

Online Course Syllabus POLI 1400:EXW

Course Name: Introduction to Comparative Politics

Course Instructor Yooneui Kim Instructor, 323 SH Email: yooneui-kim@uiowa.edu	Office Hours Held via Zoom, email to make an appointment Course Site To access the course site, log into Iowa Courses Online (ICON) using your Hawk ID and password. http://icon.uiowa.edu/index.shtml
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Academic Course Home
Department of Political Science

Prerequisites
None

Required Textbook(s):

- The assigned **textbook(s)** for this online version of the course is J. Tyler Dickovick and Jonathan Eastwood, 2015. [*Comparative Politics: Integrating Theories, Methods, and Cases*](#). Oxford University Press. ISBN: 9780190270995.

Other Required Materials (All available on ICON course site):

- Crovitz, L. Gordon. 2011. "Techno-Utopians Are Mugged by Reality," *The Wall Street Journal*, August 15.
- Huntington, Samuel. 1993. "The Clash of Civilizations?" *Foreign Affairs*, Vol. 72, No. 3 (Summer), pp. 22-49.
- Morozov, Evgeny. 2010. "The Digital Dictatorship," *The Wall Street Journal*, February 20.
- Parkinson, Joe, Schechner, Sam; and Peker, Emre. 2014. "Turkey's Erdogan: One of the World's Most Determined Internet Censors," *The Wall Street Journal*, May 2.
- Tang, Wenfang. 2012. "Viewpoint: Are protests moving China backwards?" *BBC*, November 26.
- Tang, Wenfang, Lewis-Bek, Mihael S, and Martini, Nicholas F. 2013. "Government for the People in China?" *The Diplomat*, June 17.
- Wright, Tom. 2014. "China's Economy Surpassing U.S.? Well, Yes and No," *The Wall Street Journal*, April 30.
- Zane, J. Peder. 2015. "Democracy and the Challenges Imposed by Freedom," *The New York Times*, September 14.

Websites:

- World Bank. 2015. *World Development Indicators 2015*, Washington DC (<http://elibrary.worldbank.org.proxy.lib.uiowa.edu/doi/pdf/10.1596/978-1-4648-0440-3>, require hawkid and password).
- World Values Survey dataset at <http://www.worldvaluessurvey.org/wvs.jsp>.
- Freedom House. 2015. *Freedom in the World 2015*, <https://freedomhouse.org/report/freedom-world-2015/table-country-ratings>.
- The Standardized World Income Inequality Database (SWIID): <http://myweb.uiowa.edu/fsolt/swiid/swiid.html>

Videos:

- How is China viewed in America by CNN's Jack Cafferty
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=qPAVBaQzp3w>
- How is America viewed in China:
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Vt4kCHuAcbU&feature=related>
- Faith and Doubt at Ground Zero (FRONTLINE, <http://video.pbs.org/video/2120639608/>) (act 1 at 02:00-15:38 and act 4 at 1:11-1:45)
- Richard Wilkinson: How economic inequality harms societies?
<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=cZ7LzE3u7Bw> (TED Talk, 2011, 17min)
- Six types of market failure <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=jRN6V1rl6v8>
- Solutions to Market Failures <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=BPnJHfiFWJw>
- Who Rules America – The Power of the Media (2013, 25 min,
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=7yxkXZqs6X4>)
- The Economics of the Arab Spring and Its Aftermath at
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=xknKhA7WWOE>
- The Rise of ISIS (Foreign Policy Association) at
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=6ZEUTYuCrBg>

Course Goal and Objectives

The goal/purpose of this course is to introduce a set of ideas and concepts that emphasize the common experiences in governance across different societies. At the conclusion of this course, students will be able to:

- Compare political, social and economic lives in different countries
- Analyze credible empirical evidence
- Broaden and diversify their understanding of different political cultures
- Develop critical thinking and analytical skills by challenging the conventional wisdoms

Course Work

This course consists of the following activities and assessments to assist you in achieving the course and instructional modules objectives. In each module, you will work on various combinations of assignments, activities, discussions, readings, research, etc.

Assignments: Students are required to complete several assignments on time (see Course Calendar section below). Instructions are provided in short videos found in the appropriate modules as well as in the respective Dropbox folders.

Online Reflections: Students are also required to participate in the weekly online individual reflection on the assigned topics (see Course Calendar section below). Note that Reflection responses will be submitted via the Dropbox; topic details are provided in short videos found in the appropriate modules as well as in the respective Dropbox folders.

Quizzes: There will be 4 weekly quizzes based on the assigned readings and lectures (see Course Calendar).

Technology for the Course

Listed below are the media/system requirements applicable to this course:

- **System requirements.** Computer with Internet access, preferably broadband wired connections with upload and download speeds of at least 1 Mbps. Although wireless will work, it can have delay problems.
- **Browser requirements.** Firefox or Google Chrome are recommended regardless of operating system. All versions of Internet Explorer have functional difficulties in both ICON and the wiki.

Grading Criteria

Grading is based on a curve. The highest score will be treated as 100%. A make-up quiz is only allowed if the student presents a doctor's note stating the student's inability to take the quiz during the scheduled time. A make-up quiz will not be graded on a curve. No late written assignment/reflection will be accepted unless there is a doctor's note stating the student's inability to complete the assignment by the due date. Again, there will be no curve for late assignments and reflection.

Assignments	30%
Reflections	10%
Quizzes (15% each x 4)	60%
Total:	100%

Final grades will be awarded based on the following ranges:

A	B	C	D	F
A+ > 97	B+ 89-86	C+ 79-76	D+ 69-66	F < 59
A 96-94	B 85-83	C 75-73	D 65-63	
A- 93-90	B- 82-80	C- 72-70	D- 62-60	

Course Policies

Attendance

To be considered in attendance each week, students must submit a response to the weekly reflection topic.

Assignment Format

Detailed instructions and requirements for each assignment will be made available on the course site; ICON > Assignments

Communication Policy

I will primarily communicate with students via email, but I will be available by appointment as well for discussion via Zoom. Send personal concerns to me via my personal email address and request appointments with me if you prefer to discuss concerns and questions live via Zoom rather than in an email. Generally, it will take me 24 hours to respond to emails, except on the weekends where it may take up to 48 hours.

Due Dates & Missed Deadlines

All assignments and reflection comments are:

- Due no later than 11:30 P.M. U.S. Central Time on the dates indicated in the syllabus.
- To be submitted via the ICON.

Absent instructor's approval, late assignments and reflection comments will not be accepted and the student will receive a 0 for that assignment or reflection. Assignments and reflection comments are graded by their quality.

Netiquette

Students need to effectively communicate with each other and their instructors when working online. Although it may not be intended, tone in communication is often read differently than when it is presented in the form of speech. For tips on "Netiquette" technique, go to: <http://www.albion.com/netiquette/>

Student Rights

All students have specific rights and responsibilities. Students have the right to adjudication of any complaints they have about classroom activities or instructor actions. Information on these procedures is available in the College's (CLAS) Student Academic Handbook. Students also have the right to expect a classroom environment that enables them to learn, including modifications if they have a disability.

Academic Fraud

All forms of plagiarism and any other activities that result in a student presenting work that is not his or her own are academic fraud. All academic fraud is reported first to the departmental DEO and then to the Associate Dean for Academic Programs and Services. See Academic Fraud at http://www.clas.uiowa.edu/students/academic_handbook/ix.shtml for the complete policy. Students also need to be notified if tools such as Turn It In, often used to curb plagiarism, is used in the course.

Making a Suggestion or a Complaint

Students have the right to make suggestions or complaints and should first visit with the instructor, and next with the departmental DEO. All complaints must be made as soon as possible. For more information visit, Student Complaints at http://www.clas.uiowa.edu/students/academic_handbook/ix.shtml#5

Academic Accommodations

Under the Americans with Disabilities Act and Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, instructors must provide reasonable academic accommodations for qualified students with disabilities. Students seeking academic accommodations first register with Student Disability Services and meet with a counselor in that office who reviews documentation and determines eligibility for services. Students approved for accommodations arrange to meet privately with course instructors. Visit Student Disability Services at <https://sds.studentlife.uiowa.edu/> or call 319-335-1462.

Understanding Sexual Harassment

Sexual harassment is reprehensible and will not be tolerated by the University. It subverts the mission of the University and threatens the well-being of students, faculty, and staff. Visit this site - <https://osmrc.uiowa.edu/policy> - for definitions, assistance, and the full University policy.

Course Calendar (all times are U.S. Central Time)

Week 1	Module 1: Introduction, Jan 25 - Jan 30	
	<p>Due:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Reflection 1.1 due 11:30 p.m., Jan 30. 	<p>Watch:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Lecture 1.2 Introduction to Political Science <p>Read:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Text - Dickovick & Eastwood chapter 1 <p>Additional Resources:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> U.S. vs. China -What The World Thinks https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=t6hpXDwrLj8 How Americans are perceived by the rest of the world https://www.cbsnews.com/news/how-americans-look-to-the-rest-of-the-world
Week 2	Module 2: Comparative Methodology I, Feb 1 – Feb 6	
	<p>Due:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Assignment 2.3 due 11:30 p.m., Feb 6. 	<p>Watch:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Lecture 2.1 MSS and MDS Lecture 2.2 Variable and Hypothesis Lecture 2.3 Country level data <p>Read:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Textbook - Dickovick & Eastwood chapter 2 ICON – World Development Indicators <p>Additional Resources:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> World Values Survey website (http://www.worldvaluessurvey.org/wvs.jsp)
Week 3	Module 2: Comparative Methodology II, Feb 8 - Feb 13	
	<p>Due:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Assignment 2.4 due 11:30 p.m., Feb 13. Assignment 2.5 due 11:30 p.m., Feb 13. 	<p>Watch:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Lecture 2.4 Survey data presentation Lecture 2.5 Operationalization Lecture 2.6 Generalization <p>Read:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Textbook - Dickovick & Eastwood chapter 2
Week 4	Module 2: Comparative Methodology III, Feb 15 - Feb 20	
	<p>Due:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Assignment 2.7 due 11:30 p.m., Feb 20. <p>Quiz Due:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Quiz 1: Feb 20 (all lectures through 2.8) 	<p>Watch:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Lecture 2.7 Measurement Lecture 2.8 Research Question <p>Read:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Textbook - Dickovick & Eastwood chapter 2

	and all the textbook up to chapter 2)	
Week 5	Module 3: Public Policy I, Feb 22 - Feb 27	
	<p>Due:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Reflection 3.1, due 11:30 p.m., Feb 27 	<p>Watch:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Lecture 3.1 Public Policy definition Lecture 3.2 Public Policy taxation Lecture 3.3 Public Policy dilemmas <p>Read:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Textbook - Dickovick & Eastwood chapter 5
Week 6	Module 3: Public Policy II, Mar 1 – Mar 6	
	<p>Due:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Reflection 3.6, due 11:30 p.m., Mar 6. 	<p>Watch:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Lecture 3.4 Public Policy indicators Lecture 3.5 Public Policy income distribution Lecture 3.6 Inequality: Causes and consequences <p>Read:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Textbook - Dickovick & Eastwood chapter 14 <p>Additional Resources:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> TED Talk: Richard Wilkinson: How economic inequality harms societies (2011, http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=cZ7LzE3u7Bw)
Week 7	Module 4: Political Economy, Mar 8 - Mar 13	
	<p>Due:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Reflection 4.4, due 11:30 p.m., Mar 13. 	<p>Watch:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Lecture 4.1 Market economy Lecture 4.2 Economic planning Lecture 4.3 Political economy evidence Lecture 4.4 Market failure debate video <p>Read:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Textbook - Dickovick & Eastwood chapter 4 <p>Additional Resources:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Six types of market failure https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=jRN6V1rl6v8 Solutions to Market Failures https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=BPnJHfiFWJw
Week 8	Module 5: Political Communication, Mar 15 - Mar 20	
	<p>Due:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Reflection 5.1, due 11:30 p.m., Mar 20. <p>Quiz Due:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Quiz 2: Mar 20. (Lectures 3, 4 and 5; Textbook chs 4, 5, and 14; Morozov 	<p>Watch:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Lecture 5.1 Media control Lecture 5.2 Liberal media Lecture 5.3 Media freedom Lecture 5.4 Media and market video <p>Read:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ICON – Morozov 2010, Crovitz 2011, Parkinson et. al. 2014 <p>Additional Resources:</p>

	2010; Crovitz 2011; Parkinson et al 2014)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Who Rules America – The Power of the Media (2013, 25 min, https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=7yxkXZqs6X4)
Week 9	Module 6: Democracy and Authoritarianism I, Mar 22 – Mar 27	
	<p>Due:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Reflection: 6.2, due 11:30 pm, Mar 27 	<p>Watch:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Lecture 6.1 Democracy Lecture 6.2 Authoritarianism <p>Read:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Textbook - Dickovick & Eastwood chapter 6 & 7
Week 10	Module 6. Democracy and Authoritarianism II, Mar 29 - Apr 3	
	<p>Due:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Reflection 6.4, due 11:30 p.m., Apr 3. 	<p>Watch:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Lecture 6.3 Freedom measures Lecture 6.4 Subjective freedom <p>Read:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Textbook - Dickovick & Eastwood chapters 6 & 7 ICON – Tang, et. al. 2013, Zane 2015 <p>Additional Resources:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Freedom House https://freedomhouse.org/
Week 11	Module 7: Ideology and Political Culture, Apr 5 – Apr 10	
	<p>Due:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Reflection 7.6, due 11:30 pm, Apr 10. 	<p>Watch:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Lecture 7.1 Liberalism Lecture 7.2 Communism Lecture 7.3 Religiosity Lecture 7.4 Political culture Lecture 7.5 Civic culture and democracy Lecture 7.6 Clash of civilizations <p>Read:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Textbook - Dickovick & Eastwood chapter 15 ICON – Huntington 1993 (skim) <p>Additional Resources:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Faith and Doubt at Ground Zero (FRONTLINE, http://video.pbs.org/video/2120639608/)
Week 12	Module 8: Nationalism and National State, Apr 12 – Apr 17	
	<p>Due:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Assignment 8.2, due 11:30 pm, Apr 17. <p>Quiz Due:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Quiz 3: Apr 17. (Lectures 6, 7 and 8, Textbook chs 6, 7, 13 and 15, Tang et. al. 2013, and 	<p>Watch:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Lecture 8.1 Nationalism Lecture 8.2 Measuring nationalism Lecture 8.3 Measuring national power <p>Read:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Textbook - Dickovick & Eastwood chapters 3 (skim) & 13 ICON – Wright 2014 (skim) <p>Additional Resources:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <i>World Development Indicators</i> (skim)

	Faith and Doubt at Ground Zero)	
Week 13	Module 9: Revolution and Social Movement, Apr 19 - Apr 24	
	<p>Due:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Reflection 9.3 due 11:30 pm, Apr 24. 	<p>Watch:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Lecture 9.1 Revolution and social movement Lecture 9.2 Protest in China Lecture 9.3 Arab spring and ISIS videos <p>Read:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Textbook - Dickovick & Eastwood chapters 12 ICON – Tang 2012 <p>Additional Resources:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Economics of the Arab Spring and Its Aftermath at https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=xknKhA7WWOE The Rise of ISIS (Foreign Policy Association) at https://www.pbs.org/wgbh/frontline/film/rise-of-isis/
Week 14	Module 10: Political Participation and Representation, Apr 26 – May 1	
		<p>Watch:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Lecture 10.1 Proportional elections Lecture 10.2 Disproportional elections Lecture 10.3 Election results Lecture 10.4 Political participation defined Lecture 10.5 Voting <p>Read:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Textbook - Dickovick & Eastwood chapter 11 (skim)
Week 15	Module 11: Political Institutions, May 3 - May 8	
	<p>Due:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Reflection 11.1 due 11:30 pm, May 8. <p>Quiz Due:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Quiz 4: May 8 (Lectures 9, 10 and 11; Textbook chs 8-10, and 12; Tang 2012) 	<p>Watch:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Lecture 11.1 Institutions Lecture 11.2 Constitutions <p>Read:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Text - Dickovick & Eastwood chapters 8-10