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PSC 520.01: Comparative Government

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Political Science 520
COMPARATIVE POLITICS

This course has two elements. The first is a general introduction to the field of comparative politics from the perspective of theories and approaches. That is, how do students of the field study their subject? This will entail a review of selected articles and books. There will be two articles each week which should be read and summarized in a paper not to exceed nor be less than three pages. These summaries are due on the dates indicated on the enclosed schedule. All articles are on reserve in the library from which you can make your own copy. Above all, DO NOT mark up the reserve copy. There will also be book review assignments of approximately five pages.

The second part is a research paper focusing on some aspect of public policy. This can be any subject from health care to law enforcement in any country other than the United States. This does not include foreign policy. The first step is to prepare a one-page prospectus indicating the nature of the topic and country. This should also include a title and an indication of the source material upon which the paper will be based. The prospectus is due September 19 but may be submitted earlier. The paper should be at least 5000 words in length exclusive of notes and bibliography. The paper is due no later than December 12 but may be submitted earlier.

Graduate studies presume seriousness of purpose and active participation in seminar discussion. Attendance is mandatory. Grades will be determined as follows:

Summaries	25%
Reports	25%
Discussion	25%
Paper	25%

9/12 Comparative Government and Political Science

Robert A Dahl, "Epitaph for a Monument to a Successful Protest,"
"AMERICAN POLITICAL SCIENCE REVIEW 1961 763-72

9/19 Systems Approach

David Easton, "An Approach to the Analysis of Political Systems,"
WORLD POLITICS (April 1957) 383-400

Gabriel Almond and G. Bingham Powell, COMPARATIVE POLITICS: A
DEVELOPMENTAL APPROACH, Chapter II

9/26 Structural-functional Analysis

William Flanigan and Edwin Fogelman, "Functionalism in Political Science," in Don Martindale, ed., FUNCTIONALISM IN THE SOCIAL SCIENCES 111-126

Robert Holt, "A Proposed Structural-Functional Framework for Political Science," in Martindale, 84-110

10/3 Political Legitimacy and Authority

Ruth Lane, The Art of Comparative Politics Ch. 5

Howard Wiarda, New Direction in Comparative Politics Ch. 3

10/10 Democratization

Daniel Triesman, "Dollars and Democratization," Comparative Politics (October 1998): 1-22

Evelyn Huber, et al. "The Paradoxes of Democratization," Comparative Politics (April 1997): 323-42

10/17 Political Parties and Groups

Gabriel Almond, et al. Comparative Politics Today Ch. 5

Stathis Kalyvas, "Commitment Problems in Emerging Democracies: The Case of Religious parties," Comparative Politics (July 2000) 379-98

10/24 Corporatism

M. Crepaz, "From Semisovereignty to Sovereignty: The Decline of Corporatism and the Rise of Parliament in Austria," Comparative Politics 27 (October 1994): 45-66.

Alan Siaroff, "The Fate of Centrifugal Democracies," Comparative Politics (April 2000), 43-60

10/31 Political Culture

Gabriel Almond, Civic Culture Revisited Chapter 1, 1-37

Ronald Inglehart, "The Renaissance of Political Culture", American Political Science Review (December 1988) 1203-30

11/7 Political Development

Harry Eckstein, "The Idea of Political Development," WORLD POLITICS (July 1982) 451-86

Ruth Lane, The Art of Comparative Politics, Ch. 3

11/14 Dependency Theory

Tony Smith, "The Dependency Approach," (Wiarda, DIRECTIONS IN COMPARATIVE POLITICS) 113-126

"The Internationalization of the Market: The New Nature of Dependence," 149-71.

11/21 Civil Violence

Charles Tilly, "Does Modernization Breed Revolution?" COMPARATIVE POLITICS (April 1973) 425-7

Ian Lesser, et al. Countering the New Terrorism Ch. 2