COURSE OUTLINE OF RECORD

Number: PSCI G185  
TITLE: Comparative Politics

ORIGINATOR: Margot Bowlby  
EFF TERM: Fall 2017

FORMERLY Known AS: 
DATE OF OUTLINE/REVIEW: 03-21-2017

CROSS LISTED COURSE:  
TOP NO: 2207.00

CID: POLS 130

SEMESTER UNITS: 3.0
HRS LEC: 54.0  
HRS LAB: 0.0  
HRS OTHER: 0.0

CONTACT HRS TOTAL: 54.0

STUDY NON-CONTACT HRS RECOMMENDED: 108.0

CATALOG DESCRIPTION:
This course introduces the field of comparative politics by providing a study of political systems, government structures and popular ideologies in selected developed and developing countries. Major themes will include development, nation/state building and democratization. Recommended for students interested in governments and politics throughout the world. C-ID POLS 130

JUSTIFICATION FOR COURSE:

PREREQUISITES:

COREQUISITES:

ADVISORIES:
- ENGL G100: Freshman Composition

ASSIGNED DISCIPLINES:
- Political science

MATERIAL FEE: Yes [ ] No [X] Amount: $0.00

CREDIT STATUS: Noncredit [ ] Credit - Degree Applicable [X] Credit - Not Degree Applicable [ ]

GRADING POLICY: Pass/No Pass [X] Standard Letter [X] Not Graded [ ] Satisfactory Progress [ ]

OPEN ENTRY/OPEN EXIT: Yes [ ] No [X]

TRANSFER STATUS: CSU Transferable[ ] UC/CSU Transferable[X] Not Transferable[ ]

BASIC SKILLS STATUS: Yes [ ] No [X]  LEVELS BELOW TRANSFER: Not Applicable

CALIFORNIA CLASSIFICATION CODES: Y - Not Applicable

NON CREDIT COURSE CATEGORY: Y - Not applicable, Credit Course

OCCUPATIONAL (SAM) CODE: E

REPEATABLE ACCORDING TO STATE GUIDELINES: No [X] Yes [ ] NUMBER REPEATS:

REQUIRED FOR DEGREE OR CERTIFICATE: No [ ] Yes [X]
- Associate in Arts: Liberal Arts: Emphasis in Social Sciences(Associate in Arts)
- Associate of Arts: Liberal Arts: Emphasis in Social and Behavioral Sciences(Associate in Arts)
- Global Studies(Associate in Arts for Transfer)
- Global Studies(Certificate of Achievement)
- POLITICAL SCIENCE(Associate in Arts for Transfer)
- Political Science(Associate in Arts for Transfer)
- Political Science(Associate in Arts)

GE AND TRANSFER REQUIREMENTS MET:
- IGETC Area 4: Social and Behavioral Sciences
  - 4H: Political Science, Government & Legal Institutions
PROGRAM LEVEL LEARNING OUTCOME(S) Supported by this course:

- Students will interpret issues and situations from more than one perspective.
- Students will demonstrate knowledge of global issues, processes, trends and systems.
- Students will articulate an understanding of her/his culture in global and comparative context,

COURSE LEVEL STUDENT LEARNING OUTCOME(S) Supported by this course:

1. Identify and define key terms and concepts in comparative politics, including the role of the state, regime types, institutional arrangements and the basic underlying principles of a democracy.
2. Evaluate theories of development and democratization, cultural variations and important findings and apply to current events.
3. Utilize appropriate investigative methods and appropriate technologies to access research relevant to comparative politics.
4. Demonstrate critical thinking through analysis, synthesis, and evaluation of the course content relative to contemporary political issues and present their work effectively.

COURSE OBJECTIVES:
1. Describe the traditional functions of government and institutions in a variety of countries.
2. Evaluate the methods of comparative analysis.
3. Analyze key issues in comparative politics, such as democratization, development and nation/state building.
4. Compare and contrast the cultures, political system and policies of developed, transitional and developing countries.

COURSE CONTENT:

LECTURE CONTENT:

A. Overview of comparative political analysis
   1. Explanation of major paradigms and key concepts
   2. Discuss the challenges faced by political scientists when conducting a comparative analysis.

B. Survey of Political Thought
   1. Origins of government
   2. Use and legitimacy of power
   3. Relationship between people and government

C. Political Systems
   1. Pluralism
   2. Institutionalism
   3. Inputs, Decision-making and Feedback
   4. Adaptation and functionality

D. Political and Administrative Structures
   1. Democratic/non-Democratic Regimes
   2. Constitutional/non-Constitutional regimes
   3. Legislative, Executive, Administrative, and Judicial Structures
   4. Relationship between political structures and economic, social, and religious structures

E. Analysis of contemporary Comparative Theories relative to
1. Nation-State building
2. Democratization
3. Development
4. The effects of globalization, transnationalism, and decentralization

F. Comparative Analysis of selected developing (3rd/4th world) countries
   1. Discuss and analyze the problems and issues facing developing countries, including issues of culture, political change, economic/social development and globalization.
   2. Countries could include Nigeria, Iran, Sudan, and/or Iraq

G. Comparative Analysis of selected transitionally developing (2nd world) countries
   1. Discuss and analyze the success of and challenges facing transitionally developing countries, including issues of culture, political change, economic/social development and globalization.
   2. Countries could include Mexico, post-Communist countries (Russia), China and/or Taiwan

H. Comparative analysis of selected developed (1st world) countries
   1. Discuss and analyze the success of and challenges facing developed countries, including issues of culture, political change, economic/social development and globalization.
   2. Countries could include Great Britain, France, Germany, and/or Japan

I. Survey of other Developing Countries
   1. Analyze and evaluate additional selected countries’ including their political culture, political regime and development plans.

METHODS OF INSTRUCTION:
   A. Lecture:
   B. Online:
   C. Hybrid:

INSTRUCTIONAL TECHNIQUES:
Lectures utilizing new technology
Interactive Discussions

COURSE ASSIGNMENTS:
Reading Assignments
Complete reading assignments in the assigned required text(s).
Complete required online reading assignments from a variety of scholarly websites and journals.

Out-of-class Assignments
Reading assignments within textbook and additional web sources.
Interactive discussions.
Research pertaining to comparative politics.

Writing Assignments
Essay exams that identify key concepts and/or examine key issues.
Research papers that analyze the application of theory to relevant political issues.
Country Analysis Project with oral presentation.

METHODS OF STUDENT EVALUATION:
Midterm Exam
Final Exam
Short Quizzes
Written Assignments
Essay Examinations
Objective Examinations
Demonstration of Critical Thinking:

Students will demonstrate critical thinking, reading and writing skills through analysis, synthesis and evaluation of course content.

Students will demonstrate critical thinking by researching and analyzing various articles, factual data and comparative topics and by writing a critical analysis.

Required Writing, Problem Solving, Skills Demonstration:

Written exams, essays and/or papers focused on evaluating and analyzing theoretical paradigms, cross country analysis and factual data.

In-class and/or online discussions during which students will present their ideas.

TEXTS, READINGS, AND RESOURCES:

TextBooks:


LIBRARY:

Adequate library resources include: Non-Print Materials
Online Materials
Services

Comments:

Attachments:

[Attached Files](#)