

Political Science 5: Comparative Government Course Syllabus – Fall 2018

Course Section: 56163

Instructor: Mrs. Chelsea Aivazian

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Required Text:

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

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

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. (A, CSU, UC, I) (C-ID POLS 130)" (2017-18 Reedley College Catalog).

Student Learning Outcomes:

By the end of this course students should be able to:

1. Analyze the influences of political philosophy, political culture and popular participation in selected countries' policy-making processes.
2. Compare and contrast the political, governmental, and economic systems used by selected nations.
3. Discuss the role of the state in political and economic development within countries.

Course Policies:

Attendance Policy

The State Center Community College District (SCCCD) mandates that attendance records be kept for this course. Attendance will be taken through weekly this course's weekly discussion post requirements – additional details on the discussion post requirements are listed below.

Communication Policy

All correspondence for this course MUST come through our course's messaging system within Canvas. In order to respond to students in a timely manner, I will not respond to emails sent to me regarding this course. I will respond to all messages within **24 hours** from the time I receive the message, Monday through Friday. While I understand that many students choose to take an online course in order to have a more flexible class schedule, I will not be available during the weekend hours. I will check my messages on Friday at 5:00 PM and Monday at 8:00 AM - this means that if you send a message to me on Saturday, your 24-hour clock for a response begins at 8:00 AM on Monday. The weekend is my time with my family and while I may occasionally check in on the course if I have a spare moment on Saturday, I will never respond on a Sunday. If you have not received a response from me regarding this course within 24 hours, please send me a kind reminder.

Add/Drop Dates

August 13, 2018 – *First Day of the Fall Semester*

August 24, 2018 – *Last Day to Drop a Fall 2018 Full-Term Class for a Full Refund*

August 31, 2018 – *Last Day to Add a Fall 2018 Full-Term Class In Person; Last Day to Drop a Fall 2018 Full-Term Class to Avoid a "W" In Person*

September 2, 2018 – *Last Day to Drop a Fall 2018 Full-Term Class to Avoid a "W" on WebAdvisor*

September 3, 2018 – *Labor Day Holiday, No School*

September 14, 2018 – *Last Day to Change a Fall 2018 Class To/From a Pass/No Pass Grading Basis*

October 12, 2018 – *Last Day to Drop a Fall 2018 Full-Term Class (A Letter Grade Will Be Issued After This Date)*

November 12, 2018 – *Veterans Day Holiday, No Classes*

November 22-23, 2018 – *Thanksgiving Holiday, No School*

December 10-14, 2018 – *Fall 2018 Final Exams Week*

December 14, 2018 – *End of Fall 2018 Semester*

Late Work Policy

Late assignments will automatically lose 10% of the available points for each day that they are late and must be turned in within 7 days after the due date. After 7 days the assignment will NOT be accepted. Quizzes and exams can NOT be submitted late. Peer replies on discussion board can NOT be submitted late, but original posts can be submitted up to 7 days late.

Document Submission Policy

All assignments must be submitted in Canvas NO EMAILED ASSIGNMENTS WILL BE ACCEPTED!! ALL assignments must be submitted in the .doc, .docx, or .pdf format. If you submit in another format the assignment will be considered late while you resubmit in the correct format.

Academic Honesty Policy

Cheating: *"Cheating is the act or attempted act of taking an examination or performing an assigned, evaluated task in a fraudulent or deceptive manner, such as having improper access to answers, in an attempt to gain an unearned academic advantage. Cheating may include, but is not limited to, copying from another's work, supplying one's work to another, giving or receiving copies of examinations without an instructor's permission, using or displaying notes or devices inappropriate to the conditions of the examination, allowing someone other than the officially enrolled student to represent the student, or failing to disclose research results completely."*

Plagiarism: *"Plagiarism is a specific form of cheating: the use of another's words or ideas without identifying them as such or giving credit to the source. Plagiarism may include, but is not limited to, failing to provide complete citations and references for all work that draws on the ideas, words, or work of others, failing to identify the contributors to work done in collaboration, submitting duplicate work to be evaluated in different courses without the knowledge and consent of the instructors involved, or failing to observe computer security systems and software copyrights. Incidents of cheating and plagiarism may result in any of a variety of sanctions and penalties, which may range from a failing grade on the particular examination, paper, project, or assignment in question to a failing grade in the course, at the discretion of the instructor and depending on "*

Cheating and/or plagiarism will NOT be tolerated. A student will receive no credit for the assignment if in the opinion of the instructor the individual has cheated. If a second violation occurs the student will be reported to the Dean of student services and an F will be issued for the course.

Diversity and Disability Policy

If you have a verified need for an academic accommodation or materials in alternate media (i.e., Braille, large print, electronic text, etc.) per the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) or Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act, please contact me as soon as possible. Additionally, please feel free to connect with our DSP&S office on campus and/or online to obtain additional information.

Grading and Assignments:

All discussion posts, quizzes, exams, papers, and projects will cover the material covered in the required reading assignments. You are responsible for completing the reading assignments and for the information covered within the text.

| Assignment | Points |
|--------------------------|------------|
| Discussion Posts | 240 points |
| Quizzes | 240 points |
| Democratic Regimes Paper | 50 points |
| Final Exam | 50 points |

| Final Grade | Total Points |
|-------------|--------------|
| A | 580 – 522 |
| B | 521.9 – 464 |
| C | 463.9 – 406 |
| D | 405.9 – 348 |
| F | ≤347.9 |

Coursework:

Reading

Reading assignments for each week will be posted in the week's corresponding module. Students are responsible for the material and information covered in the assigned readings. Any required additional readings outside of the textbook will be provided for you through Canvas.

Discussion Forums

Each week, you will be required to participate in this course's discussion forum by creating one original post to the weekly discussion question/topic and responding to 2 other students' posts from the week. Weekly discussion posts are worth 15 points each: 10 points for the original post and 2.5 points for each student response post. Original discussion posts are due by **FRIDAY at 11:55 PM** and peer response discussion posts are due by **MONDAY at 11:55 PM**. As noted in the "Late Work Policy" section above, original discussion posts may be submitted late according to the previously-stated policy, but peer response posts may not be submitted late. Do NOT assume that points will be awarded based solely on participation, I am looking for thoughtful insight on the topic and evidence that you have read and applied the information from the week's readings. If you are using information from the text, you must site the information using APA formatting. Students are also expected to utilize proper grammar in their discussion posts – improper grammar will result in a reduction in points.

Quizzes

Each week, students will be assigned a quiz covering the material from the week's required readings. Quizzes are to be completed in Canvas and are available when the weekly module opens on Tuesdays at 8:00 AM and are due the following Monday by 11:55 PM. Each Quiz is worth 15 points. Please note that quizzes CANNOT be submitted late.

Democratic Regimes Paper

Information detailing all of the requirements for the Democratic Regimes Paper will be provided at a later date. General guidelines for this paper include:

- 3 pages, excluding the required works cited page
- Size 12 Times New Roman or Arial font
- Double-spaced
- 1 inch margins
- While this paper will be graded on content, clarity, and understanding, proper grammar and punctuation will also be factored into your grade

Final Exam

The final exam for this course will be a cumulative exam covering all of the material covered throughout the semester. In the weeks leading up to the final exam, you will be provided with study tools and information to help prepare you for the exam. The final exam will be a combination of multiple choice, true/false, and short answer questions and will be completed through our course in Canvas.

Course Assignment and Exam Dates:

Week 1 (8/13-8/20) – Course Introduction

Week 2 (8/21-8/27) – Origins, Sources, and the Political Culture of Democracy

Week 3 (8/28-9/3) – Democratic Institutions and Models of Democracy

Week 4 (9/4-9/10) – Citizen Participation in Democracies

Week 5 (9/11-9/17) – Civil Liberties and Civil Rights

Week 6 (9/18-9/24) – Challenges to Democracy and the Stability of Democratic Regimes

Week 7 (9/25-10/1) – Democratic Regimes Paper Due

Week 8 (10/2-10/8) – Origins Sources and Types of Nondemocratic Rule

Week 9 (10/9-10/15) – Nondemocratic Regimes and Political Control

Week 10 (10/16-10/22) – Challenges to Nondemocratic Rule and the Stability of

Nondemocratic Regimes

- Week 11 (10/23-10/29)** – Models of Nondemocratic Regimes: Nazi Germany
- Week 12 (10/30-11/5)** – Historical Trends and Domestic Causes of Regime Change
- Week 13 (11/6-11/12)** – Roles that Foreign Entities have in Regime Change
- Week 14 (11/13-11/19)** – Imperialism, Colonialism, and Governmental Systems in Developing Countries
- Week 15 (11/20-11/26)** – The Role of Political Conflict and Society in Developing Nations
- Week 16 (11/27-12/3)** – Globalization: Political, Economic, and Social
- Week 17 (12/4-12/10)** – Globalization in the Post-Modern World
- Week 18 (12/11-12/14)** – FINALS WEEK