

**AUSTIN PEAY STATE UNIVERSITY
DEPARTMENT OF POLITICAL SCIENCE
SPRING 2021**

COURSE: POLS 3010-06
(16 WEEKS IN-PERSON AND ONLINE)
COMPARATIVE POLITICS

TIME & LOCATION: Tuesday and Thursday 9:35-11:00 AM
Claxton bldg. room 306
See University COVID 19 statement (pages 6-8) for your information regarding the policies and procedures.

PROFESSOR: Dr. ANNA GREGG
PROFESSOR
DEPARTMENT OF POLITICAL SCIENCE
AND PUBLIC MANAGEMENT
Phone# (931) 221-6389
Clement
gregga@apsu.edu

OFFICE HOURS: TR 8:00 – 9:30 AM & 11:00 AM – 12:30 PM

REQUIRED TEXTBOOK

Patrick H. O’Neil, *Essentials of Comparative Politics*, Sixth Edition
(New York: W.W. Norton & Co, 2017)
ISBN 978-0-393-62458-8

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 comparison and contrast 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, take part in classroom and online discussions, take all 6 graded quizzes and both examinations (midterm and final). Students are expected to log in to D2L at least once a week and complete all weekly assignments by midnight on Sunday of each week. Please familiarize yourself with Schedule of Assignments (pages 10-11 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 a 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 **six quizzes, six discussion forums, Midterm and Final examinations.**

QUIZZES:

There will be six online quizzes, which will test your compliance with the reading assignments as well as understanding of the content. Quizzes will become available on Thursday of every other week at 12 am and will be locked on Sunday at 11:59 pm (see schedule for specific deadlines). Each quiz will cover the material of two-three chapters from the textbook.

ONLINE DISCUSSION FORUMS

(Please see the Discussion Grading Rubric in Getting Started Module):

- Please note that all online discussions (1-6) are mandatory and worth up to 5% points of your final grade.
- You must 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.

EXAMINATIONS:

Midterm and final exams are online and will include two essay questions similar to the ones in the online discussions. Questions will be drawn randomly from a test bank. Please refer to the essay grading rubric in Getting Started module to understand my expectations and grading criteria for both exams.

GRADING SUMMARY

6 Biweekly quizzes	30%
6 Discussions	30%
Midterm Exam	20%
Final Exam	20%

Total	100%

GRADING SCALE

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

COVID-19 STATEMENT & GUIDELINES

Austin Peay State University is concerned for the health and well-being of the entire community. The nature of COVID-19 is such that each of our individual actions affects not only our personal well-being but also those of every other person with whom we interact or share a space. Given the possibility of changes to CDC guidelines or those of local or state officials, students and faculty alike will need to be adaptable and flexible as events may occur that necessitate a change in the course schedule or mode of delivery. To minimize the disruption that might occur if a student falls ill or is unable to attend classes for some other legitimate reason, class materials must be made available electronically to students unless the nature of the coursework makes this impossible.

To enhance the health and safety of the APSU community, it is expected that every member of this course acknowledges the following university guidelines:

Masks and face coverings:

All students are expected to wear masks or face coverings and maintain physical distancing in all university buildings. Both are necessary classroom requirements that will help keep our community safe.

1. All students and instructors must arrive to class wearing a mask or face covering over their mouth and nose. If a student does not have a mask or face covering, the student must pick up a disposable mask (available throughout campus – in classrooms and in administrative academic department offices) before joining the class session.
2. If a student habitually arrives to class without wearing a mask or face covering, the student may be advised that they can only attend an online section of the course, if such an option is available, for the remainder of the semester. If the course is not available online, the student will be informed that the in-person course is the only option and they will be given one more opportunity to return to class and wear a mask or face covering. The instructor will file a report with the Dean of Students in the Office of Student Affairs. The student may face sanctions up to

- and including the student being administratively withdrawn from the course and not receive a refund of tuition or fees.
3. If a student refuses to put on a mask or face covering in a class, after being instructed to do so, the instructor will request that the student *leave the class*. The instructor will file a report with the Dean of Students in the Office of Student Affairs. The student will face sanctions up to and including the student being administratively withdrawn from the course and not receive a refund of tuition or fees. If a student refuses to leave the classroom upon request from an instructor, campus police will be called to escort the student from the classroom. In this case, the student will again be referred to the Dean of Students in the Office of Student Affairs. If this situation occurs, the faculty member may take a break or dismiss the class for that day at their discretion. (Questions regarding Failure to Comply Code of Student Conduct violations should be directed to the Dean of Students, 931-221-7323).
 4. If a student has a medical condition that inhibits the student's ability to wear a mask or face covering, the student must contact Disability Services to receive an accommodation (931-221-6230). If a student seeks an exception to the mask requirement, the faculty member and advisor should work with the student to seek an online section of the course. If an online section is not available, or the student does not wish to enroll in the online course, the faculty member will provide instruction to the student remotely, using available lecture capture and other appropriate technology.

Student Absences:

Students unable to attend class **due to quarantine as a result of COVID-19** will:

1. Notify their instructor and follow campus guidelines regarding a safe return to campus;
2. Not be penalized for class absences assuming they make up missed assignments in a timely fashion, in consultation with (and at the discretion of) the instructor; and
3. Be provided reasonable accommodations to access all course materials and will be given the opportunity to complete missed assignments online as is practicable.

Student Illness:

If a student tests positive for COVID-19 or is experiencing any COVID-19 symptoms (fever or chills, shortness of breath or difficulty breathing, cough, muscle pain, sore throat, headache, fatigue, new loss of taste or smell, congestion or runny notes, nausea or vomiting, diarrhea), remain at home, please complete the [COVID-19 reporting form](#), and seek medical assistance or COVID-19 testing if instructed to do so. Students may reach out to Boyd Health Services for guidance. The student should not return to class (or campus activities) until the student has been released by Boyd Health Services. Boyd Health Services will provide guidance during the quarantine/isolation period and a representative from the Office of the Dean of Students will contact the student to provide additional information.

STUDENT COMPLAINTS AND APPEALS PROCEDURES

Discuss your concerns with your faculty member or contact the department chair if you need assistance in resolving an issue. APSU has a variety of policies and procedures for students to file a complaint, appeal, or grievance. Please visit this [webpage](#) for more information.

DISABILITY POLICY

Any student who has a disability that may affect his/her academic performance is encouraged to make an appointment with their instructor to discuss this matter, or you may contact Disability 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.

SERVICE ANIMALS IN THE CLASSROOM

Consult [Policy 3:007 Animals on Campus](#) for appropriate situations allowing service animals in the classroom.

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:

MIDTERM GRADES

A midterm grade shall be awarded for all students in courses numbered lower than 3000. The grade awarded may not necessarily be based on 50% of the course requirements and may or may not differ from the final grade. Your midterm grade will be posted on AP Self Service.

CAVEAT

Policies and procedures may change due to extenuating circumstances.

SCHEDULE OF ASSIGNMENTS:

Week 1 (January 18 - 24)

Chapter 1 INTRODUCTION

Week 2 (January 25 - 31)

Chapter 2: STATES

Quiz #1 & Discussion #1 are due on Sunday at 11:30PM

Week 3 (February 1 - 7)

Chapter 3: NATIONS AND SOCIETY

Week 4 (February 8 - 14)

Chapter 4: POLITICAL ECONOMY

Quiz #2 & Discussion #2 are due on Sunday at 11:30PM

Week 5 (February 15 - 21)

Chapter 5: DEMOCRATIC REGIMES

Week 6 (February 22 – March 1)

Chapter 6: NONDEMOCRATIC REGIMES

Quiz#3 & Discussion #3 are due on Sunday at 11:30PM

Week 7 (March 2 - 7)

Midterm Exam is available March 2nd – 7th

Week 8 (March 8 - 14)

Chapter 7: POLITICAL VIOLENCE

Week 9 (March 15 - 21)

Chapter 8: DEVELOPED DEMOCRACIES

Quiz#4 & Discussion #4 are due on Sunday at 11:30PM

Week 10 (March 22 - 28)

Chapter 9: COMMUNISM AND POSTCOMMUNISM

Week 11 (March 29 – April 4)

Chapter 10: DEVELOPING COUNTRIES

Quiz#5 & Discussion #5 are due on Sunday at 11:30PM

Week 12 (April 5 - 11)

Chapter 11: GLOBALIZATION AND THE FUTURE OF
COMPARATIVE POLITICS

Week 13 (April 12 - 18)

CONTEMPORARY ISSUES COMPARATIVE POLITICS

Quiz#6 & Discussion #6 are due on Sunday at 11:30PM

Week 14 (April 19 - 25)

CONTEMPORARY ISSUES COMPARATIVE POLITICS

Week 15 (April 26 - 28)

CONCLUDING THOUGHTS

**Final Exam is available on D2L Friday April 30th –
Wednesday May 5th**