



**EFFECTIVE: SEPTEMBER 2004**  
**CURRICULUM GUIDELINES**

**A:** Division: **INSTRUCTIONAL** Effective Date: **SEPTEMBER 2004**

**B:** Department / **POLITICAL SCIENCE** Revision  New Course   
 Program Area: **FACULTY OF HUMANITIES & SOCIAL SCIENCES**

If Revision, Section(s) **C,H**  
 Revised:  
 Date of Previous Revision: **FEBRUARY 2004**  
 Date of Current Revision: **APRIL 2004**

**C: POLI 2210 D: INTRODUCTION TO COMPARATIVE POLITICS E: 3**

Subject & Course No.	Descriptive Title	Semester Credits
<b>F:</b> Calendar Description: This course is a comparative analysis of contemporary regimes, political structures, political processes. It will provide an understanding of approaches to comparisons of different systems of government.		
<b>G:</b> Allocation of Contact Hours to Type of Instruction / Learning Settings  Primary Methods of Instructional Delivery and/or Learning Settings:  <b>Lecture</b> <b>Seminar</b>  Number of Contact Hours: (per week /semester for each descriptor)  <b>Lecture: 2 hrs. per week/semester</b> <b>Seminar: 2 hrs. per week/semester</b>  Number of Weeks per Semester: <b>15</b>	<b>H:</b> Course Prerequisites:  <b>POLI 1101 or Permission of Instructor</b>	
	<b>I:</b> Course Corequisites:  <b>NONE</b>	
	<b>J:</b> Course for which this Course is a Prerequisite  <b>NONE</b>	
	<b>K:</b> Maximum Class Size:  <b>35</b>	
<b>L: PLEASE INDICATE:</b> <input type="checkbox"/> Non-Credit <input type="checkbox"/> College Credit Non-Transfer <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> College Credit Transfer: SEE BC TRANSFER GUIDE FOR TRANSFER DETAILS ( <a href="http://www.bccat.bc.ca">www.bccat.bc.ca</a> )		

**M: Course Objectives / Learning Outcomes**

At the conclusion of the course the successful student will be able to:

1. Explain the theoretical approach of comparative politics.
2. Identify and assess the fundamental concepts in the study of comparative politics.
3. Apply concepts to a comparative analysis of contemporary regimes, political structures, political process and foreign environment.
4. Be prepared for more advanced study in Comparative Politics, Scope and Methods, Area Studies and International Relations.

**N: Course Content**

1. Issues in Comparative Politics
  - Governments and the State of Nature
  - Why governments?
  - When does government become a problem?
  - Political Systems
  - States
  - Building National Identity
  - Fostering Development
  - Securing Democracy, Human Rights, and Civil Liberties
2. Comparing Political Systems
  - Why we compare?
  - How we compare?
  - Systems: Structures & Function
  - The Policy Level: Performance, Outcome, and Evaluation
3. System, Process, and Policy
  - Political Culture
  - Mapping Levels of Political Culture
  - Political Socialization
  - Trends in Contemporary Political Culture
  - Interest in Articulation
  - Interest in Aggregation
  - Political Parties
4. Government and Policy Making
  - Constitutions
  - Democracy and Authoritarianism
  - Separation of Government Powers
  - Limitations on Government Powers
  - Political Executives
  - The Bureaucracy
  - Elite Recruitment
  - Control of Elites
5. Public Policy
  - Government and What it Does
  - Community Building and Symbolic Policies
  - Domestic Security Outcomes
  - International Outputs and Outcomes
  - Strategies for Producing Political Goods

<p><b>O: Methods of Instruction</b></p> <p>Presentation of the course will involve the use of formal lectures, structured group work by students, and in-class discussion of assigned research topics. Additional readings may be assigned for each unit of the course and placed on reserve in the library.</p>										
<p><b>P: Textbooks and Materials to be Purchased by Students</b></p> <p>Textbooks and readers will be chosen based on individual instructor preferences in consultation and with approval of the Department of Political Science.</p> <p>SAMPLE TEXTBOOKS:</p> <p>Almond, Gabriel A., G. Bingham Powell Jr., Kaare Strom, Russell J. Dalton. (2001). <i>Comparative Politics, A Theoretical Framework</i> (3<sup>rd</sup> ed.). (City): Longman.</p> <p>Almond, Gabriel A., G. Bingham Powell Jr., Kaare Strom, Russell J. Dalton. (2003). <i>Comparative Politics Today, A World View</i> (7<sup>th</sup> ed.). (City): Longman.</p> <p>Dogan, M., D. Pelassy. ( ). <i>How to Compare Nations: Strategies in Comparative Politics</i>. Chatham: Chatham House.</p>										
<p><b>Q: Means of Assessment</b></p> <p>The course evaluation will be based on course objectives and in accordance with Douglas College policy and the policies of the Political Science Department. A minimum of 50% of the student’s grade will be assigned to the mid-term and end of term examinations. A minimum of 30% of the student’s grade will be assigned to a formal research essay. A maximum of 20% of student’s grade will be based upon a series of components, for example, quizzes, short essay, attendance, participation, class presentations. The specific evaluation criteria will be provided by the instructor at the beginning of the semester.</p> <p>One example of an evaluation scheme:</p> <table style="margin-left: 40px;"> <tr> <td>Mid Term Exam</td> <td style="text-align: right;">20%</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Research Essay</td> <td style="text-align: right;">30%</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Participation</td> <td style="text-align: right;">20%</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Final Exam</td> <td style="text-align: right;"><u>30%</u></td> </tr> <tr> <td></td> <td style="text-align: right;">100%</td> </tr> </table>	Mid Term Exam	20%	Research Essay	30%	Participation	20%	Final Exam	<u>30%</u>		100%
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Research Essay	30%									
Participation	20%									
Final Exam	<u>30%</u>									
	100%									
<p><b>R: Prior Learning Assessment and Recognition: specify whether course is open for PLAR</b></p> <p>No.</p>										

Course Designer(s): Marlene Hancock	Education Council/Curriculum Committee Representative
Dean / Director	Registrar