



EFFECTIVE: MAY 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) Revised: **F,M,P,Q,R**
 Date of Previous Revision: November 1995
 Date of Current Revision: February 2004

C: POLI 210 D: INTRODUCTION TO COMPARATIVE POLITICS E: 3

Subject & Course No.	Descriptive Title	Semester Credits						
<p>F: 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.</p>								
<p>G: Allocation of Contact Hours to Type of Instruction / Learning Settings</p> <p>Primary Methods of Instructional Delivery and/or Learning Settings:</p> <p>Lecture Seminar</p> <p>Number of Contact Hours: (per week /semester for each descriptor)</p> <p>Lecture: 2 hrs. per week/semester Seminar: 2 hrs. per week/semester</p> <p>Number of Weeks per Semester: 15</p>	<p>H: Course Prerequisites: POLI 101 or Permission of Instructor</p>							
	<p>I: Course Corequisites: NONE</p>							
	<p>J: Course for which this Course is a Prerequisite NONE</p>							
	<p>K: Maximum Class Size: 35</p>							
<p>L: PLEASE INDICATE:</p> <table style="width: 100%; border-collapse: collapse;"> <tr> <td style="width: 5%; text-align: center;"><input type="checkbox"/></td> <td>Non-Credit</td> </tr> <tr> <td style="text-align: center;"><input type="checkbox"/></td> <td>College Credit Non-Transfer</td> </tr> <tr> <td style="text-align: center;"><input checked="" type="checkbox"/></td> <td>College Credit Transfer:</td> </tr> </table> <p>SEE BC TRANSFER GUIDE FOR TRANSFER DETAILS (www.bccat.bc.ca)</p>			<input type="checkbox"/>	Non-Credit	<input type="checkbox"/>	College Credit Non-Transfer	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	College Credit Transfer:
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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>O: Methods of Instruction</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>P: Textbooks and Materials to be Purchased by Students</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> (3rd 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> (7th ed.). (City): Longman.</p> <p>Dogan, M., D. Pelassy. (). <i>How to Compare Nations: Strategies in Comparative Politics</i>. Chatham: Chatham House.</p>										
<p>Q: Means of Assessment</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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	100%									
<p>R: Prior Learning Assessment and Recognition: specify whether course is open for PLAR</p> <p>No.</p>										

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