POLS 305: COMPARATIVE GLOBAL POLITICS

MW 11:00-12:15 Saunders 624

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Course Objective: To provide students with a basic understanding of revolutionary and evolutionary change in government structures and policies, political responses to crisis, impacts of globalization on domestic policies, demographic politics, energy politics, Middle East conflict, and the expected internal effects of China’s rise as a world power. As a conceptual frame of reference, we will compare liberal and illiberal systems. The interplay of politics and economics will be a focus of this course. Our emphasis will be on a country’s internal governance, and relationships with close neighbors, rather than evaluation of its conduct of overall foreign policy.

No textbook is assigned for this course. Readings are articles, and selected chapters from a variety of books. All readings are posted on laulima. Please consult with Professor Zhou or Steve if you are having trouble navigating through laulima, or finding the readings for the classes.

Course Grading: Grades will be based on your performance in the following areas:

TAKE HOME EXAMS: Take home midterm and take home final will be worth up to 30 points each on your final grade. These will be distributed on a Monday (see course outline for dates), and will be collected the following Monday. Questions will be based on the readings and class presentations. Format will be short essay answers. You may refer to the readings, to your notes, and to any other independent readings you may consider relevant.

LAULIMA REFLECTIONS POSTINGS: Each student is responsible for ten postings on laulima, reflecting his/her opinion on the material presented in the readings or discussions for a given class (including reactions to any other postings by classmates). This will begin with the 1/28 class through the 4/15 class. DEADLINE FOR POSTING WILL BE ONE WEEK AFTER THE GIVEN CLASS! Each quality post will be worth one point on your final grade, to a maximum of 10 points. Those with last names beginning with A through K will be responsible for Group One Monday class dates. Those with last names beginning with L through Z will be responsible for the Group Two Wednesday class dates. Steve will establish a discussion thread for each class date. Consult with him if you don’t know how to post to a thread on laulima.


PRE-CLASS READING ASSIGNMENT POSTING: Each student is responsible for selecting one reading, and posting a summary of the material and three questions for discussion on laulima. Because we want to work good questions into class discussion, it is essential you post prior to the class in which the reading is to be discussed. DEADLINE FOR POSTING THE PCRA SUMMARY AND 3 QUESTIONS WILL BE ONE WEEK BEFORE THE CLASS IN WHICH THE READING IS TO BE DISCUSSED! You may select a reading assigned for classes between 1/30 and 4/17. We will establish an assignment list at our third class meeting. The PCRA is worth 7.5 points on your final grade. You will need to establish a discussion thread on laulima titled with the name of the reading assignment. If you do not know how to do this on laulima, consult with Steve.

ATTENDANCE: It is important that you attend class to benefit from the discussions of the material. Each student is responsible for signing the class sign up sheet before leaving each class. Good attendance is worth 15 points on your final grade. One point will be subtracted for every absence beyond three. Habitual good attendance is an easy 15 points on your grade.

CLASS PARTICIPATION: We want to know what you think about the materials assigned, and see some debate among your classmates. Speaking up regularly in class can earn you up to 7.5 points on your final grade.

Along with the 100 maximum points above, there will also be extra-credit opportunities announced by Professor Zhou over the course of the semester.

COURSE OUTLINE:

COURSE INTRODUCTION* 1/7

(1) COMPARATIVE REVOLUTIONS

Concepts as Applied to US/French Revolutions# 1/9
   R.J. Rummel: American vs. French Revolution (8 pages)
   Gentz: American & French Revolutions (50 pages)

Russian & Chinese Revolutions* 1/14
   Steve Kreis: The History Guide, Lectures 5-7 (25 pages)
   Jennifer Cucchise: The Causes and Effects of the Chinese Civil War (pages 40-71)

Revolutions of the Future? Unorganized Power & Networks* 1/16
   Kate Zhou: China in the Information Age—The Strength of Unorganized Power
### Brafman & Beckstrom: Starfish and the Spider
- Chapter 2: The Spider, the Starfish, and the President of the Internet (28 pgs)
- Chapter 4: Standing on Five Legs (24 pages)
- Chapter 9: The New World (10 pages)

### Nathan Harden: The End of the University as We Know It (10 pages)

#### January 21: Martin Luther King Holiday

#### (2) LIBERALISM & ILLIBERALISM

### Rule of Law#
- **Brian Tamanaha: On the Rule of Law**
  - Chapter 3: Liberalism (15 pages)
  - Chapter 4: Locke, Montesquieu, the Federalist Papers (13 pages)
  - Chapter 5: Conservatives Warn (13 pages)
  - Chapter 9: Three Themes (13 pages)

### US Founding vs. Progressivism/Modern “Liberalism”#
- **Steve Zierak: Reviews of Hillsdale College Constitution 101 (32 pages)**
- **Amity Shlaes: The Forgotten Man**
  - Introduction (11 pages)

### Friedrich Hayek’s Classical Liberalism*
- **The Fatal Conceit:**
  - Chapter 2: Origins of Liberty, Property, and Justice (9 pages)
  - Chapter 5: The Fatal Conceit (22 pages)

### Hernando De Soto’s Mystery of Capitalism in the Third World*
- **Chapter 1: The Five Mysteries of Capital (13 pages)**
- **Chapter 3: The Mystery of Capital (29 pages)**
- **Chapter 7: By Way of Conclusion (22 pages)**

### Stalinism (1930’s) & Maoism (Great Leap Forward/Cultural Revolution)*
- **Steven Rosenfeld: Stalinism in Post Communist Perspective (29 pages)**
- **Daniel Southerland: Uncounted Millions: Mass Deaths in Mao’s China (13 pages)**

### Market Socialism#
- **Janos Kornai: Market Socialism Revisited (41 pages)**

### Japanese Industrial Policy*
- **Tetsuji Okazaki: Government-Firm Relationship (29 pages)**
- **Michael Boskin: Picking Losers, Killing Winners (7 pages)**

#### February 18: Presidents’ Day Holiday
(3) ECONOMIC CRISIS & POLITICAL RESPONSE

Post WW1 Germany*
2/20
Roger Myerson: Political Economics and the Weimar Disaster (30 pages)
Calvin Hoover: Dictator’s March (8 pages)
Totalitarianism Hitler Group Paper (10 pages)

1970’s & 1980’s Britain & US*
2/25
Laffer Associates: Supply Side Economics (26 pages)
William Niskanen: Reaganomics (5 pages)
Thayer Watkins: Privatization in the UK (4 pages)
Douglas McWilliams: Thatcherism—20 Years On (3 pages)

2008 US Financial Crisis#
2/27
Steve Zierak: Notes on Terms & Timelines
(Based on Morgenson & Rosner’s Reckless Endangerment)

TAKE HOME MIDTERM (BASED ON CLASSES THROUGH 2/27)
DISTRIBUTED/POSTED MONDAY 2/25
DUE NO LATER THAN MONDAY 3/4

(4) POLITICAL/ECONOMIC TRANSITIONS

Russia vs. China: Reform from Below & Above*
3/4
Zhou & Gregory: Why China Won and Russia Lost (23 pages)
Kate Zhou: China’s Long March to Freedom—Grassroots Modernization
Chapter 4: Capitalism with Chinese Characteristics and the Basis of Civil Society (24 pages)

European Union#
3/6
Susan Nello: The European Union
Chapter 2: Brief History of European Integration (26 pages)
Chapter 10: Long Road to Economic and Monetary Union (16 pages)

Eastern Europe after 1989#
3/11
Milada Vachudova: Europe Undivided
Introduction (9 pages)
Chapter 1: Political Competition & Reform Trajectories (14 pages)
Chapter 2: Liberal & Illiberal Democracy after Communism (38 pages)
Chapter 4: Impact of Passive Leverage: EU & Eastern Europe 1989-94 (24 pgs)

(5) CRONY CAPITALISM

Russia & China*
3/13
Guriev & Rachinsky: Oligarchs—Past or Future of Russian Capitalism (35 pages)
Chris McNulty: Institutional Contours of China’s Emergent Capitalism (11 pages)
United States# 3/18

Peter Schweizer: Throw Them All Out
   Chapter 2: Crisis for All, Opportunity for Some (17 pages)
   Chapter 5: Spreading the Wealth to Billionaires (30 pages)
   Chapter 9: Why This Matters (16 pages)
   Chapter 10: What Needs to Be Done (10 pages)

Hawaii* 3/20

King & Roth: Broken Trust
   Appendix: Charitable Trust Provisions (2 pages)
   Introduction (10 pages)
   Chapter 12: Time to Say No More (14 pages)
   Chapter 15: A World Record for Breaches of Trust (15 pages)
   Chapter 19: End of the Line (20 pages)
   Chapter 21: Eternal Vigilance (15 pages)

Daniel Brackins: The Negative Effects of the Jones Act on the Economy of Hawaii (20 pages)

March 25-29: Spring Recess

(6) GLOBALIZATION

WTO & Economic Integration* 4/1
   Susan Hainsworth: Sovereignty, Economic Integration, & WTO (40 pages)
   Stuart Malawer: US-China WTO Litigation (6 pages)

Human Rights Treaties* 4/3
   Summary of UN Agreements on Human Rights (5 pages)
   Human Rights Watch: US Ratification of Human Rights Treaties (9 pages)
   Report of USA (29 pages)
   UN: Membership of Human Rights Council (3 pages)

(7) OIL, ENERGY, & THE MIDDLE EAST

Energy & Markets# 4/8
   IEA: World Energy Outlook 2012 (6 pages)
   Bill Kovarik: Oil Reserve Fallacy (15 pages)
   Joanne Nova: The Skeptic’s Hand Book (16 pages)

Arab-Israeli Negotiating Positions & Military Capabilities* 4/10
   Barry Rubin: Israeli-Palestinian Negotiating Positions (6 pages)
   CSIS: Arab-Israeli Military Balance 2010 (55 pages)
(8) POLITICS OF POPULATION: DEMOGRAPHICS AND IMMIGRATION

Demographic Trends# 4/15
Ben Wattenberg: Fewer
- Chapter 1: The Story of This Book (14 pages)
- Chapter 13: Numbers Matter (16 pages)
- Chapter 4: America the Exceptional: Baby Makers (7 pages)
- Chapter 5: America the Exceptional: Immigrant Takers (16 pages)

Economic Dilemmas & Immigration# 4/17
George Magnus: The Age of Aging
- Chapter 1: Introducing a New Age (10 pages)
- Chapter 4: The Economics of Aging—What Is To Be Done? (34 pages)
- Chapter 9: Will Immigration Solve Aging Society Problems? (28 pages)

(9) CHINA AS A RISING POWER

China’s Economic & Political Goals/Situation* 4/22
Martin Jacques: China as an Economic Superpower (43 pages)

China’s Military & Foreign Policy Goals/Situation# 4/24

China as A/The Major World Power* 4/29
Martin Jacques: When China Rules the World (50 pages)
Martin Jacques: The Eight Differences That Define China (20 pages)

TAKE HOME FINAL (BASED ON CLASSES THROUGH 4/24)
DISTRIBUTED/POSTED MONDAY 4/22
DUE NO LATER THAN MONDAY 4/29

WRAP-UP DISCUSSION* 5/1