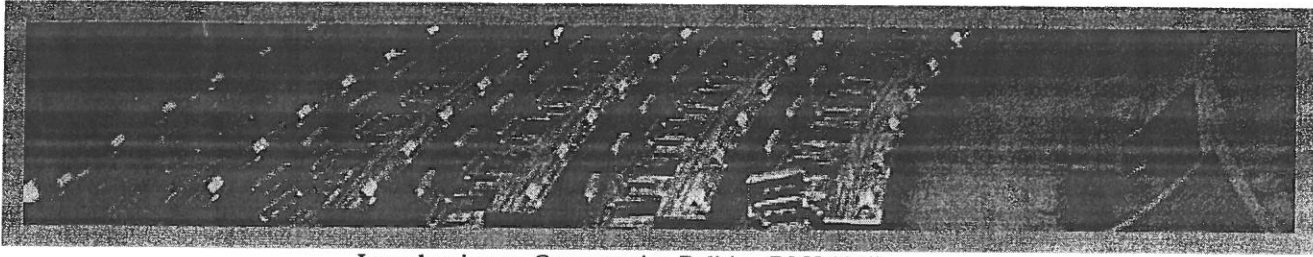


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Introduction to Comparative Politics (PSCI 2012)

Department of Political Science
University of Colorado at Boulder
Fall Semester 2009

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Office Hours: MT 1-2:15, W 11-12

Comparative politics examines political realities in countries all over the world. It looks at the many ways governments operate and the ways people behave in political life. This course serves as an introduction to comparative politics, presenting the major topics and issues that confront political scientists in their research but more importantly the political challenges that face the world today. Toward that end, the class is designed to present the major themes and issues of comparative politics through the examination of four countries: the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, the Islamic Republic of Pakistan, the Russian Federation, and the Federal Republic of Brazil. Through the examination of these cases, the student will not only become familiar with the politics within each country, but will understand how the political theories and concepts of comparative politics work in the real world.

Requirements: Grades in the class will be based on two midterms (15% each), two papers 15% each, attendance in recitation (10%), participation in recitation (10%), and a final (20%). Attendance is required for all classes and all recitation classes. One unexcused absence in recitation is allowed without penalty. Each unexcused absence thereafter will result in a 10 percentage-point reduction in the student's participation grade.

Grading policy: If there is any dispute concerning a grade, the student will address the issue with his/her TA. If the issue cannot be settled between the TA and the student, I will be happy to re-grade the material. The student should bear in mind, however, that I reserve the right to assign a grade that is lower than the original score. There will be no assignments given to obtain extra credit in the class.

Required Materials:

Books available at the CU bookstore

Mark Kesselman, Joel Krieger and William A. Joseph. 2009. *Introduction to Comparative Politics*. Fifth Edition; Houghton Mifflin Co., Boston, New York.

Mark Kesselman, Joel Krieger. 2009. *Readings in Comparative Politics*. Houghton Mifflin Co., Boston, New York.

Mary Anne Weaver. 2002. *Pakistan: in the Shadow of Jihad and Afghanistan*. Farrar, Straus and Giroux; New York.

Steve LeVine. 2009. *Putin's Labyrinth*. Random House; New York; 2009.

Schedule

August 24th

Introduction to Comparative Politics

United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland

August 26th

What is Democracy?

Readings: Chapter 1 in *Readings in Comparative Politics (RCP)*

Chapter 2 (sections 1 and 2) in *Introduction to Comparative Politics (ICP)*

August 31st

Introduction to Great Britain

September 2nd

Introduction to Great Britain (continued)

Readings: Chapter 2 (sections 3, 4, and 5) in ICP
Chapter 4 in RCP

September 7th (Holiday: Labor Day)

September 9th

Rudiments of the Parliamentary System

September 14th

Presidentialism vs. Parliamentarism

Readings: Chapter 6 in RCP.

September 16th

Thatcher & Blair

September 21st

Midterm Exam (Terms)

Islamic Republic of Pakistan

September 23rd

Introduction to Pakistan

Readings: Chapters 1 & 2 in *Pakistan*

September 28th

Introduction to Pakistan (continued)

Readings: Chapter 3 in *Pakistan*

September 30th

Building a Nation

Readings: Chapter 4 in *Pakistan*
Chapter 2 (2.4, 2.5, 2.6) in RCP

October 5th

Religion and Politics

Readings: Chapter 6 (India) in *Intro to Comparative Politics*

October 7th

Religion and Politics (First 6-7 page paper due in class)

Readings: Chapter 5 in *Pakistan*

October 12th

Religion and Politics (continued)

Readings: Chapter 6 in *Pakistan*

October 14th

Democracy and Autocracy in Pakistan

Readings: Chapter 7 in *Pakistan*

October 19th

Midterm Exam (Essay)

Russian Federation

October 21st

Introduction to Russia

October 26th

Introduction to Russia (continued)

Readings: Chapters 1-4 in *Putin's Labyrinth*
Chapter 11 (sections 1 and 2) in *Introduction to Comparative Politics*

October 28th

Marxism and Communism

November 2nd

Stalinism and The Soviet System

Readings: Chapters 5-7 in *Putin's Labyrinth*

November 4th

Nationalism

Readings: Chapter 8 (sections 3, 4, and 5) in *Introduction to Comparative Politics*
Chapter 5 in RCP

November 9th

Political Culture

Readings: Chapters 8-10 and Epilogue in *Putin's Labyrinth*

Federal Republic of Brazil

November 11th

Introduction to Brazil (Second 6-7 page paper due in Class)

Readings: Chapter 9 in *Introduction to Comparative Politics*

November 16th

Introduction to Brazil

Readings: Beghin. Notes on Inequality and Poverty in Brazil: Current Situation and Challenges. Background paper for From Poverty to Power: How ... (2008)

November 18th

Dependency Theory

Readings: Sokoloff and Engerman. History lessons: Institutions, factors endowments, and paths of development in the new The Journal of Economic Perspectives (2000).

November 23rd and 25th

Thanksgiving Break

November 30th (8-10 page paper due at the beginning of class)

Globalization and Development

Readings: Samuels. Money, elections, and democracy in Brazil. Latin American Politics and Society (2001)

December 2nd

Clientelism and Corruption

Readings: Gay. The broker and the thief: A parable (Reflections on popular politics in Brazil). Luso-Brazilian Review (1999)

December 7th

Economic Reforms in Developing Countries

Readings: Gertler. Do Conditional Cash Transfers Improve Child Health? Evidence from PROGRESA's American Economic Review (2004).

December 9th

Democracy and Development

Readings: Karlan and Zinman. Expanding Microenterprise Credit Access: Using Randomized Supply Decisions to Estimate karlan.yale.edu (2009)

Final Exam

Tuesday, December 15th, 4:30pm to 7:00pm

UNIVERSITY OF COLORADO POLICIES

If you qualify for accommodations because of a disability, please submit to me a letter from Disability Services in a timely manner so that your needs may be addressed. Disability Services determines accommodations based on documented disabilities. Contact: 303-492-8671, Willard 322, or www.Colorado.EDU/disabilityservices.

Students and faculty each have responsibility for maintaining an appropriate learning environment. Students who fail to adhere to such behavioral standards may be subject to discipline. Faculty have the professional responsibility to treat all students with understanding, dignity and respect, to guide classroom discussion and to set reasonable limits on the manner in which they and their students express opinions. Professional courtesy and sensitivity are especially important with respect to individuals and topics dealing with differences of race, culture, religion, politics, sexual orientation, gender variance, and nationalities. Class rosters are provided to the instructor with the student's legal name. I will gladly honor your request to address you by an alternate name or gender pronoun. Please advise me of this preference early in the semester so that I may make appropriate changes to my records. See policies at <http://www.colorado.edu/policies/classbehavior.html> and at http://www.colorado.edu/studentaffairs/judicialaffairs/code.html#student_code.

All students of the University of Colorado at Boulder are responsible for knowing and adhering to the academic integrity policy of this institution. Violations of this policy may include: cheating, plagiarism, aid of academic dishonesty, fabrication, lying, bribery, and threatening behavior. All incidents of academic misconduct shall be reported to the Honor Code Council (honor@colorado.edu; 303-725-2273). Students who are found to be in violation of the academic integrity policy will be subject to both academic sanctions from the faculty member and non-academic sanctions (including but not limited to university probation, suspension, or expulsion). Other information on the Honor Code can be found at <http://www.colorado.edu/policies/honor.html> and at <http://www.colorado.edu/academics/honorcode/>.

The University of Colorado at Boulder policy on Discrimination and Harassment (<http://www.colorado.edu/policies/discrimination.html>), the University of Colorado policy on Sexual Harassment and the University of Colorado policy on Amorous Relationships applies to all students, staff and faculty. Any student, staff or faculty member who believes s/he has been the subject of discrimination or harassment based upon race, color, national origin, sex, age, disability, religion, sexual orientation, or veteran status should contact the Office of Discrimination and Harassment (ODH) at 303-492-2127 or the Office of Judicial Affairs at 303-492-5550. Information about the ODH and the campus resources available to assist individuals regarding discrimination or harassment can be obtained at <http://www.colorado.edu/odh>.

