

Do not copy without the express written consent of the author.

Comparative Politics: Theory & Practice
CPO 3010
Fall 2015

MWF 11:00-11:50 am
CP 197
Office Hours: MWF 1:00-1:45 pm

Dr. Astrid Arrarás
SIPA 408
(305) 348-1692
arrarasa@fiu.edu

Course Description

Over the past few decades the forces of globalization have dramatically influenced the domestic politics of states around the world. Politically, democratic regimes have increased in number, yet many authoritarian states are stronger than ever. Economically, the development of growth and equality has been transformed by the deepening of world markets. Culturally, issues of multiculturalism, ethnic conflict, and religious activism have taken on new importance in many countries. How have the theories of comparative politics attempted to explain and predict these various global trends? How can these theories help us understand the enormous amount of empirical information that we now have access to from across the globe? How can our knowledge of both these facts and theories help policy makers take sound decisions?

Course Learning Objective

This course examines three major political issues in the contemporary world within the context of growing globalization: the building and maintenance of democracy, the development of economic growth and (in) equality, and the difficulties of political inclusion and transformations. Drawing from country case studies from around the world, students will learn both the empirical details and some of the major theoretical approaches to discuss the tradeoffs inherent in these topics.

Global Learning Goals and Outcomes

Students will become aware of facts and concepts to explain the processes of democratization, development, and inclusion with special attention to different levels of analysis and then be able to discuss their interrelations in different contexts. Students will be able to present different theoretical perspectives to explain these three processes and be able to evaluate the utility of the theoretical perspectives in explaining political behaviors and outcomes. In addition, students will be asked to use their knowledge and skills to make arguments presenting and evaluating the policy implications and prescriptions inherent in the various theoretical perspectives. **These learning outcomes will be achieved through active learning strategies such as discussion, debates and**

Do not copy without the express written consent of the author.

comparison of case studies throughout the semester.

Requirements

Students are responsible for reading the assigned materials before we discuss them in class, attending class regularly and carrying out all the assignments for the course on time. To do well in the course, you must think carefully about the issues discussed in your readings and in class sessions. You should also apply your learning and your thinking to class discussion and written assignments. In line with this format, a greater percentage of the grade will come from work done throughout the semester, as opposed to the work done at certain points in the semester. This is a course, then, which is not suited for students who prefer to “tune out” until mid-term and final exams come around.

1. Examinations

Students will have three exams. Each will be worth 25 % of the overall grade.

2. Paper

Students will write a short paper (5-7 pages long) on a topic assigned by the instructor. The paper will allow students to apply theories and concepts to case studies. It will count for 15% of the total grade.

2. Class participation

All students must read all the assigned material before each class and come prepared to participate. I will monitor class participation if necessary, I will ask questions directly to individual students; and on the basis of this assessment a grade for class participation will be assigned, accounting for 10% of the total grade.

Course policies

1. All grades are based on a 100 point grade scale, with the following letters and corresponding numbers:

A	95-100	B	85-87.99	C	75-77.99	D	65-67.99
A-	90-94.99	B-	80-84.99	C-	70-74.99	D-	60-64.99
B+	88-89.99	C+	78-79.99	D+	68-69.99	F	0-59.99

2. You will be tested on both lectures and reading material for the midterm and the final exams.

3. Makeups

Examinations, if missed, can only be made up if a) a student confronts sickness or medical emergency, or b) if there are other extenuating circumstances that the instructor deems justifiable. In case of sickness/medical emergency, the student will be required to present written and verifiable documentation from medical personnel. In the case of other

Do not copy without the express written consent of the author.

extenuating circumstances, the instructor will require similar documentation appropriate to the situation. Normally, such special circumstances must be communicated to the instructor before rather than after the date in question. All justification must be presented to the instructor verbally and directly, and not through written notes or phone calls to the secretaries of the Department of Political Science.

4. Academic Honesty

All students in this course are expected to be familiar with the Student Code of Conduct, especially the provisions pertaining to academic dishonesty. No student in this course may claim ignorance of these rules. Accordingly, all potential violations of academic dishonesty will be vigorously prosecuted. For information on the latest policies relating to academic misconduct, see:

<http://www.fiu.edu/~oabp/misconductweb/unitinstructions.htm>

5. Extra Credit and Second Chances

The instructor will not accept students' offers to retake an exam, or to rewrite an assignment or to do extra work for extra credit.

Required Text

Drogus, Carol Ann & Orvis Stephen. *Introducing Comparative Politics. Concepts & Cases in Context*, 2nd edition, 2012. SAGE Publishers.

The New York Times, www.nytimes.com & *The Economist*, www.economist.com (either print subscription or, quicker, full text online access)

Assigned articles and chapters will be posted on the course's Blackboard page

Course Outline and Reading Assignments

1. 1. **Overview of course**
(August 24)

1. 2. **Introduction to the Concepts of Comparative Politics**
(August 26-September 2)

- Drogus & Orvis, 2-37.
- Robert Putnam, "APSA Presidential Address: The Public Role of Political Science," *Perspectives on Politics* 1:2 (June 2003), 249-255.
- Brown, Bernard. 'Introduction', *Comp Pol: Notes & Readings*, 2006.

1. 3. **The State**

Do not copy without the express written consent of the author.

(September 4-9)

- Drogus & Orvis, 36-83.
- Max Weber, "Politics as a Vocation"
http://en.wikisource.org/wiki/Politics_as_a_Vocation .
- Charles Tilly, "War Making and State Making as Organized Crime," in *Bringing the State Back In* Peter Evans, et al eds. (Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, 1985), 169-186.

1. 4. States, Citizenship, and Regimes

(September 11-16)

- Drogus & Orvis, 84-121.
- Robert Dahl, *Polyarchy: Participation and Opposition*, in *Readings in Comparative Politics: Political Challenges and Changing Agendas*, 2nd Edition, Mark Kesselman, ed. (Boston: Wadsworth, 2010), 194-200.
- Philippe Schmitter and Terry Lynn Karl, "What Democracy Is... and Is Not," *Journal of Democracy*, 2:3 (Summer 1991), 75-88.

1. 5. States, Identity, and Nationalism

(September 18-23)

- Drogus & Orvis, 122-153.
- Samuel Huntington, "The Clash of Civilizations?" *Foreign Affairs* 72:3 (Summer 1993), 22-49.
- Benedict Anderson, "Introduction," in *Imagined Communities: Reflections on the Origin and Spread of Nationalism* Revised Edition (New York: Verso Press, 1991), 1-7.
- Walker Connor, "A Nation Is a Nation, Is a State, Is an Ethnic Group, Is a..." in *Readings in Comparative Politics: Political Challenges and Changing Agendas*, 2nd Edition, Mark Kesselman, ed. (Boston: Wadsworth, 2010), 300-310.

1. 6. States, the Market, and the Economy

(September 25- October 2)

Do not copy without the express written consent of the author.

- Drogus & Orvis, 154-197.
- W.W. Rostow, “The Five Stages of Growth – A Summary,” The Stages of Economic Growth: A Non-Communist Manifesto (Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, 1960), 4-16, <http://www.mtholyoke.edu/acad/intrel/ipe/rostow.htm> .
- David Coates, “Models of Capitalism in the New World Order,” in Readings in Comparative Politics: Political Challenges and Changing Agendas, 2nd Edition, Mark Kesselman, ed. (Boston: Wadsworth, 2010), 129-137.

In class Exam October 5, 2015

1. 7. Institutions of Governance

(October 7-14)

- Drogus & Orvis, 198-251.
- Juan Linz, “The Perils of Presidentialism,” Journal of Democracy 1:1 (Winter 1990), 51-69.
- Donald Horowitz, “Comparing Democratic Systems,” Journal of Democracy 1:4 (Fall 1990), 73-79.

1. 8. Institutions of Participation and Representation

(October 16-21)

- Drogus & Orvis, 252-299.
- Maurice Duverger, “The Number of Parties,” in Essential Readings in Comparative Politics, 2nd Edition, Patrick O’Neil and Ronald Rogowski eds., (New York: WW Norton & Company, 2006), 330-334.
- John Huber and G. Bingham Powell, “Congruence Between Citizens and Policymakers in Two Visions of Liberal Democracy, in Essential Readings in Comparative Politics, 2nd Edition, Patrick O’Neil and Ronald Rogowski eds., (New York: WW Norton & Company, 2006), 334-342.

1. 9. Authoritarian Institutions

(October 23-28)

- Drogus & Orvis, 300-341.
- Andrew Nathan, “Authoritarian Resilience,” Journal of Democracy 14:1 (January

Do not copy without the express written consent of the author.

2003), 6-17.

• Larry Diamond, “Why Are There No Arab Democracies,” Journal of Democracy 21:1 (January 2010), 93-112.

1. 10. Regime Change

(October 30-November 4)

- Drogus & Orvis, 342-387.
- Georg Sørensen, “Processes of Democratization,” in Democracy and Democratization (Boulder: Westview Press, 1993), 25-62.
- Thomas Carothers, “The End of the Transition Paradigm,” Journal of Democracy 19:1 (January 2002), 5-21.

In class Exam November 6, 2015

11. Globalization and Development

(November 9-13)

- Drogus & Orvis, 388-433.
- James Galbraith, “A Perfect Crime: Inequality in the Age of Globalization,” Daedalus 131:1 (Winter 2002), 11-25.
- Rawi Abdelal and Adam Segal, “Has Globalization Passed Its Peak?” Foreign Affairs 86:1 (2007), 103.
- Rawi Abdelal and Adam Segal, “Yes, Globalization Has Passed Its Peak” Foreign Affairs Online, March 17, 2009.

12. 12. Public Policy

(November 16-20)

- Drogus & Orvis, 434-485.
- Alberto Alesina, et al, “Why Doesn’t the United States Have a European-Style Welfare State,” in Essential Readings in Comparative Politics, 2nd Edition, Patrick O’Neil and Ronald Rogowski eds., (New York: WW Norton & Company, 2006),

Do not copy without the express written consent of the author.

155-166.

- Harold Wilensky, "U.S. Health Care and Real Health in Comparative Perspective: Lessons from Abroad," The Forum 7:2, Article 7 (2009).

Deadline to submit short paper: November 20, 2015

12. 13. Inclusion and Clashing Values

(November 23-30)

- Drogus & Orvis, 486-531.
- Anthony Marx, "Making Race and Nation: A Comparison of the United States, South Africa, and Brazil," in Readings in Comparative Politics: Political Challenges and Changing Agendas, 2nd Edition, Mark Kesselman, ed. (Boston: Wadsworth, 2010), 74-80.
- Jack Snyder and Karen Ballentine, "Nationalism and the Marketplace of Ideas," in Essential Readings in Comparative Politics, 2nd Edition, Patrick O'Neil and Ronald Rogowski eds., (New York: WW Norton & Company, 2006), 193-213.

14. Conclusion and Revisiting Concepts of Comparative Politics

(December 2-4)

- Hans Keman, "Comparative Research Methods," in Comparative Politics, Daniele Caramani ed., (New York: Oxford University Press, 2008), 63-82.

Final Exam: To Be Announced