

## **POLITICS 243-1, Introduction to Comparative Politics**

**David Yamanishi**

### **Contact Information**

David Yamanishi

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Office hours: Monday-Friday, 9am-11am and 1-4pm, unless otherwise announced.

Consulting Librarian: Tonnie Flannery, 308 Cole Library, x4256, [tflannery@cornellcollege.edu](mailto:tflannery@cornellcollege.edu).

Writing Studio: 125 Cole Library, hours: Monday-Thursday, 9am-5pm and 6-11pm; Friday, 9am-5pm; Sunday, 1-5pm and 6-11pm

### **Overview**

It may seem strange to stress the point after the title that appears above, but this is a class in comparative politics. That is to say, our goal is to see what we can learn about politics if we study it *comparatively*. Hence we will, as is the norm in such classes, read about other countries, but we will move beyond learning about other countries taken separately to see what we can conclude about more general political questions by comparing the countries we study to each other. Questions such as: why do some countries have democratic governments and others dictatorships? What difference does it make whether a country is democratic or dictatorial? Why do some countries have lots of political parties and others only a couple, or just one? Why are some countries rich and others poor? Why do some countries experience civil war and others don't? What do countries that protect ethnic, religious, or social minorities have in common?

### **Disabilities**

If you have a disability registered with the college that will require special accommodations for the exam or other assignments, please let me know by Wednesday, September 5.

### **Feedback**

I am very interested in your suggestions for improvement of this syllabus and my teaching generally. Please email comments to me as you think of them or share them with me at my office.

## Grading

Participation in class	20%	includes required paper conferences, in-class written work, and oral participation
Political history paper	10%	due Monday, September 10
Comparative thematic paper	10%	due Friday, September 14
Final paper	20%	due Friday, September 21
Presentation	10%	Monday or Tuesday, September 24 or 25
Final exam	30%	Wednesday, September 26

## Books to Buy

The following books are available at the bookstore in the Commons.

John McCormick, *Comparative Politics in Transition* (5<sup>th</sup> ed.), Thomson Wadsworth, 2007.

Patrick H. O'Neil, *Essentials of Comparative Politics* (2<sup>nd</sup> ed.), Norton, 2007.

Patrick H. O'Neil and Ronald Rogowski, eds., *Essential Readings in Comparative Politics* (2<sup>nd</sup> ed.), Norton, 2006.

## Reading and Assignment Schedule

Monday, September 3	9am:	Introductions, Overview
Tuesday, September 4	10am:	Library Information Literacy Session (126/127 Cole Library) (Required only if this is your first politics course at CC.)
	1pm:	<b><i>Introduction to Comparative Method</i></b>  O'Neil, Introduction (18 pgs.)  McCormick, Introduction (20 pgs.)  Lichbach & Zuckerman, Research Traditions and Theory in Comparative Politics (5 pgs.)  Lave & March, Observation, Speculation, and Modeling (22 pgs.)



- Tuesday, September 11 1pm: ***Authoritarian Countries***
- O'Neil, Authoritarianism & Totalitarianism and Communism & Postcommunism (52 pgs.)
- McCormick, Communist & Postcommunist Countries (11 pgs.)
- Linz & Stepan, Modern Nondemocratic Regimes (13 pgs.)
- Diamond, Thinking about Hybrid Regimes (11 pgs.)
- Marx & Engels, Manifesto of the Communist Party (14 pgs.)
- Przeworski, The Fall of Communism (6 pgs.)
- Wednesday, September 12 1pm: McCormick, Russia and China (80 pgs.)
- Pye, Traumatized Political Cultures (11 pgs.)
- Baruma, What Beijing Can Learn from Moscow (8 pgs.)
- Thursday, September 13 1pm: ***Newly Industrializing Countries***
- O'Neil, Less-Developed & Newly Industrializing Countries (30 pgs.)
- McCormick, Newly Industrializing Countries (13 pgs.)
- Barro, Democracy a Recipe for Growth? (3 pgs.)
- Przeworski et al., Political Regimes and Economic Growth (7 pgs.)
- Pritchett, Divergence, Big Time (10 pgs.)
- The Economist, Liberty's Great Advance (5 pgs.)
- Friday, September 14 1pm: McCormick, Mexico and India (83 pgs.)
- Comparative thematic paper due.*
- Monday, September 17 various: *Appointments to discuss papers.*
- 1pm: ***Less Developed Countries***
- McCormick, Less Developed Countries and Nigeria (57 pgs.)
- Collier & Gunning, Why Has Africa Grown Slowly? (15 pgs.)

Tuesday, September 18      various: *Appointments to discuss papers.*

1pm:      ***Islamic Countries***

McCormick, Islamic Countries and Egypt (54 pgs.)

Juergensmeyer, The New Religious State (9 pgs.)

Fish, Islam & Authoritarianism (13 pgs.)

Huntington, The Clash of Civilizations? (14 pgs.)

Sen, Civilizational Imprisonments (9 pgs.)

Wednesday, September 19      1pm:      ***Marginal Countries***

McCormick, Marginal Countries and Haiti (34 pgs.)

Easterly, To Help the Poor (9 pgs.)

Thursday, September 20      1pm:      ***Political Violence***

O'Neil, Political Violence (31 pgs.)

Herbst, War and the State in Africa (13 pgs.)

Rotberg, New Nature of Nation-State Failure (8 pgs.)

Skocpol, France, Russia, China (16 pgs.)

Crenshaw, The Causes of Terrorism (14 pgs.)

Friday, September 21

No class.

*Paper due at 4pm.*

Monday, September 24      9am:      *Country presentations.*

1pm:      *Country presentations.*

Tuesday, September 25      9am:      *Country presentations.*

1pm:      *Country presentations.*

Wednesday, September 26      9am:      *Course evaluations.*

*Final exam.*

## **Honesty in Academic Work (from the *Compass*)**

The College considers Cornell students to be responsible persons whose maturity will develop in a community that encourages free inquiry. The College expects the highest degree of personal integrity in all relationships. Any form of dishonesty is a violation of this spirit and of College rules.

A student is expected to explicitly acknowledge ideas, claims, observations, or data of others, unless generally known. When a piece of work is submitted for credit, a student is asserting that the submission is her or his work unless there is a citation of a specific source. If there is no appropriate acknowledgement of sources, whether intended or not, this may constitute a violation of the College's requirement for honesty in academic work and may be treated as a case of academic dishonesty.

Dishonesty in academic work includes both cheating and plagiarism.

**Cheating** refers to the use of unauthorized sources of information on examinations or any attempt by students to deceive the evaluator of an examination, paper, or project.

**Plagiarism** is the act of taking the work of another and presenting it as one's own, without acknowledgement of the original source.

There is not one set of rules for the acknowledgement of sources that is appropriate across all disciplines. For this reason, students are always encouraged to consult their professors and guidelines included in their syllabi. However, in general the appropriate acknowledgement of sources involves meeting the following requirements:

**Quotations and Paraphrasing.** All direct quotations, even if mingled with original words and ideas, must be placed within quotation marks and accompanied by a specific citation for the source of the quotation. Unless the information is generally known, all phrases that are not original to the author - even two or three words - must be placed in quotation marks and cited. If an existing idea is used but paraphrased or summarized, both the original author's words and sentence structure must be changed and a specific citation for the source must still be made. It is always the responsibility of the student to provide precise sources for all ideas, information, or data he or she has borrowed or adapted. Simply listing sources in a bibliography is not sufficient. Students who use information from the World Wide Web are expected to follow these same guidelines for the citation of sources.

Failure to cite sources properly constitutes academic dishonesty, whether the omission is intentional or not.

**Ideas and Data.** All students are required to acknowledge the ideas of others. Every student is expected to do her or his own work in the completion of an assignment or an examination unless either (a) the sources for these ideas are explicitly cited, or (b) the instructor explicitly

allows such collaboration. In addition, a person giving unauthorized assistance to another on an examination is just as guilty of cheating as the person who accepts or solicits such aid.

Submitting revisions of academic work previously submitted, either in the current course or in previous courses, qualifies as academic dishonesty unless the student obtains the explicit permission of all of the instructors involved.

All data sources must be cited accurately. It is dishonest to fabricate or alter research data included in laboratory reports, projects, or other assignments.

A safe guide is to provide a full citation for every source consulted. Sources may include, but are not limited to, published books, articles, reviews, Internet sites, archival material, visual images, oral presentations, or personal correspondence. In addition, students should always keep previous drafts of their work in order to provide documentation of their original work. Finally, due to disciplinary differences, students should consult their professor, a librarian, and/or the Teaching and Learning Center for specific instructions on properly providing citations for sources.

### **Procedures for Dealing with Dishonesty in Academic Work (from the *Compass*)**

If an instructor judges that a student has violated the College's policies on academic honesty, the student may be charged with academic dishonesty and assigned an F either for the particular examination, paper, report, or project, or for the course. The instructor shall notify the student in writing of the charge and the penalty and shall include a statement of the circumstances which precipitated the action. A copy of the instructor's letter along with a copy of the paper shall be sent to the Registrar. The Registrar shall then advise the student in writing of the right to appeal. Within ten (10) days of notification, the student may appeal the charge and/or the penalty by submitting a letter to the Dean of the College requesting that he or she appoint an ad hoc committee consisting of three (3) faculty members, one of whom may be nominated by the student. The recommendation of this committee is advisory only and is not binding upon the instructor.

All material and information relative to the charge of academic dishonesty shall be kept by the Registrar in a special file during the period in which the student is enrolled at Cornell College, serving only as a statement of record if the student is charged a second time with academic dishonesty. In the case of an appeal after the first offense, the file shall be destroyed if the committee finds the student not guilty and the instructor concurs; otherwise, the recommendation of the committee shall be inserted into the special file. If there are no further charges, the file will be destroyed at the time of the student's graduation from Cornell.

Should a subsequent charge of academic dishonesty be brought against a student, the Registrar shall notify the Dean of the College who shall convene a committee consisting of the Dean of

the College, the Dean of Students, and the Chair of the Academic Standing Committee, who shall determine the status of the student. The normal penalty for a second offense is indefinite suspension from the College.