and discussions will further be animated by discussions and analyses of state structures in the United States, the United Kingdom, France and Germany, along with Russia, China, India, Brazil, Nigeria and South Africa, among others.

Learning Outcomes:

Compare political structures, processes and systems, and the critical analysis of states and nations located in global 'south' and the global 'north'

Understand 'how' comparative political analysis takes place, and to understand 'what' the subjects of Analysis within comparative political analysis are

Textbooks and Course Materials:

Required:

1) "Essentials of Comparative Politics", 7th ed., Patrick H. O'Neil, W. W. Norton Company, ISBN: 978-0-393-93897-5

2) "Cases and Concepts in Comparative Politics", 3rd, ed. Patrick H. O'Neil, Karl J. Fields, , W. W. Norton Company, ISBN: 978-0-393-93754-1

3) "Comparative Politics of the Global South: Linking Concepts and Cases", 5th ed. December Green and Laura Luehrmann, Lynne Rienner Publishers, 2022. ISBN: 978-1-955055-55-0 pb

Journal articles assigned for weekly readings will be available on OWL.

Texts are available for purchase at the university bookstore.

Recommended:

Margot Northey, Lorne Tepperman and Patrizia Albanese. *Making Sense in the Social Sciences: A Student's Guide to Research and Writing*, Fifth Edition. Oxford University Press, 2012.

I strongly encourage you to purchase the books and keep them for future reference, in addition to reading them for the lectures. I will also assign additional readings which will be marked with an asterisk (*). These readings will be available in the library under course reserves.

***The rest of the readings assigned are accessible on-line in the appropriate journals, which are available electronically through UWO library web page.

Methods of Evaluation:

Assignment	Due Date mm/dd/yy	Weight - %
Class participation	Ongoing	10% (5% per term)
Fall term paper outline	October 19th	10%
Fall term paper	November 23rd	15%
Midterm exam	During the fall exam period	20%
Winter term paper outline	February 29th	10%
Winter term paper	March 21st	15%
Final exam	During the winter examination period	20%

In solidarity with the Anishinaabe, Haudenosaunee, Lu̓naapéewak, and Chonnonton peoples on whose traditional treaty and unceded territories this course is shared.