



Course Sections, Reedley College:

55511: MW, 2:00 – 3:15 P.M., CCI-200

Instructor: Dr. Tellalian

Email: bryan.tellalian@reedleycollege.edu

Office Hours: Tuesdays, 9:00 – 10:00 A.M.

Fridays, 10:00 – 10:30 A.M., 1:00 – 2:30 P.M.,

and by appointment.

Course Description:

This course provides an introduction to the basic workings of various political systems throughout the world, with an emphasis on both the formal (i.e., governmental institutions, political processes) and informal (i.e., cultural exchanges) dimensions of politics. Students will engage in comparisons of these political systems using some of the basic concepts of political analysis.

Course Objectives:

In the process of completing this course, students will:

1. analyze political and governmental systems by using the comparative method, including, but not limited to representative democracies, parliamentary democracies, totalitarian systems, and authoritarian systems.
2. examine the political philosophies and historical cultural values of selected governments.
3. survey the variables that influence the governmental direction of transitional states.
4. examine the impact of regional, economic, historical, and cultural factors on political institutions and behavior within a country.
5. explore the forms of political participation, including individual actions and pluralist influences.
6. analyze the economic systems of the selected countries and how these relate to their systems of government and geopolitical standing.
7. evaluate the functioning of various political and governmental systems in light of current events.
8. appraise the liberties and rights of people living under various political/governmental regimes.

Required Texts:

Lord, Carnes, trans. *Aristotle's Politics*. Chicago: University of Chicago Press, 2013.

Mahler, Gregory S. *Principles of Comparative Politics*. Boston: Pearson Education, Inc., 2013.

Roskin, Michael G. *Countries and Concepts: Politics, Geography, Culture*, 12th Ed. Boston: Pearson Education, Inc., 2013.

*You will find the **Mahler** and **Roskin** volumes bound in a **custom textbook** for this course in the Reedley College Bookstore under **Pearson Custom Library, Political Science, Comparative Government, Reedley College, Tellalian**.*

Supplemental materials will be provided by the instructor and are required reading for this course. To see the supplemental materials assigned, please see the reading assignments starting at page nine (9) of this syllabus. You can retrieve the supplemental materials on your PoliSci 5 Blackboard page unless otherwise indicated. The supplemental materials that will be assigned are subject to change at any time at the discretion of the instructor.

Add/Drop Dates:

Friday, January 23, 2015 – Last day to drop a full-term class for a full refund.

Friday, January 30, 2015 – Last day to add a full-term class for Spring, 2015; last day to drop a full-term class to avoid a “W” in person.

Sunday, February 1, 2015 – Last day to drop a full-term class on WebAdvisor to avoid a “W” for Spring, 2015.

Beginning with the fourth week of full-term classes, students wishing to add classes must complete a Student Petition for Exception to Enrollment Deadline Due to Extenuating Circumstances form (SPEEDEC), secure the instructor’s approval and explanation for adding beyond the add deadline, secure the Dean’s approval, and present the petition to the registration desk for processing.

Friday, February 6, 2015 – Last day to change a class to or from “Pass/No Pass.”

Friday, March 13, 2015 – Last day to drop a full-term class in person. Letter grades will be assigned after this date.

Friday, March 27, 2015 – Last day to file “Intent to Graduate” via WebAdvisor.

Monday, May 18, 2015 – Friday, May 22, 2014 – Finals Week

Friday, May 22, 2015 – End of Spring, 2015 Semester, Commencement.

Attendance Requirements & Tardiness Policy:

Due to State Center Community College District (SCCCD) policy, attendance records must be kept. To assist with keeping attendance records, there will be assigned seating via a seating chart and a sign-in sheet. Failure to sit in your assigned seat at the beginning of class will result in being marked absent.

Attendance will be taken at the beginning of class using through circulating a sign-in sheet. A student is considered late if he is not in his assigned seat when class begins. For example, if class begins at 9:30 A.M. and the student is not in his assigned seat at that time, he will be marked tardy. *If you are late, you will need to sign in late after class. Otherwise, you will be marked absent.*

Tardiness: If a student anticipates that he will be arriving to class late, the student must give the instructor prior notice (*no later than 24 hours before class*), a valid reason (e.g. medical emergency, etc.), **and** a written letter from the appropriate individual on the individual's letterhead (e.g. a letter from a doctor on the doctor's letterhead). *If a student fails to comply with this policy, the student will be marked absent.*

Leaving Class Early: If a student needs to leave class early, the student must give the instructor prior notice (*no later than 24 hours before class*), a valid reason (e.g. medical emergency, etc.), **and** a written letter from the appropriate individual on the individual's letterhead (e.g. a letter from a doctor on the doctor's letterhead). *If a student leaves class early without complying with this policy, the student will be marked absent.*

Absences: In order for an absence to be excused, the student must give the instructor **prior notice** (*no later than 24 hours before class*), **a valid reason** (e.g. illness, medical emergency, court appearance, car trouble), **AND a written letter from the appropriate individual on the individual's letterhead** (e.g. a letter from a doctor on the doctor's letterhead, a letter from the court clerk on the court's letterhead, an invoice from an auto repair shop).

A student who has missed two weeks of instruction in a full term class will be dropped (any combination of tardies and absences equal to two weeks of instruction). For classes that meet three times per week, six absences equal two weeks of instruction. For classes that meet twice per week, four absences equal two weeks off instruction. However, a student cannot be dropped after the ninth week with respect to attendance. The last day to drop a full-term class is Friday, May 13, 2015. A letter grade will be assigned after this date.

Children and Guests in Class:

Children and guests are **not** allowed in class.

Participation:

Students should be aware that both the Socratic Method and lecture will be used in class. In particular, the first half of the semester will operate like a discussion group with the instructor

asking questions and leading the discussion. **As such, students should plan on reading the material, more than once, well in advance of class for understanding and participating class discussions.** The second half of class will operate in a lecture format due to the nature of the material being covered. Nevertheless, students will still need to be prepared to answer questions since they are called on randomly. *Not being prepared for class discussions will adversely impact your participation points, and thus, your overall grade.* Fifty points are awarded to students for participation in class discussions.

Behavior:

Conduct in the classroom that detracts from the instructor's ability to deliver the course material and/or a student's ability to receive the course material may trigger the removal procedure outlined in the Student Conduct Code (available at the campus library, Admissions office, Dean of Students office, Student Activities office, and Office of Instruction). Such conduct includes, but is not limited to, reading unrelated material, talking, sleeping, writing letters, text messaging, etc., during class, or failure to treat one's classmates or instructor with respect. Those who engage in such actions can be asked to leave the classroom at the instructor's discretion and subject you to the disciplinary process outlined below. Persisting in such behavior will subject you to further disciplinary action (see below).

Disruptive behavior, willful disobedience, habitual profanity or vulgarity, or the open and persistent defiance of authority or persistent abuse of college personnel is prohibited.

Failure to treat the instructor with respect, including, but not limited to, talking back in a disrespectful tone and emotional outbursts, are prohibited.

Engaging in the prohibited conduct detailed in the syllabus or this addendum is not permitted before, during, or after class. Additionally, such conduct is not permitted via email, during office hours, or any other time a student interacts with the instructor.

Student should enter the class room quietly out of courtesy to students who are studying prior to class. Likewise, students who arrive late for class should take their seat in a manner that does not disrupt the lecture for either the students or the instructor.

Cell phones, pagers, MP3 players, and all other digital or electronic devices are to be turned OFF and PUT AWAY during class. However, if there is an exceptional circumstance that requires you to leave your phone on during class, please notify me before class so that the situation may be judged accordingly. If your request to leave your phone on is granted, please switch your ring setting to the "vibrate" mode. **On examination days, no technological devices are allowed to be on. They must be turned off and put away.** Failure to adhere to these policies will trigger the disciplinary process outlined below.

Engaging in prohibited conduct in, but not limited to, the syllabus will trigger the following:

1. First incident – Warning and/or conference with the instructor.

2. Second incident – Conference with the Dean of Student Services and/or removal from class for one or more days. Removal from class will activate the process to remove the student from the class for 10 or more days if appropriate.

3. Third incident – Conference with the Dean of Students and Removal from class for one or more days. Persisting in misconduct may subject the student to short-term suspension, long-term suspension, removal from class for the duration of the semester, or expulsion.

In spite of the three-step process listed on the previous page, for student behavior that is severe, which includes, but is not limited to, the aforementioned conduct, the instructor reserves the right to remove the student from class immediately for one or more days or drop the student from the course. If the student is removed from class, this will activate the process to remove the student from the class for 10 or more days if appropriate.

Cheating and Plagiarism

Cheating is defined as “the willful and intentional practice of fraudulent and deceptive acts for the purposes of improving a grade or obtaining course credit.” Cheating is NOT limited to examinations only. It extends to any act in which you engage for the purpose of obtaining unmerited academic credit. Students are expected to do their own work unless otherwise specified by the instructor (e.g. the instructions for an assignment indicate it is a group activity). If a student copies their work from another student or otherwise engages in the behavior mentioned in this paragraph, this constitutes cheating.

Plagiarism is “the fraudulent representation of someone else’s writing or other scholarly material as your own.” That is, the student tries to take credit for the work that someone else did. This includes, but is not limited to, any source you use for a paper, or submitting a fellow student’s homework while representing it as your own work. Please see the Reedley College Course Catalogue for more on cheating and plagiarism.

Cheating and plagiarism constitute serious offenses which will result in severe consequences to the student. The Cheating and Plagiarism Policy is separate and distinct from the Behavior Policy listed above. The first incident will result in receiving a “zero” on the exam, assignment, activity, etc., and will be reported to the Vice President of Student Services for consultation. A subsequent instance of cheating will result in receiving a “zero,” being reported to the Vice President of Student Services, and removal (one or two days) or being dropped from the course. Students may also be subject to further disciplinary action.

Grades and Make-Up Exams

Please note that you will be tested on all the materials covered in lecture, the reading assignments, and the handouts. In particular, you will be responsible for the lecture even if the material covered in lecture is not in the reading assignments or handouts. Likewise, you will be responsible for the reading assignments even if the material is not covered in lecture or the handouts. Finally, you will be responsible for the material in the handouts even if that material is not covered in lecture or the reading assignments

All exams will consist of essay questions, short answer questions, or both, and are worth fifty (50) points unless otherwise specified.

Exam 1: 50 points	Exam 5: 50 points	A = 360 – 400	F = 239 & Below
Exam 2: 50 points	Paper: 50 points	B = 320 – 359	
Exam 3: 50 points	Presentation (Final): 50 points	C = 280 – 319	
Exam 4: 50 points	Participation: 50 points.	D = 240 – 279	

Make-up exams will only be given under special circumstances. In order for a student to qualify for taking a make-up exam, the student must give the instructor **prior notice** (*no later than 24 hours before class*), **a valid reason** (e.g. illness, medical emergency, court appearance, car trouble), **AND a written letter from the appropriate individual on the individual's letterhead** (e.g. a letter from a doctor on the doctor's letterhead, a letter from the court clerk on the court's letterhead, an invoice from an auto repair shop). Failure to follow the make-up exam requirements, i.e. an unexcused absence on the exam date, will result in a "zero" on the exam. If a student meets the qualifications listed above, a make-up examination must be completed within one week of the original date of administration in the Tutorial Center. Due to the limited availability of space and time constraints on the instructor and Tutorial Center staff, a single time and date will be chosen by the instructor for all qualified students to make up the exam. The time and date chosen will be the **only** opportunity for qualified students to make up the exam. If a qualified student fails to appear on the time and date selected for the make-up, the student will receive a "zero" on the exam.

There will be no make-up exam for the final due to the time constraints placed on the instructor and Tutorial Center staff at the end of the semester.

For students who will require an accommodation due to disability, please see the section below regarding academic adjustments.

Scantrons:

Unless notified otherwise, please use an 8 1/2" x 11" Bluebook and a pen for all examinations.

Holidays:

Monday, January 19, 2015 – Martin Luther King, Jr. Holiday, No Class, Campus Closed

Friday, February 13, 2015 – Abraham Lincoln's Birthday Observed, No Class, Campus Closed

Monday, February 16, 2015 – George Washington's Birthday Observed, No Class, Campus Closed

Sunday, March 29, 2015 – Sunday, April 5, 2015, Holy Week, No Class, Campus Closed

Homework Assignments, In-Class Activities, Papers, & Late Work:

Homework assignments will be posted on Blackboard for **twenty-four hours** following the class session on which the homework is assigned. After the twenty-four hour period has elapsed, the

homework assignment will be **removed** and will not be posted again. Please note the distinction between homework assignments and in-class activities and papers.

Late work is not eligible to receive full credit. For each day the assignment is late, the maximum amount of credit will be reduced by one grade level. At the same time, the student will still be graded on the original point scale. Additionally, if the student's performance warrants a lower score, that score will be assigned. For example, assume a student would have received 20 out of 20 points for a paper but turned in the assignment one day late. The maximum amount of points the student is eligible to receive is 17 points (a "B") out of 20. However, if the student's performance shows that he or she deserves a lower score than the maximum available points, he or she will receive that score. For example, if the student turns in an assignment one day late, the maximum available points are 17. However, if the student deserves only 15 points, the student's grade will be 15 out of 20 points. A student has **five calendar days** (Saturdays and Sundays are considered "calendar days") from the due date to turn in a late assignment, otherwise the student will receive a "zero" on the assignment.

In order for a student to submit an assignment or paper without penalty, the student must give the instructor **prior notice** (*no later than 24 hours before the due date*), **a valid reason** (e.g. illness, medical emergency, court appearance, car trouble), **AND a written letter from the appropriate individual on the individual's letterhead** (e.g. a letter from a doctor on the doctor's letterhead, a letter from the court clerk on the court's letterhead, an invoice from an auto repair shop). Failure to follow these requirements will result in a "zero" on the assignment or paper.

For in-class activities, if a student has an unexcused absence on a day in which a class activity or is passed out, the student will not be able to make up the activity and will receive a "zero." Please note the distinction between homework assignments and in-class activities and papers.

For students who will require an accommodation due to disability, please see the section below regarding academic adjustments.

Blackboard:

You will find some important resources for this class on Blackboard. To use Blackboard, you can go to the Reedley College, Willow International, or Oakhurst Center websites. Click on the Bb box. You will then use your student ID number as both your user name and password. Once you've gained access to your Blackboard account, you can then click on any of your classes. You should also seriously consider changing your password to better secure your account. For this political science class, you will see three rectangular categories entitled Announcements, Assignments, and Course documents.

You should check your Blackboard account several times a week for important announcements, assignments, and course documents. The course syllabus will be available under the Course Documents tab. If you do not have a computer or access to one, you can use the media center/library at the Madera Center. **It is critical that you get access to a computer since you will want to avoid missing important assignments and announcements that are**

found online. Should you have any questions regarding Blackboard, please do not hesitate to ask me.

Academic Adjustment due to Disability:

If you have a verified need for an accommodation or accommodations due to disability as described in the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990 (42 U.S.C. §§ 12101-12213; 42 U.S.C. §§ 225, 611) and/or Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973 (29 U.S.C. § 701, et seq.), please notify your instructor as soon as possible (before or after class, email). All reasonable requests will be considered and efforts will be made to accommodate your needs

Papers – General Guidelines:

Handouts detailing all of the requirements for the paper will be passed out at a later date. These handouts are incorporated by reference into the course syllabus and upon distribution, will be effective immediately. What follows are general guidelines for you to keep in mind in anticipation of the paper. Please note that the instructor reserves the right to change these guidelines.

All papers **MUST** include a “works cited” page noting the materials used to derive the content and arguments. All citations must be formatted according to the Chicago Manual of Style specifications. When submitted, these materials should be typed in 12-point Times New Roman font, double spaced, and have 1” margins. Students must use complete sentences and paragraphs in response to all questions. These materials will be graded primarily on content, clarity, and completeness. However, a portion of your grade will be based on grammar, spelling, and presentation. **Please note that papers must be turned in on the dates they are due during class or the work will be considered late.** With respect to late assignments, unexpected medical situations, or other valid reasons for submitting late work, please see the above mentioned section entitled “Homework Assignments, In-Class Activities, Papers, & Late Work.” Regarding submitting work after a deadline due to a preexisting medical or psychological condition, please see the section entitled “Academic Adjustment due to Disability” above.

Caveat:

This syllabus is subject to change at the instructor’s discretion.

Course Readings, Assignments, & Exam Dates

Please note that you will be tested on all the materials covered in lecture, the reading assignments, and the handouts. In particular, you will be responsible for the lecture even if the material covered in lecture is not in the reading assignments or handouts. Likewise, you will be responsible for the reading assignments even if the material is not covered in lecture or the handouts. Finally, you will be responsible for the material in the handouts even if that material is not covered in lecture or the reading assignments.

Week 1 (1/12 – 1/16) – Comparative Methodology: Classical and Modern

Assignment: Aristotle's *Politics*, Book III, Chs. 6 – 18, Book IV, Chs. 1 – 11.
Mahler, Ch. 1, pps. 1 – 17, 19 – 21

Week 2 (1/19 – 1/23) – Constitutions: Classical and Modern Approaches

Assignment 2: Comparative Government Supplement:

Constitution, in *A Syntopicon: An Index to the Great Ideas*. Edited by
Mortimer J. Adler and Robert Hutchins, Chicago: Encyclopedia
Britannica, Inc. 1952.

Mahler, Ch. 2, pps. 27 – 38, 43 – 44

Week 3 (1/26 – 1/30) – Legislative Institutions: Classical and Modern Approaches

Assignment: Aristotle's *Politics*, Book IV, Ch. 14

Mahler, Ch. 3, pps. 50 – 67, 69 – 71

Exam 1: Comparative Methodology & Constitutions (50 points):

Assigned on Wednesday, January 28, 2014

Due by 12:00 P.M., Saturday, January 31, 2014

Week 4 (2/2 – 2/6) – Executive Institutions: Classical and Modern Approaches

Assignment: Aristotle's *Politics*, Book IV, Ch. 15,

Comparative Government Supplement: *Federalist 70* (Hamilton)

Mahler, Ch. 4, pps. 78 – 83, 87 – 101

Week 5 (2/9 – 2/13) – Judicial Institutions: Classical and Modern Approaches

Assignment: Aristotle's *Politics*, Book IV, Ch. 16,

Comparative Government Supplement:

ST I-II, Q. 90, Q. 91, Q.97, Art. 3, St. Thomas Aquinas' *Summa
Theologica*

Federalist 78 (Hamilton)

Mahler, Ch. 5, pps. 109 - 122

Week 6 (2/16 – 2/20) – Exam 2: Legislative, Executive, & Judicial Institutions: Classical and Modern (50 points, Wednesday, February 21, 2014).

Political Conflict, Political Competition, and Globalization are covered throughout discussions of other countries (below) as needed.

Week 7 (2/23 – 2/27) – Democracy

Assignment: Aristotle's *Politics*, Book V, Ch. 5, Book VI, Chs. 2 – 5,

Comparative Government Supplement:

Democracy, in *A Syntopicon: An Index to the Great Ideas*. Edited by Mortimer J.
Adler and Robert Hutchins, Chicago: Encyclopedia Britannica,
Inc. 1952.

Alexis de Tocqueville, *Democracy in America*, Vol. II, Part 4, Chs. 1 – 3, 6 – 8

Week 8 (3/2 – 3/6) – The United Kingdom, Part I: Monarchy and England

Assignment: Aristotle's *Politics*, Book III, Chs. 14 – 18, Book IV, Ch. 10, Book V, Chs. 10 – 11, Comparative Government Supplement:

Monarchy, in *A Syntopicon: An Index to the Great Ideas*. Edited by Mortimer J. Adler and Robert Hutchins, Chicago: Encyclopedia Britannica, Inc. 1952.

Magna Charta, 1215

English Bill of Rights, 1689

Second Treatise of Government, John Locke, Ch. VII, §§ 86 – 94.

Mahler, Ch. 4, pps. 84 – 87, Ch. 9, pps. 195 – 222

Week 9 (3/9 – 3/13) – The United Kingdom, Part II: The Modern Period

Assignment: See above.

Mini Case Study: *Scotland and Independence*, links forthcoming.

Week 10 (3/16 – 3/20) – France

Assignment: Mahler, Ch. 10, pps. 230 - 256

Week 11 (3/23 – 3/27) – Exam 3: Democracy, The United Kingdom, & France (50 points, Wednesday, March 25, 2014).

Week 13 (4/6 – 4/10) – Nondemocratic Regimes: Russia

Assignment: Mahler, Ch. 13, pp. 325 – 347

Mini Case Study: *Russian Invasion of the Ukraine*, links forthcoming.

Week 14 (4/13 – 4/17) – Nondemocratic Regimes: China

Assignment: Textbook, Ch. 14, pps. 355 - 382

Week 15 (4/20 – 4/24) – Nondemocratic Regimes: Cuba

Mini Case Study: *Excerpts from Country Profile, Federal Research Division, Library of Congress*, forthcoming.

Week 16 (4/27 – 5/1) – Exam 4 & Developing Countries: Mexico

Exam 4: Nondemocratic Regimes: Russia, China, Cuba (50 points, Monday, April 27, 2014).

Assignment: Mahler, Ch. 15, pps. 389 - 409

Week 17 (5/4 – 5/8) – Developing Countries: Mexico, cont. & Islamic Regimes: Iran

Assignment: Roskin, Ch. 12, pps. 445 - 474

Week 18 (5/11 – 5/15) – Islamic Regimes: Turkey & Exam 5

Exam 5: Developing Countries: Mexico and Islamic Regimes (Iran and Turkey), 50 points Assigned Monday, May 11, 2014; Due Thursday, May 14, 2014 by 12:00 A.M.

Assignment: *Excerpts from Library of Congress Country Study*, forthcoming.

FINALS WEEK:

55511: MW, 2:00 P.M. – 3:15 P.M., **Wednesday, May 20, 2015, 2:00 P.M. – 3:50 P.M.**
Simulation & Presentation (50 points) – Details Forthcoming