

**Political Science 2245E Section 550**  
**Huron University College**  
**Comparative Politics**  
**Course Outline**

**Type:** Full Course (Essay) Sept. 11/17 to April 11/18

**Prerequisite:** Pol. Sci. 1020E (former 020E)

**Room:** W6

**Time:** Mondays 3.30-5.30pm; Wednesdays 2.30-3.30pm

**Instructor:** Dr. Robert F. Jonasson Office: V125 Ext: 248 (please call only during office hours); Home E-mail address: [rjonasso@uwo.ca](mailto:rjonasso@uwo.ca) (please e-mail anytime)

**Office Hours:** Wednesdays 3.30-5.30pm

**Required Reading:** (available at U.W.O. bookstore – you may purchase a used copy)

1/Mark Kesselman, Joel Krieger and William A. Joseph. Introduction to Comparative Politics. 7<sup>th</sup> Ed. (Cenage, Boston: 2016.)

**Learning Objectives:**

Students should have definitional knowledge and understanding of comparative political science, a foundational knowledge and understanding of the principal theories of comparative analysis and approaches, a preliminary knowledge and understanding of the political systems of several important nation-states, a preliminary knowledge and appreciation of political science in the context of other disciplines, and an ability to search for, gather, review, and evaluate materials relevant to the core substantive learning objectives of Political Science 2245E.

**Course Description and Structure:** Political Science 2245E is an introductory course in the field of comparative politics. The course will focus on theories of comparative politics and then go on to look at several nation-states in terms of how they compare along several dimensions of political life. Many Wednesday classes will have an Opinion Question (see below); almost every Monday class will have a lecture and a discussion component. It may prove difficult at times to keep to the schedule below but every effort will be made to follow it. **Note the times of the Opinion Questions and make-ups.** The readings and lecture notes do not always perfectly match but both are vital.

**Prerequisite(s):** Political Science 1020E

Note: All Opinion Questions have a question component only. All will be online (OWL). You must print off these (or access online) and bring to the classes designated above. If you miss the Opinion Questions dates above (for any reason), there are make-up times (see below). **You do not have to go to Academic Counselling or show me proof why you missed any Opinion Question.** Booklets will be provided for the Opinion Questions. For Opinion Questions, the length should be 1-2 double-spaced pages. **All written work must be done in the class times below.**

## Course Schedule

Mon. Sept. 11: Course outline

Wed. Sept 13: essay workshop

Mon. Sept.18: Intro to comparative politics Ch.1

Wed. Sept. 20: early essay help

Mon. Sept. 25: comparative method Ch.1

Wed. Sept. 27: **opinion question #1**

Mon. Oct.2: comparative approaches Ch.1

Wed. Oct.4: **opinion question #2**

Mon. Oct. 9: holiday

Wed. Oct. 11: holiday

Mon. Oct. 16: United Kingdom Ch.2

Wed. Oct. 18 **opinion question #3**

Mon. Oct. 23: UK con't

Wed. Oct. 25: **opinion question #4**

Mon. Oct. 30: UK con't

Wed. Nov.1: test prep

Mon. Nov. 6: **mid term test 1 hour** 3.30-4.30pm in class

Wed. Nov. 8: lecture make-up if necessary or video

Mon. Nov. 13: France Ch.3

Wed. Nov. 15: essay help

Mon. Nov. 20: France con't

Wed. Nov. 22: essay help

Mon. Nov. 27: France con't

Wed. Nov. 29: **opinion question #5**

Mon. Dec. 4: **essay due** in class (at start)

Mon. Dec. 6: lecture make-up if necessary or video

## **Term 2**

Mon. Jan. 8: Germany Ch.4

Wed. Jan. 10: essay return

Mon. Jan. 15: Germany con't

Wed. Jan. 17: **opinion question #6**

Mon. Jan. 22: Germany con't

Wed. Jan. 24: **opinion question #7**

Mon. Jan. 29: Russia Ch.13

Wed. Jan. 31: lecture make-up if necessary or video

Mon. Feb. 5: Russia con't

Wed. Feb.7: **opinion question #8**

Mon. Feb. 12: Russia con't

Wed. Feb. 14: **opinion question #9**

Mon. Feb. 19: holiday

Wed. Feb. 21: holiday

Mon. Feb. 26: Mexico Ch.10

Wed. Feb. 28: lecture make-up if necessary or video

Mon. March 5: Mexico con't

Wed., March 7: **opinion question #10**

Mon. March 12: Mexico con't

Wed. March 14: **opinion question make-up #1**

Mon. March 19: Nigeria Ch.12

Wed. March 21: **opinion question make-up #2**

Mon. March 26: Nigeria con't

Wed. March 28: **opinion question make-up #3**

Mon April 2: Nigeria con't

Wed. April 4: **opinion question make-up #4**

Mon. April 9: review

Wed. April 11: exam prep

**Final Exam:** (room and date TBA) - essay format

**Grade Breakdown:**

**Final Exam: 40% (TBA)**

**Mid-term: 15% (Thursday, Nov.12/15; in class)**

**Essay: 40% (15-18 pages, double-spaced; due Monday, December 4/17)**

**opinion questions: 5% in total (0.5% each)**

## **POL.SCI. 2246E ESSAY**

**Length:** 15-18 pages double-spaced

**Due date:** Monday, December 4/17 (hand in it in at start of class)

**See essay instructions sheet on OWL for more information.**

### **Essay questions/ thesis statements**

1/ Examine any two countries along some political dimension and compare to create a thesis statement. For example, the German Senate (Bundesrat) is more reflective of German provincial concerns than the Canadian Senate is reflective of Canadian provincial concerns.

## GENERAL COURSE RULES AND SUGGESTIONS

The following rules are to be taken very seriously. They will be strictly enforced. Every student must be treated fairly; the rules below will ensure that all students will be treated in a just manner. If you follow the rules and suggestions laid out here, you will have a much better chance of doing well in the course. If you break the rules, you will suffer certain consequences.

1/ Do not be disruptive in class. After one warning, you will be asked to leave. Continual behavioural problems may lead to more severe consequences (eg. removal from the course).

2/ Come to class on time.

3/ Ask questions intelligently. The prof will let you know when questions can be asked (i.e. later in the lecture). Do not ask questions for the sake of asking them (i.e. to show 'interest', to 'stick out' etc.). Questions should contribute to the lecture. Questions about course material can usually be answered in this course outline.

4/ All grade values in the course outline are 'set in stone'. There will be no re-weighting or bell-curving. No extra assignments will be given. No items will be omitted from the final grade.

5/ All due dates (eg. essays, assignments, tests, exams) in the course outline are 'set in stone', unless they are moved to a later date by the instructor. Under no condition will due dates be made *earlier* than the dates indicated in the course outline.

6/ Do not assume your past (eg. past grades, experience level, age) is the key to your future performance. Profs assume everyone wishes high grades. Please do not indicate to the prof that you need or expect a certain grade in the course.

7/ All essays must be handed to the instructor in-class on the due date.

8/ All late papers must be handed into the essay drop-off box outside the office of the Arts and Social Sciences Administrative Assistants' office.

9/ The late penalty is 2% per working day (weekends do not count). **In all cases, the stamped date is the date which will be considered definitive when assigning late penalties. There is no exception to this rule.**

10/ The instructor has never lost a paper and will not accept that as an excuse. If you leave a paper in the drop box, you are advised to email the instructor to ensure that the paper has come into his possession. In other words, YOU are responsible for your paper up to and until the INSTRUCTOR has determined that he is in possession of it. Do not let other students hand in your papers unless you are willing to take the risk that it might not get to its destination.

11/ Emailed papers will only be accepted if you have been given *specific permission* by the instructor that this is acceptable. If you seek such permission you should make the request to the instructor. This option is only for the most rare and unusual circumstances and is subject to the complete discretion of the instructor.

12/ As indicated in the policy of the dept., there are some legitimate excuses which may allow students to get limited extensions for essays, tests and exams. **ALL EXCUSES MUST BE ACCOMPANIED BY AN OFFICIAL NOTE (eg. doctor's note) which is shown to Academic Counselling.** Dates must be present to indicate the time period the student was affected. **Academic Counselling must approve your request before I will.**

13/ If an extension is warranted, the prof and the student will negotiate a time frame for submission. This time frame cannot be just what the student wants.

14/ I take all marking very seriously and I am unwilling to change a grade unless I have made a real error (eg. marked you down for a statement which is not wrong; marked you down for a grammatical error which is not wrong). Subjective feelings are not a valid basis for an appeal (eg. "I think you are too hard on me"; "I have never had a mark this low"). An appeal must go to me first. Your grade may go up, stay the same or go down (I would give then you an average of the old grade and the new grade). You may go down if I discover critical things I missed the first time.

**All appeals must be put into writing. I may take a day or more to make my decision. I do not discuss with students about their papers on the day I hand them back.**

15/ If you are a student with a serious concern, whether valid or not, and you are unable to keep up with the course for a long period of time, the prof strongly advises that you drop the course. Students who get too far behind generally do not finish in any case or receive an uncharacteristically low grade. Sometimes unfortunate events occur in our lives; try to persevere, but if you cannot, it is no shame to reduce your course load in certain situations.

**16/ If you are absent for any of the graded assignments, you MUST seek accommodation from Academic Counselling in order to be accommodated.**

17/ Please do not ask the instructor for final grades (or final exam grades). These must be released by the Registrar's Office first.

18/ I will give students basic references (for jobs, student exchange programs etc.) if their grade is above 75% in a class in which I have taught them (final grade). **For all post-graduate references (law school, grad school, teachers' college etc.) and scholarships, students must have completed at least 2 courses (half or full) with me beyond 1020E and have a grade of 80% or better (as an average in the courses). If students took 1020E with me, they may or may not factor the grade in this class into their average, but they will need 2 more classes (half or full).** However, good character is an important consideration for promotion as well. I do not promote opportunists (eg. those who ask for higher grades without merit) or those with 'entitlement' attitudes. Make sure you give me at least 3 weeks notice for any deadlines and always give me all forms and postage. **I will do a maximum of 4 paper/online references for a student in a term.**

## Appendix to Course Outlines

### **Prerequisite Information**

Students are responsible for ensuring that they have successfully completed all course prerequisites. Unless you have either the requisites for this course or written special permission from your Provost and Dean to enrol in it, you may be removed from this course and it will be deleted from your record. This decision may not be appealed. You will receive no adjustment to your fees in the event that you are dropped from a course for failing to have the necessary prerequisites.

### **Conduct of Students in Classes, Lectures, and Seminars**

Membership in the community of Huron University College and the University of Western Ontario implies acceptance by every student of the principle of respect for the rights, responsibilities, dignity and well-being of others and a readiness to support an environment conducive to the intellectual and personal growth of all who study, work and live within it. Upon registration, students assume the responsibilities that such registration entails. The academic and social privileges granted to each student are conditional upon the fulfillment of these responsibilities.

In the classroom, students are expected to behave in a manner that supports the learning environment of others. Students can avoid any unnecessary disruption of the class by arriving in sufficient time to be seated and ready for the start of the class, by remaining silent while the professor is speaking or another student has the floor, and by taking care of personal needs prior to the start of class. If a student is late, or knows that he/she will have to leave class early, be courteous: sit in an aisle seat and enter and leave quietly.

Please see the *Code of Student Rights and Responsibilities* at:

<http://www.huronuc.ca/CurrentStudents/StudentLifeandSupportServices/StudentDiscipline>

### **Technology**

It is not appropriate to use technology (such as, but not limited to, laptops, cell phones) in the classroom for non-classroom activities. Such activity is disruptive and is distracting to other students and to the instructor, and can inhibit learning. Students are expected to respect the classroom environment and to refrain from inappropriate use of technology and other electronic devices in class.

### **Academic Accommodation for Medical/Non-Medical Grounds**

Students who require special accommodation for tests and/or other course components must make the appropriate arrangements with the Student Development Centre (SDC). Further details concerning policies and procedures may be found at:

[http://www.sdc.uwo.ca/ssd/?requesting\\_acc](http://www.sdc.uwo.ca/ssd/?requesting_acc)

#### **(a) Medical Grounds for assignments worth 10% or more of final grade: Go Directly to Academic Advising**

University Senate policy, which can be found at

[http://www.uwo.ca/univsec/pdf/academic\\_policies/appeals/accommodation\\_medical.pdf](http://www.uwo.ca/univsec/pdf/academic_policies/appeals/accommodation_medical.pdf),

requires that all student requests for accommodation on medical grounds for assignments worth 10% or more of the final grade be made directly to the academic advising office of the home faculty (for Huron students, the “home faculty” is Huron), with supporting documentation in the form (minimally) of the Senate-approved Student Medical Certificate found at:

[http://www.uwo.ca/univsec/pdf/academic\\_policies/appeals/medicalform\\_15JUN.pdf](http://www.uwo.ca/univsec/pdf/academic_policies/appeals/medicalform_15JUN.pdf).

The documentation is submitted in confidence and will not be shown to instructors. The advisors will contact the instructor when the medical documentation is received, and will outline the severity and duration of the medical challenge as expressed on the Student Medical Certificate and in any other supporting documentation. The student will be informed that the instructor has been notified of the presence of medical documentation, and will be instructed to work as quickly as possible with the instructor on an agreement for accommodation. The instructor will not normally deny accommodation where appropriate medical documentation is in place and where the duration it describes aligns with the due date(s) of assignment(s). Before denying a request for accommodation on medical grounds, the instructor will consult with the Provost and Dean. The instructor's decision is appealable to the Provost and Dean.

**(b) Accommodation on Medical Grounds for assignments worth less than 10% of final grade: Consult Instructor Directly**

When seeking accommodation on medical grounds for assignments worth less than 10% of the final course grade, the student should contact the instructor directly. The student need only share broad outlines of the medical situation. The instructor **may** require the student to submit documentation to the academic advisors, in which case she or he will advise the student and inform the academic advisors to expect documentation. The instructor may **not** collect medical documentation. The advisors will contact the instructor when the medical documentation is received, and will outline the severity and duration of the medical challenge as expressed on the Student Medical Certificate and in any other supporting documentation. The student will be informed that the instructor has been notified of the presence of medical documentation, and will be instructed to work as quickly as possible with the instructor on an agreement for accommodation. The instructor will not normally deny accommodation where appropriate medical documentation is in place and where the duration it describes aligns with the due date(s) of assignment(s). Before denying a request for accommodation on medical grounds, the instructor will consult with the Provost and Dean. The instructor's decision is appealable to the Provost and Dean.

**(c) Non-medical Grounds: Consult Instructor Directly**

Where the grounds for seeking accommodation are not medical, the student should contact the instructor directly. Late penalties may apply at the discretion of the instructor. Apart from the exception noted below, academic advisors will not be involved in the process of accommodation for non-medical reasons.

Where a student seeks accommodation on non-medical grounds where confidentiality is a concern, the student should approach an academic advisor with any documentation available. The advisors will contact the instructor after the student's request is received, and will outline the severity and duration of the challenge without breaching confidence. The student will be informed that the instructor has been notified that significant circumstances are affecting or have affected the student's ability to complete work, and the student will be instructed to work as quickly as possible with the instructor on an agreement for accommodation. Before denying a request for accommodation where documentation has been submitted to an academic advisor, the instructor will consult with the Provost and Dean. The instructor's decision is appealable to the Provost and Dean.

**Statement on Academic Offences**

Scholastic offences are taken seriously and students are directed to read the appropriate policy, specifically, the definition of what constitutes a Scholastic Offence, at the following Web site: [http://www.uwo.ca/univsec/pdf/academic\\_policies/appeals/scholastic\\_discipline\\_undergrad.pdf](http://www.uwo.ca/univsec/pdf/academic_policies/appeals/scholastic_discipline_undergrad.pdf)

**Statement on Academic Integrity**

The International Centre for Academic Integrity defines academic integrity as "a commitment, even in the face of adversity, to five fundamental values: honesty, trust, fairness, respect, and responsibility.

From these values flow principles of behaviour that enable academic communities to translate ideals to action." (CAI Fundamental Values Project, 1999).

A lack of academic integrity is indicated by such behaviours as the following:

- Cheating on tests;
- Fraudulent submissions online;
- Plagiarism in papers submitted (including failure to cite and piecing together unattributed sources);
- Unauthorized resubmission of course work to a different course;
- Helping someone else cheat;
- Unauthorized collaboration;
- Fabrication of results or sources;
- Purchasing work and representing it as one's own.

### **Academic Integrity: Importance and Impact**

Being at university means engaging with a variety of communities in the pursuit and sharing of knowledge and understanding in ways that are clear, respectful, efficient, and productive. University communities have established norms of academic integrity to ensure responsible, honest, and ethical behavior in the academic work of the university, which is best done when sources of ideas are properly and fully acknowledged and when responsibility for ideas is fully and accurately represented.

In the academic sphere, unacknowledged use of another's work or ideas is not only an offence against the community of scholars and an obstacle to academic productivity. It may also be understood as fraud and may constitute an infringement of legal copyright.

A university is a place for fulfilling one's potential and challenging oneself, and this means rising to challenges rather than finding ways around them. The achievements in an individual's university studies can only be fairly evaluated quantitatively through true and honest representation of the actual learning done by the student. Equity in assessment for all students is ensured through fair representation of the efforts by each.

Acting with integrity at university constitutes a good set of practices for maintaining integrity in later life. Offences against academic integrity are therefore taken very seriously as part of the university's work in preparing students to serve, lead, and innovate in the world at large.

A university degree is a significant investment of an individual's, and the public's, time, energies, and resources in the future, and habits of academic integrity protect that investment by preserving the university's reputation and ensuring public confidence in higher education.

**Students found guilty of plagiarism will suffer consequences ranging from a grade reduction to failure in the course to expulsion from the university. In addition, a formal letter documenting the offence will be filed in the Provost and Dean's Office, and this record of the offence will be retained in the Provost and Dean's Office for the duration of the student's academic career at Huron University College.**

All required papers may be subject to submission for textual similarity review to the commercial plagiarism detection software under license to the University for the detection of plagiarism. All papers submitted for such checking will be included as source documents in the reference database for the purpose of detecting plagiarism of papers subsequently submitted to the system. Use of the service is subject to the licensing agreement, currently between The University of Western Ontario and Turnitin.com.

Computer-marked multiple-choice tests and/or exams may be subject to submission for similarity review by software that will check for unusual coincidences in answer patterns that may indicate cheating.

Personal Response Systems (“clickers”) may be used in some classes. If clickers are to be used in a class, it is the responsibility of the student to ensure that the device is activated and functional. Students must see their instructor if they have any concerns about whether the clicker is malfunctioning. Students must use only their own clicker. If clicker records are used to compute a portion of the course grade:

- the use of somebody else’s clicker in class constitutes a scholastic offence,
- the possession of a clicker belonging to another student will be interpreted as an attempt to commit a scholastic offence.

### **Policy on Special Needs**

Students who require special accommodation for tests and/or other course components must make the appropriate arrangements with the Student Development Centre (SDC). Further details concerning policies and procedures may be found at:

[http://www.sdc.uwo.ca/ssd/?requesting\\_acc](http://www.sdc.uwo.ca/ssd/?requesting_acc)

### **Attendance Regulations for Examinations**

A student is entitled to be examined in courses in which registration is maintained, subject to the following limitations:

- 1) A student may be debarred from writing the final examination for failure to maintain satisfactory academic standing throughout the year.
- 2) Any student who, in the opinion of the instructor, is absent too frequently from class or laboratory periods in any course will be reported to the Provost and Dean of the Faculty offering the course (after due warning has been given). On the recommendation of the Department concerned, and with the permission of the Provost and Dean of that Faculty, the student will be debarred from taking the regular examination in the course. The Provost and Dean of the Faculty offering the course will communicate that decision to the Provost and Dean of the Faculty of registration.

### **Class Cancellations**

In the event of a cancellation of class, every effort will be made to post that information on the Huron website, <http://www.huronuc.ca/AccessibilityInfo> (“Class Cancellations”).

### **Mental Health @ Western**

Students who are in emotional/mental distress should refer to Mental Health @ Western <http://www.uwo.ca/uwocom/mentalhealth/> for a complete list of options about how to obtain help.

### **Academic Advising**

For advice on course selections, degree requirements, and for assistance with requests for medical accommodation [see above], students should contact an Academic Advisor in Huron’s Student Support Services ([huronsss@uwo.ca](mailto:huronsss@uwo.ca)). An outline of the range of services offered is found on the Huron website at: <http://www.huronuc.ca/CurrentStudents/AcademicAdvisorsandServices>

Department Chairs and Program Directors and Coordinators are also able to answer questions about their individual programs. Their contact information can be found on the Huron website at:

<http://www.huronuc.ca/Academics/FacultyofArtsandSocialScience>