

PSCI 2012: Introduction to Comparative Politics

TA: Elise Pizzi

Spring 2012

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Office: Ketchum 5

Office Hours: M 12-1, W 11-12

Dates to remember:

Short Paper: 20 Feb

Quiz: 29 Feb

Midterm: 16 April

Research Paper: 25 April

Final Exam: 8 May 4:30-7PM

Recitations serve to deepen your understanding of the course material presented in the lecture and assigned readings. You are encouraged to ask questions and bring up topics from the course materials and current events.

This syllabus serves as a guide to recitation expectations only and should be considered in conjunction with the main course syllabus. All relevant policies are explained in full on the main course syllabus.

Attendance: 10%

I will record attendance every day. Students are allowed two 'freebie' absences. Beyond these two, attendance grades will drop by 10% *per absence*. If you miss 8 or more recitations, you will have to drop the class or you will receive a failing grade. See the main syllabus for a full explanation of the attendance policy.

Performance: 10%

Recitation performance will be evaluated based on the following criteria:

- (1) Quality and frequency of participation.
- (2) Knowledge of assigned country and current events.
- (3) Presentation performance.

Current events: Students should keep up with current events. We will spend a significant amount of time discussing the current and relevant events taking place in the world, and students should come to class aware of new and ongoing issues in international affairs.

Country expertise: In addition, each student will sign up for a country of focus for the duration of the semester. You will become an expert on the politics and current events in this country. Over the course of the semester, you will be expected to follow this country's politics especially closely and update the class when major events take place. The UK, China, Russia, and South Africa will be covered in the lecture and thus are not eligible for recitation focus.

Presentation: Each student will present his or her country of focus. Presentations will be 3-5 minutes at the beginning of class, and will provide background information. Country assignments and presentation details will be covered in class during the third week of the semester. A summary (1-2 pages) and slides (3) are due the day before the presentation.

Simulation: 10%

Details are in the main syllabus, but the simulation will take place during recitation on Feb 21 and 21.

Communication:

I will communicate with you outside of class primarily through email. Please make sure to check your Colorado.edu email regularly as I will send reminders and recitation assignments over email. You will be responsible for the information sent out over email.

If you have any questions, PLEASE DO NOT HESITATE TO ASK!!! If you encounter difficulties with the course material or have any personal issues that may impact your studies, please come to me sooner rather than later so that I can do whatever is possible to help.

UNIVERSITY OF COLORADO POLICIES

Students with Disabilities

According to the Americans with Disabilities Act, students with disabilities should ask for "reasonable and timely" accommodations. You are welcomed to do so in the first two weeks of the semester either during my office hours or after class. These accommodations can be extended if you are a student with a disability and are registered with the Office of Services to Disabled Students. Please refer to the web link www.colorado.edu/disabilityservices or contact 303-492-8671, Willard 322 for information. University regulations on this issue will be strictly observed. 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.

Cheating and Plagiarism Cheating or plagiarizing will be treated according to the University regulations which will be strictly observed. 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). Students are strongly advised to familiarize themselves with the University of Colorado's Code for Academic Honesty at www.colorado.edu/academics/honorcode/.

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 in this situation can ask for "reasonable and timely" accommodations. Please review the syllabus closely and try to find out whether you have time conflicts with any of the assignments. I encourage you to do so in the first two weeks of the semester and inform me about your concerns either during my office hours or after class. Full details can be found 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 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.

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>.