

POLS 220 Spring 2014
Introduction to Comparative Politics
MW lecture 11.00-11.50 am
F discussion at 10, 11, or 2
Or lecture at 11
Professor Kendra Koivu
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Syllabus v.1

This course offers an introduction to the academic field of comparative politics. It covers the historical, core concerns of the field including the development of the modern state, forms of political regime, democratization, nationalism, political parties and electoral systems, racial formation and ethnic conflict, the relationship between the state and the market, and the formation of political identities. Readings and examples are drawn from all regions of the world.

Format of class

All four sections of this class meet twice per week together for lecture and once a week, on Friday, for smaller group discussion. The section you are enrolled in (1-4) determines the time and location of your Friday discussion group. At various points, all four sections will meet together at 11 am Friday in SMLC 102 (e.g. the first week of class, review sessions, and exams).

Policies

You are required to arrive to class on time, having completed the assigned reading for the week. This includes reading a national newspaper on a *daily basis*.

You are expected to refrain from using your phone or smartphone for the duration of class. In addition, you are expected to avoid email, Facebook, Twitter and other social networking sites for the duration of class.

Course communication will occur via email and over UNM Learn. The syllabus, readings, and assignments will be posted on the course webpage.

Accommodation of Disabilities

Qualified students with disabilities needing appropriate academic adjustments should contact me as soon as possible to ensure your needs are met in a timely manner. Handouts are available in alternative accessible formats upon request. If

you need more information on the Americans with Disability Act, please contact the Office of Equal Opportunity at 277-5251.

Political Science Program Student Learning Objectives

The following are the learning objectives for the class:

1. The students will demonstrate an ability to think critically regarding political problems, trends, and developments.
2. The students will demonstrate an ability to communicate effectively.
3. The students will demonstrate strong analytical writing skills.
4. The students will demonstrate knowledge and understanding of fundamental concepts and theories in political science.
5. The students will be able to apply political science theories and/or concepts to real-world cases or be able to apply a case or set of cases using an appropriate theory.
6. The students will be able to evaluate theories, either in light of empirical evidence or on theoretical grounds.
7. The students will demonstrate knowledge and understanding of their rights and obligations as a citizen.

Readings

Since keeping up with current events is an important component of this class, all students should subscribe to *The New York Times* and read it daily. If you prefer, you may also subscribe to the *Wall Street Journal*. As a student, you are entitled to a special educational discount. An online subscription (giving you full access to the website and archives) is a cost-effective option. More information is available at: <http://homedelivery.nytimes.com/HDS/CMHome.do?mode=CMHome&CampaignCode=393W8>

Please bear in mind that in order to read both of these papers on the web you need a subscription.

The texts for the course include:

David Samuels, *Comparative Politics* (Boston: Pearson Education, 2013). Referred to in the schedule as *Samuels*.

The book is available for sale at the UNM Bookstore, together with an access code so you can also read it online at mypoliscilab.com.

All other required readings will be posted in pdf format on UNM Learn (learn.unm.edu), unless indicated otherwise. The readings (preceded by a "*" in the syllabus) are listed under the author's name and the date of publication (e.g. "Huntington 1968").

Assignments

There will be two midterms and a final exam. The midterms will be held on February 21 and April 11. The final exam will be held on May 14.

In addition, students will take a map quiz during the second week of class on January 31.

Grading

The map quiz and class participation will count for 30 percent of your final grade.

The midterms will count for 20 percent each (for a total of 40 percent).

The final exam will count for 30 percent.

Office Hours

Kendra Koivu: W 1.00-2.00 pm and F 11.30 am-1.30 pm (SSCI #2048)

Anna Calasanti: M 1.00-3.00 pm (SSCI #2044)

Laura Finck: W 2.00-4.00 pm (SSCI #2066)

The purpose of office hours is to answer administrative questions and to resolve confusion or add clarity to course materials. It is NOT to fill you in on material you missed by not attending class.

Schedule

January 22, 24. Introduction. What is CP? Approaches to CP. Concept and importance of the state. (Week 1)

Note: For this first week of class, we will meet W and F at 11 together in SMLC 102. There will be no discussion sections.

Samuels, pp. 1-27.

January 27, 29, 31. State, Institutions, and Political Order. (Week 2)

Note: The first meeting of discussion sections will occur on January 31. The map quiz will take place at this time.

*Samuel Huntington, *Political Order in Changing Societies* (New Haven: Yale University Press, 1968), pp. 1-59.

Samuels, pp. 29-38.

February 3, 5, 7. Origins of the State. (Week 3)

*Otto Hintze, "Military Organization and the Organization of the State," in Feliz Gilbert, ed., *The Historical Essays of Otto Hintze* (1975).

*Jeffrey Herbst, "War and the State in Africa," *International Security* 14, 4 (1990): 117-139.

Samuels, pp. 38-57.

February 10, 12, 14. Civil War and Conflict (Week 4)

*James Fearon and David Laitin, "Ethnicity, Insurgency, and Civil War," *American Political Science Review* (2003).

William Finnegan, "The Kingpins: The Fight for Guadalajara," *The New Yorker*, July 12, 2012. Available at:
http://www.newyorker.com/reporting/2012/07/02/120702fa_fact_finnegan

Samuels, pp. 258-284.

February 17, 19. Origins of Democracy and Democratization. (Week 5)

*Seymour Martin Lipset, *Political Man* (New York: Anchor Books, 1963), pp. 27-63.

Samuels, pp. 120-146.

MIDTERM EXAM #1: February 21 in main classroom (SMLC 102) at 11:00 am.

February 24, 26, 28. Democracies. (Week 6)

*Robert Dahl, *Polyarchy* (New Haven: Yale Press, 1971), pp. 1-16.

*Arend Lijphart, "Constitutional Choices for New Democracies," *Journal of Democracy* 2, 1 (Winter 1991): 72-84.

Samuels I, pp. 59-90.

March 3, 5, 7. Authoritarian Regimes. (Week 7)

*Minxin Pei, "How China is Ruled," *American Interest* (Mar/Apr 2008).

Samuels I, pp. 92-118.

March 10, 12, 14. Collective Action and Political Representation (Week 8)

*Anthony Downs, *Economic Theory of Democracy* (New York: Harper and Row, 1957), chs. 7-8.

Samuels, pp. 229-256.

March 17, 19, 21. No class. Fall Break.

March 24, 28, 31. Nationalism and Citizenship. (Week 9)

Note: There is no class on W March 26.

*Rogers Brubaker, *Citizenship and Nationhood in France and Germany* (Harvard University Press, 1992), Introduction.

*Marc Morje Howard, "Comparative Citizenship: An Agenda for Cross-National Research," *Perspectives on Politics* 4, 3 (Sept 2006).

Samuels, pp. 148-172.

April 2, 4, 7. Race and Ethnicity. (Weeks 10+11)

*Kenneth Prewitt, "Racial Classification in America. Where do We Go From Here?" *Daedalus* 134, 1 (Winter 2005): 5-17.

Mireya Navarro, "For Many Latinos, Racial Identity is More Culture than Color," *The New York Times* January 13, 2012. Available at:

<http://www.nytimes.com/2012/01/14/us/for-many-latinos-race-is-more-culture-than-color.html?pagewanted=all>

*Melissa Nobles, "The Myth of Latin American Multiracialism," *Daedalus* 134, 1 (Winter 2005): 82-87.

Henry Louis Gates, *Black in Latin America*.

<http://www.pbs.org/wnet/black-in-latin-america/>

April 9. Review Session.

MIDTERM EXAM #2: April 11 in main classroom (SMLC 102) at 11:00AM

April 14, 16, 18. Gender Politics and Inequality (Though not necessarily gendered inequality...) (Week 12)

*World Bank, World Development Report 2012. Washington, D.C.: The World Bank. Read Part I (chapters 1-2, pp. 56-92).

Katrin Bennhold, "In Sweden, Men Can Have It All." *New York Times*, June 9, 2010. Available at:

http://www.nytimes.com/2010/06/10/world/europe/10iht-sweden.html?_r=1&pagewanted=all

Samuels, pp. 202-227. (Skim)

*Jacob Hacker and Paul Pierson, "Winner Take All Politics: Public Policy, Political Organizations, and the Precipitous Rise of Top Incomes in the United States," *Politics and Society* 38 (2010).

April 21, 23, 25. Politics and Markets (Week 13)

*Adam Smith, *The Wealth of Nations*, ed. Edwin Cannan (University of Chicago Press [1776] 1976), pp. 7-25.

*Karl Marx and Friedrich Engels, *The Communist Manifesto* in O'Neil and Rogowski, eds, *Essential Readings in Comparative Politics*, pp. 323-336.

Samuels, pp. 286-293.

April 28, 30, May 2. Political Economy of Advanced Democracies (Week 14)

Russell Shorto, "Going Dutch: How I Learned to Love the European Welfare State," *The New York Times*, April 29, 2009. Available at:

<http://www.nytimes.com/2009/05/03/magazine/03european-t.html?pagewanted=all>

Samuels, pp. 316-344.

May 5, 7. Political Economy of Development. (Week 15)

*Darren Acemoglu, "Root Causes: A Historical Approach to Assessing the Role of Institutions in Economic Development," *Finance and Development* (June 2003).

Samuels, pp. 293-314.

Friday May 9. Review Session. SMLC 102 at 11 am.

FINAL EXAM: Wednesday, May 14 in SMLC 102 from 10:00am-12:00noon