This course is designed as the second part of the introduction to the study of comparative politics for Ph.D students. It builds on and complements the material covered in POL 2700. The topics in this course include (but are not limited to) political regimes, parties, electoral behaviour, clientelism, populism, political economy, and courts. The main objective of the course is to introduce students to key questions, concepts, debates, explanations, and different approaches in comparative politics on these topics as well as to trace the intellectual evolution of these subfields. Students will be introduced to diverse substantive and methodological approaches in the study of these topics.

**Format**
This is an online synchronous class via BB Collaborate, which you can access through the course page on Quercus.

This seminar is reading and discussion intensive. All students are expected to have covered all the required readings for each session. The recommended readings listed complement the required readings and the expectation is that, together, the required and recommended readings will provide a foundation for students preparing for the field examination in comparative politics.

**Readings:**
Readings are available under Modules in the course page on Quercus. Readings will be available either as electronic links through the library website or as PDFs.

**Requirements:**
The grade for this course will be based on class participation and written assignments.

1. **Class participation (20%)**: Students will be evaluated on weekly participation and one class presentation.
   a. **Weekly participation**: Active participation reflecting close familiarity with the required readings for each week is essential and will comprise 10% of the participation grade. For weeks 2 to 12, you will be required to post short reflections on the Discussion Board in Quercus on the readings for
that week. You do not need to post a reflection in the weeks that you are writing a critical review essay or are giving a class presentation. This should be posted by **noon each Monday before class**. The reflections should be very brief (no more than 400 words) and are not meant to be a summary of the readings. Rather, they should reflect your critical response to the readings for the week and the reflection is aimed at initiating class discussion. You may consider doing the following in your critical reflections (but are not restricted to these suggestions): a) Identify question(s) on the week’s readings that you would like discussed in class; b) Highlight key concepts/themes/issues in the week’s readings that stood out for you; c) Identify any concepts/issues that were unclear to you; and d) Identify any questions arising from the readings that are worthy of further research.

**b. Class presentation:** From week 3, each of you will be randomly assigned to give one short presentation (8-10 minutes) in class designed to initiate critical discussion of the readings. Your presentation should discuss the main strengths and weaknesses of the week’s required readings, highlight critical issues that need further development/remain unclear, identify connections with other readings/topics on the syllabus where relevant, and identify questions that you would like discussed in class. The class presentation will be 10% of your mark.

2. **Written assignments:** Written assignments will consist of two critical review essays, one essay on an assigned question, and one article review.
   
   a. **Critical Review Essays (40%; 2 x 20% each):** You are required to complete two critical review essays on the required readings through the term. You may choose the weeks in which to complete the critical review essays with the caveat that one essay must be on topics covered in weeks 3-6 and one essay must be on topics in weeks 7-12. Please note the dates of other assignments, so you can plan appropriately. The essays should be 7-8 pages in length (12 point font, double spaced). The review essays should identify the principal disputes and debates in the field on the topic under consideration, discuss the main strengths and weaknesses of the works under study, and highlights issues that need further development.

   b. **Essay response on assigned question (20%): Due by 2pm on Feb 22nd.**
      You will be required to write a 5-7 page essay (12 point font, double spaced) on an assigned question. This question assigned is aimed to be broadly similar to those you might see on the Comparative MFE. The question will be on topics covered in weeks 1-5.

      The purpose of these written exercises is to summarize, contextualize, and critically analyze key literature in the field of comparative politics. To
do this, you will need to marry two slightly different approaches. On the one hand, you should think “big”. What is the main argument advanced? What is the main problem or puzzle addressed? What are the main strengths and weaknesses?

On the other hand, you should also think “small.” It is not sufficient to summarize the author’s argument. Rather, we want you to “unpack” the argument and provide a critique of it. The instructors are interested in your own ideas, thoughts and reactions. Every effort should be made to critique the author in terms of the questions they are trying to address rather than other questions you might find more interesting. You should make sure to back up any claim with references to the text. Concepts should be defined.

c. Article Review (20%): Due by 5pm on April 15th, 2021. Pick a recent comparative politics article from any of the following political science journals (APSR, AIPS, World Politics, Comparative Political Studies, Comparative Politics, BJPS, JOP or Perspectives on Politics). The article must be related to a topic covered in the course. By “recent”, I mean anything published in the last decade. Situate and contextualize the argument being made in your selected article within the broader literature on the topic. What are the intellectual antecedents of the argument being made and how, if at all, is the argument being made advancing those? Reference at least four sources from the relevant week of readings on the syllabus. It is highly recommended you discuss your choice of article with me prior to beginning the assignment.

Part 1: Foundations and approaches

The State, power, interests, institutions, class, and ideas
This course builds on POL 2700 and it assumes that you are familiar with the readings on the key foundations and approaches in comparative politics that were covered in that course, especially the state, power, interests, institutions, class, and ideas. While enrolment in POL 2700 is not a pre-requisite for this course, it is extremely useful for you to be familiar with the readings on the above mentioned foundations and approaches from the POL 2700 syllabus.

Identities
In the first two weeks of the term, we explore one additional foundational topic – identities -which is critical to comparative politics, more generally, and the topics covered in this course, more specifically.

Week 1 (Jan 11th): Introduction to the course; Ethnicity and race
Required Readings:

Horowitz, Donald. 1985. Ethnic Groups in Conflict. Berkeley: University of California Press. Chapter 1, pgs. 3-54 (SKIM the selection, especially from “Structure of Group Relations on pg. 21 to pg. 54)


Phoenix, Davin. 2019. The Anger Gap: How Race Shapes Emotion in Politics. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press. {Chapter 1, pgs. 1-28; Chapter 7, 244-262}

Recommended Readings:


Frantz Fanon, 1952 (reissued 2008), Black Skin, White Masks, New York, NY: Grove Press: Read Foreword by Kwame Anthony Appiah and Chaps 1, 7, 8.


**Week 2 (Jan 18th): Gender and sexuality**

**Required Readings:**


Recommended Readings:


Waylen, Georgina. (2012). Gender matters in politics. *The political Quarterly, 83*(1), 24-32,


**Part 2: Topics**

**Week 3 (Jan 25th): Political Regimes I: Democracy and democratization**

**Required Readings:**


Moore, Barrington. 1966. *The Social Origins of Dictatorship and Democracy*. Boston: Beacon {Read the Preface, pgs. xvii to xxiv and Chapters 7, 8, 9, pgs. 413-483}


Recommended Readings:


**Week 4 (Feb 1st): Political Regimes II: Resource Curse; Democratic Backsliding and Breakdown**

**Required Readings:**


**Recommended Readings:**


**Week 5 (Feb 8th): Political Regimes III: Authoritarianism**

**Required Readings:**


Slater, Dan. 2010. *Contentious Politics and Authoritarian Leviathans in Southeast Asia*. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press {Chapter 1}; *Also covered in POL 2700*

**Required Readings:**


***Reading Week: No class on Feb 15th***

**Week 6 (Feb 22nd): Parties and Party Systems**

**Required Readings**


**Recommended Readings**


**Week 7 (Mar 1st): Elections, Voters, and Participation**


Recommended


Week 8 (Mar 8th): Patronage and Clientelism; Populism


**Recommended**


Hagopian, Frances, Carlos Gervasoni, and Juan Andres Moraes. 2008. "From Patronage to Program: The emergence of party-oriented legislators in Brazil." *Comparative Political Studies*.


**Week 9 (Mar 15th): Political Economy I: States, markets, and development**

**Required Readings:**


Bates, Robert. 1981. Markets and states in tropical Africa: the political basis of agricultural policies. Berkeley: UC Press {Chapters 1, 2, 5}

Cardoso, Fernando Henrique and Faletto, Enzo. 1979. Dependency and Development in Latin America. University of California Press {Chapters 1, 2, 6, postscriptum}.


**Recommended Readings:**
Polanyi, Karl. 2001. The Great Transformation. Boston: Beacon (Introduction by Fred Block, pgs. xviii-xxxviii; Ch. 6 – The Self-Regulating Market and Fictitious Commodities; Ch. 11 – “Man, Nature and Productive Organization)


Week 10 (Mar 22nd): Political Economy II: Politics of Growth, Public Goods, and Redistribution

Required Readings:


Recommended


Gallagher, Mary E. “Reform and openness”: why China's economic reforms have delayed democracy." World Politics 54, no. 3 (2002): 338-372.


Required Readings


Recommended Readings


Skocpol, Theda. 1992. Protecting Mothers and Soldiers: the political origins of social policy in the United States. Cambridge, Mass.: Belknap Press of Harvard University Press. (Reprise. This is also listed in the week on American political development.)


**Week 12 (Apr 5th): Courts and Constitutions (Guest: Filiz Kahraman)**

**Required Readings**


**Recommended Readings:**


