POLS 305 GLOBAL/COMPARATIVE POLITICS
Introduction to Method, Theory and Issues in Comparative Politics
SUMMER– SESSION 2 (July 8–August 15, 2013)

Instructor: Ozge Tekin
E-mail: otekin@hawaii.edu
Phone: (808) 956-3374
Days/Time: M-F/09:00 AM – 10:15 AM
Classroom: BUSAD C103
Office: Shidler College of Business B 201
Office Hours: W-F/11:45 AM – 12:45 PM

→ COURSE TEXT AND REQUIRED MATERIAL:

The following book is REQUIRED for the course:
- Additional (secondary) readings will be provided via Laulima.

→ COURSE OVERVIEW

How is it that some countries were able to overcome economic underdevelopment and gained their places among advanced economies and others remained mired in poverty? Can democracy be successfully imposed on a country? Will the military in Egypt withdraw from politics and start the transition process to democracy? Why is it that some social movements (i.e. gay-rights movement) succeed while others fail (i.e. Occupy Wall Street)? There are many answers to these questions. But how do we know we have the right argument? The primary aim of this course is to provide a window for you into the field of comparative politics. By the end of this course you will have an educated perspective on how to approach to understanding and/or explaining significant events and processes in various countries and societies throughout the world. Economic underdevelopment, democratization, breakdown of authoritarian regimes, social movements, and globalization are among the processes that we are going to cover in this course. But most importantly, we will learn why is it important to compare these processes with each other in different parts of the world. In short, this course is designed to help you gain a more substantial understanding of how to do a comparative political analysis.

→ COURSE REQUIREMENTS AND GRADING

1. Participation and Attendance (15% of the grade): Students are expected to arrive on time and participate in all scheduled class sessions.

2. Quizzes (15% of the grade): There will be up to 10 quizzes and they will be given following the end of each chapter of the textbook. The quizzes will be based on the assigned readings and/or previous lecture or lectures. The quizzes are NOT meant to be difficult they are, however, to make sure that you understood the basic concepts and material that was covered in each chapter. Each quiz will be worth 10 pts and they will be composed of fill-in-the-blank, true/false, and short answer questions.
3. **Midterm (35% of the grade):** The midterm is going to be a multiple-choice test. There will be 25 questions on the test and each will be worth 4pts.

4. **Final (35% of the grade):** The final examination will cover material from the entire book and any other material discussed in class. The first part will consist of short answer, fill-in-the-blank, true/false and multiple-choice questions (very similar to the questions you receive on the quizzes; in fact, many questions will be drawn directly from the quizzes.) The second part will be composed of a short essay question. You will be asked to choose one question and provide a short essay that demonstrates your mastery of the key concepts, principles and frameworks of comparative politics. Part I will be worth 60% of the grade and the remaining 40% will be assigned to the essay question.

**GRADING:** Grading will be strictly determined by a weighted average of the scores you receive on the requirements above. The scale is as follows:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Grade</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>A+</td>
<td>95 percent and above</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>A</td>
<td>90~94 percent</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>A-</td>
<td>87~89 percent</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>B+</td>
<td>84~86 percent</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>B</td>
<td>80~83 percent</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>B-</td>
<td>76~79 percent</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>C+</td>
<td>73~75 percent</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>C</td>
<td>70~72 percent</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>C-</td>
<td>66~69 percent</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>D+</td>
<td>63~65 percent</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>D</td>
<td>60~62 percent</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>D-</td>
<td>55~59 percent</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>F</td>
<td>54 and below</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

→ **SCHEDULE OF READINGS**

**Part 1: (July 8/9/10)**

**Introduction to Course:** In our first meeting, we will review the syllabus and the requirements of the course. Later, we will see an excerpt from the documentary *Bowling for Columbine*, by Michael Moore. A short lecture on “what is politics” and “what is comparative politics” will follow.

**Reading:** Lim, ch. 1, pp. 1-28 (note: *please read this chapter immediately following our first class meeting; you will be responsible for this chapter on the first quiz and of course on the midterm and final*)

**Quiz #1 – July 10**

**Part 2: (July 11/12/15)**

**Reading:** Lim, ch. 2, pp. 31-65


**Quiz #2 – July 15**

**Part 3: (July 16/17/18/19)**

**Reading:** Lim, ch. 3, pp. 67-101

Theory in Comparative Politics: Major Research Traditions

**Quiz #3 – July 19**

**Part 4: (July 22/23/24)**

**Reading:** Lim, ch. 4, pp. 105-137

Why Are Poor Countries Poor? Explaining Economic Underdevelopment
Quiz #4 – July 24

Part 5: (July 25/26/29/30)
Reading: Lim, ch. 5, pp. 139-178
Why is East Asia Rich? Explaining Capitalist Growth and Industrialization in Japan, South Korea, Taiwan, and China

Quiz #5 – July 30

Part 6: (31/August 1/2/5)
Reading: Lim, ch. 6, pp. 179-220
What makes a Democracy? Explaining the Breakdown of Authoritarian Regimes

Quiz #6 – August 5

August 6 – Mid Term

Part 7: (August 7/8/9)
Reading: Lim, ch. 7, pp. 221-252
What makes a terrorist? Explaining “Violent Substate Activism”

Quiz #7 – August 9

Part 8: (August 12/13/14)
Reading: Lim, ch. 8, pp. 253-282
What makes a social movement? Explaining the Rise and Success of Collective Mobilization

Quiz #8 – August 14

August 15 – FINAL EXAM