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# PSCI 2012: Introduction to Comparative Politics

Fall 2019

Class Meetings: MW 1000-1050, [MATH 100](#)

Professor: Joe Jupille, [jupille@colorado.edu](mailto:jupille@colorado.edu)

Office Hours: M 1330-1430, Th 1100-1200, F 1030-1130 & by app't, [KTCH 114B](#)

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*This syllabus always subject to change 20190826*

## DESCRIPTION AND OBJECTIVES

Every human society faces some very fundamental challenges around defining basic values, allocating scarce resources and resolving conflicts. These things are the stuff of politics everywhere, and yet the politics of different countries in the world display tremendous variety. The political science subfield of Comparative Politics invites us to understand the many different ways in which people govern themselves in order to draw general lessons about politics across the world.

This class provides an introduction to Comparative Politics. It pursues the following objectives: 1) to help students become more knowledgeable about the politics of the world and of their home countries; 2) to help students develop skills to succeed in future coursework; and 3) to help students gain analytical and communication skills that will help them make their way professionally and otherwise in a world that is awash in complicated data, but lacking in the processing capacity necessary to understand and make use of them.

## COMPONENTS AND ASSESSMENTS

Your performance will be used within and across the following components.

Element	Description	Weight
Recitation	<b>Recitation</b> constitutes <b>fifteen</b> percent of your grade. Students will be graded for their attendance (5%) and performance (10%) in recitation sections. Regarding the attendance portion, teaching assistants (TAs) will track attendance, and students will be allowed two "freebie" absences. Beyond two recitation absences, the attendance portion of your grade will be lowered by ten percentage points per absence, and participation scores will decline correspondingly. Students with eight or more recitation absences will either have to drop the class or receive an "F". The performance component of the grade is based on student preparation, engagement, participation and performance on work given at the TA's discretion.	15%
Exams	<b>Examinations</b> comprise <b>fifty</b> percent of your grade. We will have two midterms (each worth 15%) and a final exam (worth 20%). Examinations will not be given to anyone on a day or at a time other than that already specified on this syllabus, unless students have discussed with the instructor IN ADVANCE special arrangements due to disability or final exam conflict. Students with disabilities must show Professor Jupille within the first two weeks of class authorization from <a href="#">Disability Services</a> to ensure appropriate accommodations.	50%

Research Exercise	A multipart <b>research exercise</b> will account for <b>twenty</b> percent of your grade. Guidelines will come forth soon.	20%
Parliamentary Simulation	Week nine recitations will feature a group-based role-playing <b>parliamentary simulation</b> worth a total of <b>five</b> percent of your final grade. You will write a short paper (4%) in preparation for the simulation and you will also be assigned a grade (1%) based on the results of the simulation. Guidelines will be provided.	5%
Clickers	Student scores on the <b>Clicker</b> questions in lecture make up <b>ten</b> percent of your grade. I will give a reading quiz at the start of most lectures, and other Clicker questions will arise throughout each lecture. Students receive three "freebie" Clicker days (i.e., we will drop your three lowest Clicker scores). Clickers are NOT used in recitation sections.	10%
Extra Credit	There may be occasional extra-credit opportunities. For example, if you ever find a typo in a reading or one of my overheads, we will increase your Clicker score by 0.1%. We will define additional opportunities as they arise.	--

I will grade your work on the following (standard) scale.

		B+	87-89	C+	77-79	D+	67-69		
A	94-100	B	83-86	C	73-76	D	63-66	F	0-59
A-	90-93	B-	80-82	C-	70-72	D-	60-62		

## RECITATION INFORMATION

NAME	EMAIL	CLASS SECTIONS
<b>Professor:</b> Joe Jupille	<a href="mailto:jupille@colorado.edu">jupille@colorado.edu</a>	<b>PSCI 2012-100 (LECTURES):</b> MW 1000-1050 MATH 100
LEAD TA: Trenton Marlar	<a href="mailto:Trenton.Marlar@Colorado.EDU">Trenton.Marlar@Colorado.EDU</a>	PSCI 2012-114: M 1400-1450 <a href="#">ECON</a> 205; PSCI 2012-115: W 1500-1550 <a href="#">HLMS</a> 237
TA: Alberto Burgos-Rivera	<a href="mailto:Alberto.Burgos-rivera@Colorado.EDU">Alberto.Burgos-rivera@Colorado.EDU</a>	PSCI-2012-105: W 1200-1250 <a href="#">CLRE</a> 302; PSCI 2012-112: F 1000-1050 <a href="#">MUEN</a> E064
TA: Erkan Gunes	<a href="mailto:Erkan.Gunes@Colorado.EDU">Erkan.Gunes@Colorado.EDU</a>	PSCI 2012-107: M 1600-1650 <a href="#">CLRE</a> 208; PSCI 2012-108: W 1200-1250 <a href="#">HALE</a> 260
TA: Rezwan Masud	<a href="mailto:Mohammad.RezwanulHaquemasud@Colorado.EDU">Mohammad.RezwanulHaquemasud@Colorado.EDU</a>	PSCI 2012-104: W 0900-0950 <a href="#">HALE</a> 260; PSCI 2012-106: W 1100-1150 <a href="#">HALE</a> 260
TA: Rachel O'Neal	<a href="mailto:Rachel.Oneal@Colorado.EDU">Rachel.Oneal@Colorado.EDU</a>	PSCI 2012-102: M 1300-1350 <a href="#">ECON</a> 13; PSCI 2012-110: F 1200-1250 <a href="#">ENVD</a> 120
TA: Kathy Schauer	<a href="mailto:Kathryn.Schauer@Colorado.EDU">Kathryn.Schauer@Colorado.EDU</a>	PSCI 2012-103: M 1100-1150 <a href="#">MCOL</a> E155; PSCI 2012-109: M 1200-1250 <a href="#">HLMS</a> 141
TA: Cong Wang	<a href="mailto:Cong.Wang@Colorado.EDU">Cong.Wang@Colorado.EDU</a>	PSCI 2012-101: M 0900-0950 <a href="#">HALE</a> 260; PSCI 2012-116: F 0900-0950 <a href="#">CLRE</a> 208

## REQUIRED MATERIALS

Two materials are required for the course.

1. **Clark**, William Roberts, Matt **Golder** and Sona Nadenichek **Golder** [CGG]. 2019. *Foundations of Comparative Politics*. CQ Press. ISBN 9781506360737. Available via CU Bookstore.
2. **I>clicker**, available via CU Bookstore.
3. Additional required readings, marked with a \*\* in the course schedule, are available electronically, either through **Canvas** or directly **Online**.

## POLICIES

### Laptops and electronic devices

**No laptops or other electronic devices will be allowed in PSCI 2012 lecture.** If I see you texting or whatever in lecture, I am liable to call attention to you in front of a couple hundred people. TAs can set their own policies for recitations.

### Accommodation For Disabilities

If you qualify for accommodations because of a disability, please submit your accommodation letter from Disability Services to me in a timely manner so that your needs can be addressed. Disability Services determines accommodations based on documented disabilities in the academic environment. Information on requesting accommodations is located on the [Disability Services website](#). Contact Disability Services at 303-492-8671 or [dsinfo@colorado.edu](mailto:dsinfo@colorado.edu) for further assistance. If you have a temporary medical condition or injury, see [Temporary Medical Conditions](#) under the Students tab on the Disability Services website.

### Religious Observances

Campus policy regarding religious observances requires that faculty make every effort to deal reasonably and fairly with all students who, because of religious obligations, have conflicts with scheduled exams, assignments or required attendance. See [campus policy regarding religious observances](#) for full details, **and let me know no later than week three** of the semester if you expect to miss any class for religious observance.

### Classroom Behavior

Students and faculty each have responsibility for maintaining an appropriate learning environment. Those who fail to adhere to such behavioral standards may be subject to discipline. Professional courtesy and sensitivity are especially important with respect to individuals and topics dealing with race, color, national origin, sex, pregnancy, age, disability, creed, religion, sexual orientation, gender identity, gender expression, veteran status, political affiliation or political philosophy. 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. For more information, see the policies on [classroom behavior](#) and the [Student Code of Conduct](#).

## Sexual Misconduct, Discrimination, Harassment and/or Related Retaliation

The University of Colorado Boulder (CU Boulder) is committed to fostering a positive and welcoming learning, working, and living environment. CU Boulder will not tolerate acts of sexual misconduct, intimate partner abuse (including dating or domestic violence), stalking, protected-class discrimination or harassment by members of our community. Individuals who believe they have been subject to misconduct or retaliatory actions for reporting a concern should contact the Office of Institutional Equity and Compliance (OIEC) at 303-492-2127 or [cureport@colorado.edu](mailto:cureport@colorado.edu). Information about the OIEC, university policies, [anonymous reporting](#), and the campus resources can be found on the [OIEC website](#).

Please know that faculty and instructors have a responsibility to inform OIEC when made aware of incidents of sexual misconduct, discrimination, harassment and/or related retaliation, to ensure that individuals impacted receive information about options for reporting and support resources.

## Honor Code

All students enrolled in a University of Colorado Boulder course are responsible for knowing and adhering to the Honor Code. Violations of the policy may include plagiarism, cheating, fabrication, lying, bribery, threat, unauthorized access to academic materials, clicker fraud, submitting the same or similar work in more than one course without permission from all course instructors involved, and aiding academic dishonesty. All incidents of academic misconduct will be reported to the Honor Code ([honor@colorado.edu](mailto:honor@colorado.edu); 303-492-5550). Students who are found responsible for violating the academic integrity policy will be subject to nonacademic sanctions from the Honor Code as well as academic sanctions from the faculty member. Additional information regarding the Honor Code academic integrity policy can be found at the [Honor Code Office website](#).

## COURSE SCHEDULE

**TBD = "to be determined"**

**Complete the reading associated with each meeting \*before\* class.**

**Additional readings \*will\* be added for various meetings.**

YYYYMMDD	DOW	WK	MTG	TOPIC	ASSIGNMENT
<b>I. Introductory Themes</b>					
20190826	M	1	1	Course Introduction	CGG ch. 1 (12 pp).
20190828	W	1	2	(Social) Science	CGG ch. 2 (20 pp).
<b>20190902</b>	<b>M</b>	<b>XX</b>	<b>XX</b>	<b>Labor Day. Thank a laborer!</b>	
<b>II. Modern States</b>					
20190904	W	2	3	Politics	CGG ch. 3 (20 pp).
20190909	M	3	4	Origins of the Modern State	CGG ch. 4 (18 pp).
20190911	W	3	5	Economic Determinants of Democracy and Dictatorship	CGG ch. 5, pp. 71-79.
20190916	M	4	6	Economic Determinants of Democracy and Dictatorship	CGG ch. 5, pp. 79-95.
20190918	W	4	7	Cultural Determinants of Democracy and Dictatorship	CGG ch 6, pp. 97-108.
20190923	M	5	8	Cultural Determinants of Democracy and Dictatorship	CGG ch. 6, pp. 108-122.
20190925	W	5	9	Democratic Transitions	CGG ch. 7, pp. 123-142.
20190930	M	6	10	Democratic Transitions	CGG ch. 7, pp. 142-154.
20191002	W	6	11	catch-up and review	none
<b>20191007</b>	<b>M</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>Midterm #1</b>	<b>none</b>
<b>III. Varieties of Dictatorship and Democracy</b>					
20191009	W	7	13	Varieties of Dictatorship	CGG ch. 8, pp. 155-174.
20191014	M	8	14	Varieties of Dictatorship	CGG ch. 8, pp. 174-194.
20191016	W	8	15	Problems with Group Decision-Making	CGG ch. 9 (22 pp).

20191021	M	9	16	Varieties of Democracy: Parliamentary Regimes	CGG ch. 10, pp. 217-240.
20191023	W	9	17	Varieties of Democracy: Presidential and Semi-Presidential Regimes	CGG ch. 10, pp. 240-251.
20191028	M	10	18	Electoral Systems: Electoral Integrity and Majoritarian Systems	CGG ch. 11, pp. 253-272.
20191030	W	10	19	Electoral Systems: Proportional, Mixed Systems and System Choice	CGG ch. 11, pp. 272-287.
20191104	M	11	20	Social Cleavages and Party Systems	CGG ch. 12, pp. 289-307.
20191106	W	11	21	Social Cleavages, Institutions and Party Systems: Duverger's Theory	CGG ch. 12, pp. 308-319.
20191111	M	12	22	Institutional Veto Players: Federalism	CGG ch. 13, pp. 321-332.
20191113	W	12	23	Institutional Veto Players: Bicameralism, Constitutionalism and Others	CGG ch. 13, pp. 332-350.
20191118	M	13	24	catch-up and review	none
20191120	W	13	25	Midterm #2	none
20191125	M	XX	XX	<b>Fall Break / Thanksgiving</b>	
20191127	W	XX	XX		
<b>IV. Institutions and Outcomes</b>					
20191202	M	14	26	Consequences of Democratic Institutions: Consensus vs. Majoritarian; Fiscal Policy	CGG ch. 14, pp. 351-370.
20191204	W	14	27	Consequences of Democratic Institutions: Institutions and a) Ethnic Conflict and b) Democratic Survival	CGG ch. 14, pp. 370-392.

20191209	M	15	28	Reading Political Science: a recent article on consociationalism	**Wilson, Matthew Charles. 2019. A Closer Look at the Limits of Consociationalism. <i>Comparative Political Studies</i> , Online First (July 16, 2019), <a href="https://doi.org/10.1177/0010414019858956">https://doi.org/10.1177/0010414019858956</a> .
<b>IV. Concluding Matters</b>					
20191211	W	15	29	Course Conclusions	none
<b>20191215</b>	<b>SUN</b>	<b>xx</b>	<b>xx</b>	<b>Final Examination: 7:30 PM - 10 PM</b>	<a href="https://www.colorado.edu/registrar/sites/default/files/attached-files/fall2019final_exam_schedule.pdf">https://www.colorado.edu/registrar/sites/default/files/attached-files/fall2019final_exam_schedule.pdf</a>