

Professor Alisa Gaunder
Mood-Bridwell Hall 241
Office Hours: M 1:30-2:30; W 10-11 or by appointment

Email: gaundera@southwestern.edu
Office phone: 863-1418
Spring 2014

Comparative Politics (32-144)

Course overview

Comparative politics is the study of politics *within* nations, as opposed to international relations, which is the study of politics *among* nations. This particular comparative course has ideological, historical, cultural, and institutional components in the exploration of five countries—Great Britain, the former Soviet Union, Germany, Japan, and India. Specifically, we will explore such topics as the English Civil War and the rise of political liberalism, the emergence of Communism in the Soviet Union, the rise of fascism in Interwar Europe, party politics in Britain, Germany and Japan, state-led development in Japan, decolonization in India, modernization in developing countries, and many more topics. Getting an introduction to such diverse phenomena is a vital part of a higher education in political science.

Student Learning Outcomes

After completing this course students will demonstrate a better understanding of the following:

- The way values and beliefs influence politics (the cultural dimensions of politics)
- The role of the “rules of the game” in politics (the institutional dimensions of politics)
- Decision making processes in different countries
- How to employ the comparative method
- Political analysis through writing. Specifically, the student will learn how to devise a clear thesis sentence, analyze various scholarly arguments, provide evidence to support an argument, consider and refute counterarguments, and properly cite sources using the Turabian style guide.
- Paideia Moments: Students will demonstrate the ability to describe the relationship between topics in this course and those in other courses they are taking.

Course Requirements

Participation	10%
Analytical Quizzes (1/27; 2/5; 3/3; 3/19; 4/2; 4/30)	10%
In-class exam (2/10)	10%
Comparative Paper (3/24)	20%
Constitutional Convention paper (4/14)	20%
Final (5/8: 6-9PM)	30%

Course Readings

The readings for this course contain conflicting interpretations of both theory and history. It is important that you read actively and critically. There is no single accepted “truth” in most of the topics we explore. Your job is to learn to identify, and then to compare and evaluate competing arguments. The readings for this course complement classroom discussion; neither can substitute for the other. You will learn the most from this class if you do the reading on each topic before coming to class.

Books

The following books are available for purchase as well as on 2 hour reserve in the library:
Weber, Max. *The Protestant Ethic and the Spirit of Capitalism*
Roy, Arundhati. *The Cost of Living*

Participation

Attendance and active participation count for 10% of your final grade. You should come to class having done the readings and prepared to talk about the material. Because discussion is critical to the course, attendance is required. Students are allowed **two** absences without penalty on the participation grade. Unexcused absences on days when a quiz is given have different consequences (see below). Each absence exceeding two will result in a five point deduction of your participation grade. **Doctors' notes do not exempt absences from this policy.** (Please inform the instructor of prolonged severe illnesses or other extenuating circumstances). Those students arriving late to class will be assessed a two point deduction. Students texting, surfing or sleeping in class will be marked absent. Attendance alone does not guarantee a good participation grade. You must also engage in class discussion. Finally, students are required to attend three political science paper presentations at the student works symposium on April 8th. Failure to turn in a presentation critique will result in a 10 point deduction from your participation grade.

Assignment Policies

The following policies hold for all the assignments in this course:

- (1) **LATE ASSIGNMENTS WILL RESULT IN A FAILING GRADE ON THE ASSIGNMENT.**
Students who inform the professor on the due date of the assignment that they are unable to turn in the assignment on time will have the opportunity to turn in the work late for no more than 50 points. The student must work out the timeline for the completion of the late work with the professor. Students with unanticipated extenuating circumstances (death in the family, severe documented illness, etc.) must communicate with the professor in person or through the Office of Academic Success by the due date of the assignment. All excuses will be verified and late work will not receive a penalty if turned in by the time agreed on.
- (2) **ALL ASSIGNMENTS MUST BE TURNED IN AS HARD COPIES.** Assignments will not be accepted as email attachments.
- (3) **PROPER CITATION IS REQUIRED.** For formal writing assignments (not exams), you must correctly cite source material in the body of your paper as well as in a works cited at the end of your paper using Kate Turabian's *A Manual for Writers of Research Papers, Theses, and Dissertations*, 7th edition. Failure to cite source material properly will result in at least a 1/3 letter grade deduction depending on the severity of the citation error. Plagiarism will result in a failing grade on the assignment.
- (4) **UNEXCUSED ABSENCES ON DAYS ASSIGNMENTS ARE DUE WILL RESULT IN A FAILING GRADE.** The instructor will follow up on documented excuses for absences. Forging medical documents is a federal felony as well as a violation of the university honor code.
- (5) **THE HONOR CODE HOLDS FOR ALL GRADED ASSIGNMENTS.** The work should be yours alone and no one else's.

Expectations for work outside the classroom

The course is designed with the expectation that students will spend at least 1-2 hours on course readings and assignments for every hour in class. In many instances you will need to spend even more time than this, especially when major assignments are due.

Quizzes

There will be six quizzes over the course of the semester. You will be able to drop the lowest of the six grades. If you are absent on the day of the quiz, you will receive a zero. This zero can be dropped as your lowest grade. The quiz dates are listed on the syllabus. Make-up quizzes will only be offered for university excused absences. The quizzes will cover course readings and class materials. You will be asked to identify and give the significance of key course concepts on the quiz. The identification involves defining the concept; the significance should relate the concept to course themes or an author's thesis.

Papers

The paper assignments will be writing assignments based on course material. These assignments are meant to introduce you to the fundamentals of writing political science papers. These papers will focus on devising a clear thesis sentence, analyzing various scholarly arguments, and considering and refuting counterarguments to your position. These papers will be 4-5 pages in length.

Exams

As this course is based on building comparisons among countries, the exams will be cumulative. The focus of both the midterm and the final will be on broad questions and concepts. Exams may include any of the following: terms to identify and give the significance of, quotes from course readings to identify and give the significance of, short answer questions, and essay questions. Make-up exams will only be offered to students with university excused absences or unanticipated extenuating circumstances (death in the family, severe documented illness, etc). If you are unable to take an exam you must communicate the circumstances as far in advance as possible. Unexcused absences on the day of an exam will result in a failing grade.

Grading

Your grades will be calculated on the following scale:

A+	97-100	B+	87-89	C+	77-79	D+	67-69
A	93-96	B	84-86	C	74-76	D	64-66
A-	90-92	B-	80-83	C-	70-73	D-	60-63

Special Accommodations

Southwestern University will make reasonable accommodations for students with documented disabilities. To arrange accommodations, students should contact the Center for Academic Success (success@southwestern.edu). Students seeking accommodations should notify the Assistant Director for Access and Academic Resources at least two weeks before services are needed. It is the student's responsibility to discuss any necessary accommodations with the appropriate faculty member.

Class Schedule and Reading Assignments

The citations below follow Turabian in most instances. This document, however, is not a formal works cited; it is a list of course readings. As a result, it contains additional notations for your reference which should not be included on a works cited, such as ER which stands for EReserves and selected pages which follow some book citations in parenthesis.

HOW WE COMPARE

- January 13 **Introduction: The Comparative Method**
- January 15 **Tradition and Modernity; Classic Liberalism**
- Reading: Puzo, Mario. 1969. *The Godfather*. New York: New American Library. (pp. 10-33). **ER**
- January 20 **MLK Day—no class!**
- January 22 **Paths to Modernity**
- Reading: Gershenkron, Alexander. 1962. Economic Backwardness in Historical Perspective. In *Economic Backwardness in Historical Perspective*, 5-30. Cambridge, MA: Belknap/Harvard University Press. **ER**

GREAT BRITAIN

- January 27 **Sources of Political and Economic Liberalism**
- QUIZ 1**
- Readings: Dunn, Richard. 1979. *The Age of Religious Wars 1559-1715*. New York: Norton. Pp. 1-9, 45-53, 164-178, 189-198. **ER**
- Weber, Max. 1992. *The Protestant Ethic and the Spirit of Capitalism*. New York: Routledge. (Original published 1930).
 Author's Introduction
 Chapter I: Religious Affiliation and Social Stratification
 Chapter IV: The Religious Foundations of Worldly Asceticism, **Part A. Calvinism**
 Chapter V: Asceticism and the Spirit of Capitalism
- January 29 **Economic Liberalism**
- Readings: Smith, Adam. 1991. *The Wealth of Nations*. New York: Alfred A. Knopf. (pp. 4-19; 294-312) **ER**
- Friedman, Milton. 1982. *Capitalism and Freedom*. Chicago: University of Chicago Press. pp. 1-21. **ER**
- February 3 **British Political Institutions**
- Reading: Lijphart, Arend. 1999. *Patterns of Democracy: Government Forms and Performance in Thirty-Six Countries*. New Haven: Yale University Press. (pp. 1-21, 143-170, 185-199). **ER**

February 5 **Britain Today: Liberalism in Action (or not)? /How to write in political science**

QUIZ 2

Readings: Blair, Tony. 1998. *The Third Way: New Politics for the New Century*. London: Fabian Society. **ER**

Wilson, Graham K. 2010. The British General Election of 2010. *Forum – A Journal of Applied Research in Contemporary Politics*, Vol. 8, Issue 2, Article 1. **PDF**

February 10 **In-class exam**

THE FORMER SOVIET UNION / RUSSIA

February 12 **Marxism**

Reading: Marx, Karl. 1977. The Communist Manifesto. In *Karl Marx: Selected Writings*, ed. David McLellan, 221-246. Oxford: Oxford University Press. **ER**

February 17 **Marxism/Leninism**

Readings: Lenin, V.I. 1986. What Is to Be Done? In *Political Leadership: A Source Book*, ed. Barbara Kellerman, 445-8. Pittsburgh: University of Pittsburgh Press. **ER**

Tucker, Robert. 1974. Lenin as Revolutionary Hero. In *Stalin as Revolutionary*, 18-63. New York: Norton. **ER**

February 19 **Stalinism and the Legacies of Leninism and Stalinism**

Reading: Khrushchev, Nikita. 1970. Secret Speech. In *Khrushchev Remembers*, ed. Edward Crankshaw, 561-587. Boston: Little Brown. **ER**

February 24 **Stalin Trial**

Reading: Tucker, Robert. 1965. Introduction. In *The Great Purge Trial*, eds. Robert Tucker and Stephen F. Cohen, IX-XLVIII. New York: Grosset & Dunlap. **ER**

February 26 **Political Institutions in Russia**

Reading: Lansky, Miriam and Elspeth Suthers. 2013. Putin versus Civil Society: Outlawing the Opposition. *Journal of Democracy* 24.3(July): 75-87. **ER**

GERMANY

March 3 **Fascism as a concept**

QUIZ 3

Readings: Mussolini, Benito. 1968. Fundamental Ideas. In *Fascism: Doctrine and Institutions*, 7-31. New York: Howard Fertig. **ER**

SEE NEXT PAGE FOR ADDITIONAL READINGS FOR MARCH 3RD

Hitler, Adolf. 1986. Mein Kampf. In *Political Leadership: A Source Book*, ed. Barbara Kellerman, 438-444. Pittsburgh: University of Pittsburgh Press. **ER**

Weber, Max. 1947. IV. Charismatic Authority. In *Max Weber, The Theory of Social and Economic Organization*, ed. Talcott Parsons, 358-373. New York: Free Press. **ER**

March 5 **The Causes of Fascism**

Readings: Chiot, Daniel. 1977. *Social Change in the 20th Century*. New York: Harcourt Brace Jovanovich, Inc. (pp. 89-119) **ER**

Turner, Henry Ashby, Jr. 1972. Fascism and Modernization. *World Politics* 24 (July): 547-564. **ER**

March 10-12 **Spring Break—no class!**

March 17 **German Political Institutions**

Readings: Farrell, David M. 2001. Mixed Electoral Systems. In *Electoral Systems: A Comparative Introduction*, 97-120. New York: Palgrave MacMillan. **ER**

Wiliarty, Sarah. 2008. Angela Merkel's Path to Power: The Role of Internal Party Dynamics and Leadership. *German Politics* 7 (1): 81-96. **ER**

March 19 **Legacies of Fascism**

QUIZ 5

Reading: Green, Simon. 2007. Divergent Traditions, Converging Responses: Immigration and Integration Policy in the UK and Germany. *German Politics* 16 (1): 95-115. **ER**

JAPAN

March 24 **The Path to Industrialization in Japan**

Comparative paper due at the beginning of class

Reading: Rosenbluth, Frances McCall and Michael F. Thies. 2010. Japan's Political Experiments. In *Japan Transformed: Political Change and Economic Restructuring*, 32-52. Princeton: Princeton University Press. **ER**

March 26 **The Japanese Economic Miracle?**

Readings: Johnson, Chalmers. 1982. *MITI and the Japanese Miracle*. Stanford: Stanford University Press. pp. 305-324. **ER**

Vogel, Steven K. 2001. The Crisis of German and Japanese Capitalism: Stalled on the Road to the Liberal Market Model. *Comparative Political Studies* 34 (December): 1103-1131. **ER**

March 31 **Political Institutions in Japan**

Readings: Shinoda, Tomohito. 2012. Japan's Failed Experiment: The DPJ and Institutional Change for Political Leadership. *Asian Survey*. 52, no. 5: 799-821. **ER**

Pekkanen, Robert. 2012. The 2012 Election Paradox: How the LDP Lost Voters and Won the Election. National Bureau of Research Commentary. December 18. http://nbr.org/downloads/pdfs/PSA/Pekkanen_Commentary_121812.pdf (accessed January 8, 2013). **ER**

April 2 **Modernization Theory**

QUIZ 5

Readings: Gaunder, Alisa. 2011. Political Parties in Democratic Japan. *Education About Asia* 16 (Spring): 50-53. **ER**

Krauss, Ellis S. and Takeshi Ishida. 1989. Japanese Democracy in Perspective. In *Democracy in Japan*, eds. Ellis S. Krauss and Takeshi Ishida, 327-339. Pittsburgh: University of Pittsburgh Press. **ER**

Martin, Sherry L. and Gil Steel. 2008. Contemporary Japanese Democracy. In *Democratic Reform in Japan: Assessing the Impact*, eds., Sherry L. Martin and Gil Steel, 213-219. Boulder: Lynne Rienner. **ER**

April 7 **Constitutional Convention**

Reading: Lijphart, Arend. 1999. Review "Introduction" and "The Westminster Model of Democracy"; "Electoral Systems: Majority and Plurality Methods Versus Proportional Representation"; "Division of Power: The Federal-Unitary and Centralized-Decentralized Contrasts," in Arend Lijphart, *Patterns of Democracy: Government Forms and Performance in Thirty-Six Countries*. New Haven: Yale University Press. (pp. 1-21, 143-170, 185-199). **ER**

April 8 **From Every Voice: Student Works Symposium** (required critique of three political science paper presentations)

April 9 **Constitutional Convention**

INDIA

April 14 **The New Imperialism (Constitutional Convention Paper due)**

Reading: Hobson, J.A. 1976. Imperialism: A Study. In *The "New Imperialism": Analysis of Nineteenth-Century Expansion*. Second Edition, ed. Harrison M. Wright, 5-44. Lexington, MA: D. C. Heath and Company. **ER**

April 16 **The Causes of Colonialism**

Readings: Lenin, V.I. 1976. The Highest Stage of Capitalism. In *The "New Imperialism": Analysis of Nineteenth-Century Expansion*. Second Edition, ed. Harrison M. Wright, 44-59. Lexington, MA: D. C. Heath and Company. **ER**

Readings for April 16th continued on next page

Schumpeter, Joseph A. 1976. Imperialism as a Social Atavism. *The "New Imperialism": Analysis of Nineteenth-Century Expansion*. Second Edition, ed. Harrison M. Wright, 69-88. Lexington, MA: D. C. Heath and Company. **ER**

April 21 **British Colonialism in India**

Reading: Gunder Frank, Andre. 1972. The Development of Underdevelopment. In *Dependence and Underdevelopment: Latin America's Political Economy*, eds. J. Cockcraft, A. G. Frank, and D. L. Johnson, 3-17. Garden City, N.Y.: Anchor Books. 3-17. **ER**

April 23 **Political Institutions of India**

Reading: Jaffrelot, Christophe and Gilles Verniers. 2011. Re-nationalization of India's Political Party System or Continued Prevalence of Regionalism and Ethnicity? Evidence from the 2009 General Election. *Asian Survey*. 51, no. 6: 1090-1111. **ER**

April 28 **India's Economy**

Reading: Roy, Arundhati. 1999. The Greater Common Good. In *The Cost of Living*, 1-90. New York: The Modern Library.

April 30 **The Economic Legacies of Colonialism**

QUIZ 6

Readings: Maitra, Sreya. Development Induced Displacement: Issues of Compensation and Resettlement—Experiences from the Narmada Valley and Sardar Sarovar Project. *Japanese Journal of Political Science* 10 (2): 191-211. **ER**

Ranganathan, V. 2003. The World Bank and India's Economic Development. *Economic & Political Weekly* 38 (3): 236-241. **ER**

May 8 **Final Exam**
6-9 p.m.