University of Toronto
Department of Political Science

POL492H1F
Theories of Comparative Politics

Fall 2018
Monday 2-4

Instructor: Professor Neil Nevitte
Office: Sidney Smith Hall, Room 3065
Telephone: (416) 978-6298
Email: n.nevitte@utoronto.ca
Office Hours: TBD, or by appointment

Course Format:
This course is a seminar that explores some of the main theoretical contributions that have influenced the intellectual directions of comparative politics. Discussion focuses on some of the “classics” in the field; it examines the assumptions underpinning those contributions as well as how these different outlooks stand in relation to each other. Students are expected to cover the required readings for each seminar. Selections from the recommended readings will be presented as complements to the required readings.

Course Requirements:
Students are required to make two in-class presentations each of which is to be accompanied by a one page summary of the main aspects of their presentation. The expectation is that students will contribute to the classroom discussion. And students are required to submit one short written paper in the first part of the semester and to submit a longer paper at the end of the course.

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<tr>
<th>Assignment</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
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<tr>
<td>Two in-class presentations</td>
<td>20%</td>
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<tr>
<td>First Paper (due October 1)</td>
<td>30%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Second Paper (due November 12)</td>
<td>40%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Participation</td>
<td>10%</td>
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(Late papers will be taxed at 3% per day)

Plagiarism:
Plagiarism is a serious academic offense and professors are required to report these offenses to the Office of Student Academic Integrity. It is not sufficient merely to list your sources in the bibliography or to only use footnotes. You must ensure that you identify and attribute all of your sources in text, whether you are quoting them directly or paraphrasing them. For a more complete explanation please see http://www.writing.utoronto.ca/advice/using-sources/how-not-to-plagiarize and http://www.writing.utoronto.ca/advice/using-sources/documentation for two important documents entitled How Not to Plagiarize and Standard Documentation Formats respectively. If you require further assistance concerning how to properly reference and footnote your work, please consult one of the many guides available in the library or the Writing Center. Normally, students will be required to submit their course essays to Turnitin.com for a review of textual similarity and detection of possible plagiarism. In doing so, students will allow their essays to be included as source documents in the Turnitin.com reference database, where they will be used solely for the purpose of detecting plagiarism. The terms that apply to the University’s use of the Turnitin.com service are described on the turnitin.com web site.

Required texts:

University Press.

The Course textbooks can be purchased at: U of T Bookstore  Koffler Centre, 214 College Street  (NW corner of St. George and College).

SYLLABUS
Readings marked below with a © are available on Blackboard.

Week 1: COMPARATIVE POLITICS: FIELD OR METHOD?
Sep. 10

Required Readings:


Recommended Reading:


Week 2: THE WEBERIAN TRADITION
Sep. 17

Required Readings:


Recommended Reading:

**Week 3: SOCIAL STRUCTURE**  
Sep. 17

**Required Readings:**

**Recommended Reading:**

**Week 4: STATE/SOCIETY RELATIONS (first paper topic handed out)**  
Sep. 24

**Required Readings:**


**Recommended Reading:**


**Week 5: A RATIONAL CHOICE ALTERNATIVE (first paper due)**  
Oct. 1

**Required Readings:**
Week 6: Thanksgiving Break. NO CLASS.
Oct. 8

Week 7: THE STATE: ACTOR OR SPACE
Oct. 15

Required Readings:


Recommended Reading:


Week 8: REPRESENTATIVE INSTITUTIONS I
Oct. 22

Required Readings:
Burke, E. (1774). Speech to the Electors of Bristol.


Recommended Reading:
Political Studies, 33(6/7), 845-879.


Week 9: REPRESENTATIVE INSTITUTIONS II (second paper topic handed out)
Oct. 29

Required Readings:


Recommended Reading:


Week 10: Fall Reading Week. NO CLASS.
Nov. 5

Week 11: LATE INDUSTRIALISM (second paper due)
Nov. 12

Required Readings:


**Recommended Reading:**


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**Week 12: DEMOCRATIC CIVIC CULTURE**
Nov. 19

**Required Readings:**

**Recommended Reading:**


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**Week 13: PROTEST POLITICS AND SOCIAL MOVEMENTS**
Nov. 26

**Required Readings:**


**Recommended Reading:**