

Course Outcome Summary

Standard Course

POLSC 211 Introduction to Comparative Politics

Course Information

Division Humanities/ Social Sciences

Contact Hours 45 Total Credits 3

Prerequisites POLSC 151

Course Description

This course addresses key concepts, theories and academic approaches for the study of comparative politics and for understanding differences among governments and political systems in today's complex world. Students will explore concepts such as authoritarianism, democratization, legitimacy, sustainability, globalization and modernization, and will understand how these concepts influence political activity within and among states. Examples of different government structures will be introduced, including the key factors that affect policy decisions within various government systems and structures, and how those structures and decisions shape society. Students will also obtain a greater understanding of various political and social cultures from both Western and non-Western cultures. Whenever possible, students will use research, the Internet, museums and travel to enhance their learning of the differences between political systems and institutions. This course is a satisfier course for the Global Studies Degree Designation.

Course Outcomes

In order to evidence success in this course, students will be able to:

- 1. Identify/Recognize various approaches and methods for the study of comparative politics
- 2. Identify/Recognize how various countries organize their political institutions and how various countries employ political processes
- 3. Identify/Recognize the difference between authoritarianism and democracy
- 4. Demonstrate/Practice through written assignments the following the use of appropriate vocabulary to describe differences among states, governments, and cultures
- 5. Demonstrate/Practice through written assignments the following how emerging trends and global issues that affect world political systems today; how these issues and trends will likely affect future events and relationships among political actors
- 6. Demonstrate/Practice through written assignments the following the role that developing countries play in global politics
- 7. Demonstrate/Practice through written assignments the following critically reflect the diversity among political system sin contemporary society

Date Updated: February 2016

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