

PSCI 2012: Introduction to Comparative Politics

Professor Joe Jupille • Spring 2009 • Mon/Wed 10:00 – 10:50am • MATH 100

PSCI 2012 Recitation

TA: Brian Bernhardt

Section 102: Monday 8:00-8:50am in Ketchum 303

Section 110: 9:00-9:50am in Ketchum 301

Office: Ketchum 403 • **Office Hours:** Wed 12:00-2:00pm and by appointment

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Course description and goals:

Recitation is meant to help you develop a deeper understanding of comparative politics, including broad concepts such as democracy and authoritarianism, as well as specific domestic issues and pressing problems that challenge nations around the world. We will approach these topics by focusing on case studies from a number of industrialized and non-industrialized countries. Recitation is an opportunity for active, discussion-based learning. You are expected to come to class prepared to participate, which requires careful reading of the text(s) for each week. Be prepared to ask and answer questions and discuss issues related to the readings.

Course requirements and grading:

Recitation will count for 20% of the total course grade. This 20% will be divided evenly between attendance and participation/assignments.

Attendance (10%): Completing the readings and being prepared for discussion will be critical to your success in this course. Therefore, attendance is required; students are allowed one 'free' absence during the semester. Each missed class over this one free absence will result in a 10% reduction of the attendance component (a 1% point reduction in the final course grade for PSCI 2012) per absence. Further, any student who accrues eight or more recitation absences (including the one free absence) will receive a failing grade for the course.

Participation and Assignments (10%): In order to get full credit, you should participate regularly in discussion. Participation will be evaluated on both quality and quantity, and should be relevant to course material. In addition, there will be take-home assignments and in-class quizzes throughout the semester to encourage and reward reading and preparation for class.

Readings: All of the readings are expected to be completed *before* recitation. Unless noted otherwise, all of the readings come from Professor Jupille's syllabus.

Current Events: You will be required to keep current with *The Economist*, a well-respected weekly magazine for international news. Our discussions will touch on current events covered in *The Economist*, so you should plan on reading this magazine weekly.

University and course policies:

Computer Policy: Because this is a discussion-based course that requires active participation, computer use is *not* allowed.

Honor code: Plagiarism and other forms of academic dishonesty will not be tolerated. If you have questions about plagiarism (e.g. how to properly cite sources), ASK! 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 nonacademic 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>
<http://www.colorado.edu/academics/honorcode/>

Disability accommodations: 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, and <http://www.colorado.edu/disabilityservices>.

Religious observances: Campus policy regarding religious observances requires that faculty make every effort to reasonably and fairly deal with all students who, because of religious obligations, have conflicts with scheduled exams, assignments or required attendance. Students needing to miss class or exams for religious observances must inform the instructor during the first two weeks of the semester. See full details at: http://www.colorado.edu/policies/fac_relig.html.

Classroom behavior: 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, 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 term so that I may appropriately update my records. For more details, see: <http://colorado.edu/policies/classbehavior.html>

Discrimination and harassment: The University of Colorado at Boulder policy on Discrimination and Harassment, the University of Colorado policy on Sexual Harassment and the University of Colorado policy on Amorous Relationships apply 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, the above referenced policies and the campus resources available to assist individuals regarding discrimination or harassment can be obtained at: <http://www.colorado.edu/odh>