

**AUSTIN PEAY STATE UNIVERSITY
DEPARTMENT OF POLITICAL SCIENCE
SPRING II/B 2022**

COURSE: POLS 3010 (8 WEEKS ONLINE)
COMPARATIVE POLITICS

TIME & LOCATION: ONLINE
(MARCH 16 - MAY 6TH, 2022)

PROFESSOR: Dr. ANNA GREGG
PROFESSOR
DEPARTMENT OF POLITICAL SCIENCE
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REQUIRED E-TEXTBOOK AND LEARNING TOOLS:

Patrick H. O'Neil, *Essentials of Comparative Politics*, Seventh Edition
(New York: W.W. Norton & Co, 2021) ISBN: 978-0-393-53278-4

COURSE DESCRIPTION:

This course is an introduction to the largest research area of political science. Comparative politics examines political systems in various countries across the world by comparing and contrasting various aspects of state-society interactions. This process of comparing and contrasting is meant to lead to formation of generalizations which can be used to understand a wide range of political phenomena, as well as to develop foreign policy recommendations.

COURSE OBJECTIVES AND STUDENT LEARNING OUTCOMES:

1. Students' general literacy and written communication skills will be improved through reading the assigned materials, participation in online discussions and writing topical essays for the final examination. Students who successfully complete this course should be able to demonstrate:
 - a. adequate consideration of context, audience, and purpose for writing;
 - b. consistent use of important conventions particular to the discipline
 - c. straightforward language that generally conveys meaning to readers with a few errors;
 - d. control of syntax and sentence mechanics;
 - e. use of credible relevant sources to support expressed ideas.
2. Exposure to a variety of cultural and historical circumstances through assigned readings and mediated discussions will sharpen students' diversity awareness and sensitivity.
3. Students' logical reasoning and general critical thinking abilities will be enhanced through instructor-to-student feedback, critical essay writing and peer-to-peer interactions during discussions. Students who successfully complete this course should be able to:
 - a. identify issues/problems to be considered critically;
 - b. incorporate relevant and appropriate issues surrounding and influencing contexts;
 - c. analyze and/or evaluate information derived from the source;
 - d. arrive at logical and contextually appropriate conclusion that reflects priority in interpretation of evidence;
4. The students' political literacy will be enhanced through doing the assigned readings, participating in discussions, and writing of topical essays as part of the course examinations. Students who successfully complete this course should become:

- a. informed, open minded, and responsible people who are attentive to diversity across the spectrum of differences;
 - b. mindful of how their actions affect both local and global communities;
 - c. aware of the world's most pressing and enduring issues collaboratively and equitably.
5. The students will gain a broad exposure to the key scientific systematic methodological tools used in the field of international studies. Students who successfully complete this course should be able to:
- a. Identify a focused and manageable topic for a scientific inquiry;
 - b. incorporate in-depth information from relevant sources that directly relate to topic concepts;
 - c. organize and synthesize evidence to reveal important patterns, differences, or similarities;
 - d. arrive at conclusions that are logically tied to the considered evidence;
 - e. discuss important limitations and implications of the inquiry.
6. This course aims at enhancing students' appreciation and interest in the subfield of international studies

STUDENT RESPONSIBILITIES:

It is very important that the students read the assigned materials on time, participate in the weekly discussion forums, take all 6 graded quizzes and the final examination. Students are expected to log in to D2L at least twice a week and complete all weekly assignments by midnight on Sunday of each week.

Please familiarize yourself with Schedule of Assignments (pages 8 and 9 of this syllabus) and let me know right away if you have any questions, scheduling conflicts, or find any discrepancies.

GUIDELINES FOR ONLINE COMMUNICATIONS

Email:

- Always include the course number (POLS 3010) in subject line.
- Remember that without facial expressions some comments may be taken the wrong way. Be careful in wording your emails. Use of emoticons might be helpful in some cases.
- Use standard fonts (Arial 14 is recommended).
- Do not send large attachments without permission.
- Special formatting such as centering, audio messages, tables, html, etc. should be avoided unless necessary to complete an assignment or other communication.
- Respect the privacy of other class members.

GRADING POLICIES AND EVALUATION SYSTEM:

Your grade in this course will include **5 online quizzes, 5 online discussions, and one online Final Exam (two-essay format).**

QUIZZES:

There will be five graded quizzes, which will test your compliance with the reading assignments as well as understanding of the content. Quizzes will become available on Monday of every week at 12 am and will be locked on Sunday at 11:59 pm (see Schedule of Assignments for deadlines). Each quiz will cover the material of two or three chapters from the textbook. You can make up for a missed quiz during week 8, but unless you have a legitimate documented reason for missing it I will subtract 5 percentage-points from your quiz score.

DISCUSSION FORUMS

(Please refer to the Discussion Grading Rubric in Getting Started):

- Please note that all discussions (1-5) are mandatory and worth up to 5% points of your final grade.
- You have to post your response to the discussion prompt first in order to be able to read the other students' responses and to comment on them.

- Try to maintain threads by using the "Reply" button rather than starting a new topic.
- Do not make insulting or inflammatory statements to other members of the discussion group. Be respectful of others' ideas.
- Be patient and read the comments of other group members thoroughly before entering your remarks.
- Be positive and constructive in group discussions.
- Respond in a thoughtful and timely manner.

EXAMINATION:

The final exam will include two essay questions similar to the ones we tackle in the weekly discussion forums. Questions will be drawn randomly from a test bank. Please refer to the Exam Essay Grading Rubric in Getting Started module to understand my expectations and grading criteria for the final exam.

GRADING SUMMARY

Five weekly quizzes	30%
Five Discussions	30%
Final Exam	40%

Total	100%

GRADING SCALE

A	90-100%
B	80-89%
C	70-79%
D	60-69%
F	0-59%

COVID-19 Syllabus Supplement – UPDATED January 10, 2022 for Spring '22

We should all continue to take steps to mitigate the spread of COVID-19. Masks are recommended for all faculty, staff, and students while indoors. To help keep our university community safe, vaccination and boosters are strongly encouraged and readily available, including at APSU's Boyd Health Services. Contact them at (931) 221-7107.

Any student exhibiting symptoms of COVID-19 should seek a test. If any student tests positive for COVID-19, or if an unvaccinated student is exposed to someone who has tested positive, that student is required to fill out the [COVID-19 Self-Reporting Form](#) and isolate for five days from the onset of symptoms. If fever-free without medication, and if other symptoms are improving, the student can return to normal activities on Day 6. The student is strongly encouraged to wear a mask through Day 10. To help prevent further spread, students who test positive should notify anyone with whom they were within six feet for more than fifteen minutes. Students missing class should email their instructors when possible. The COVID-19 vaccine, booster, and testing are still free and widely available through Boyd Health Services. Visit the [APSU Coronavirus Dashboard](#) webpage for more information.

DISABILITY POLICY

Any student who has a disability that may affect his/her academic performance is encouraged to contact Disability Support Services; telephone 221-6230; tty 221-6278; fax 221-7102.

POLICY ON MINORS

Minors accompanying staff, faculty, students, or visitors on campus are not permitted in classrooms. However, affiliated minors may utilize classrooms designated for use by a program approved by the university in which they are a participant.

ACADEMIC AND CLASSROOM MISCONDUCT

Students are expected to conduct themselves appropriately at all times. Academic and classroom misconduct will not be tolerated. Students must read the “Code of Student Conduct” in the new [Student Handbook](#) for an understanding of what will be expected of them within the academic setting. [Policy 3:005](#) will be followed in reporting any suspected cases of academic misconduct:

SYLLABUS CHANGES AND CAVEAT

The instructor reserves the right to make changes as necessary to this syllabus. If changes are necessitated during the term of the course, the instructor will immediately notify students of such changes both by individual email communication and posting both notification and nature of change(s) on the course bulletin board.

Policies and procedures may change due to extenuating circumstances.

SCHEDULE OF ASSIGNMENTS:

Week 1 (March 16 - 20)

Get access to the online textbook resources and familiarize yourself with WWNorton InQuizitive Learning Tools by watching videos and reading instructions in WEEK 1 module.

Chapter 1 INTRODUCTION
Introduction Forum in Discussions

Week 2 (March 21 - 27)

Chapter 2: STATES
Chapter 3: NATIONS AND SOCIETY

Discussion #1 and Quiz#1 (chapters 1, 2, and 3) are due on Sunday March 27th at 11:59 PM.

Week 3 (March 28 – April 3)

Chapter 4: POLITICAL ECONOMY
Chapter 5: DEMOCRATIC REGIMES

Discussion # 2 and Quiz # 2 (chapters 4 and 5) are due on Sunday April 3rd at 11:59 PM.

Week 4 (April 4 - 10)

Chapter 6: NONDEMOCRATIC REGIMES
Chapter 7: POLITICAL VIOLENCE

Discussion # 3 and Quiz # 3 (chapters 6 and 7) are due on Sunday April 10th at 11:59 PM.

Week 5 (April 11- 17)

Chapter 8: DEVELOPED DEMOCRACIES

Chapter 9: COMMUNISM AND POSTCOMMUNISM

Discussion # 4 and Quiz # 4 (chapters 8 and 9) are due on Sunday April 17th at 11:59 PM.

Week 6 (April 18 - 24)

Chapter 10: DEVELOPING COUNTRIES

Chapter 11: GLOBALIZATION AND THE FUTURE OF COMPARATIVE POLITICS

Discussion # 5 and Quiz # 5 (chapters 10 and 11) are due on Sunday April 24th at 11:59 PM.

Week 7 (April 25 – May 1)

FINAL EXAM IS AVAILABLE ON D2L

IT IS DUE ON SUNDAY DECEMBER 5TH AT 11:59 PM.

Week 8 (May 2 - 6)

OPPORTUNITY TO MAKEUP FOR ANY MISSED ASSIGNMENTS (You need to email me asking to reopen assignments that you missed and present a legitimate reason for missing each specific assignment, otherwise I will be taking 5 percentage points off any late assignment without documentation)

FINAL EXAM IS GRADED AND FEEDBACK IS AVAILABLE ON WEDNESDAY May 4th.