

POL203e Introduction to Comparative Politics

Level: 2

Credit Units: 5 Credit Units

Language: ENGLISH

Presentation Pattern: EVERY SEMESTER

E-Learning: FULL - Learning is done ENTIRELY online using interactive study materials in Canvas. Students receive guidance and support from online instructors via discussion forums and emails. There are no face-to-face sessions. If the course has an exam component, this will be administered on-campus.

Synopsis:

This course presents the perspectives, frameworks, and methodological tools necessary for the study of comparative politics. Students must sit for POL103 before enrolling in this module, as it will provide the necessary information needed for comparisons with the countries being studied. Areas of focus include examining functions of similar institutions, which may differ in different political systems. This has implications with regard to how issues like income inequality or ageing are resolved, and how policies formulated address such concerns across different countries.

Topics:

- What is comparative politics?
- Rise of the Modern State
- Nations and Society
- Political Economy
- Democratic Regimes
- Nondemocratic Regimes
- Political Violence
- Communism and Post-Communism
- Less-Developed and Newly Industrialising Countries
- Globalisation and the Future of Comparative Politics

Textbooks:

Kesselman, M., J. Krieger, & W. A. Joseph. (2016): Introduction to Comparative Challenges and Changing Agendas. (eText) 7th Cengage
ISBN-13: 9789814844536

Learning Outcome:

- Discuss the characteristics of the major political systems, with emphasis on liberal democratic and comparative authoritarian systems.
- Analyse using frameworks taught to understand the changes occurring in the different political systems globally.
- Compare and contrast the Singapore political system with other political systems.
- Identify the opportunities and limitations of the sub-field of comparative politics.
- Explain social and political settings one is located in by employing comparative politics as a method of analysis.
- Demonstrate the ability to write coherent essays on comparative politics.

Assessment Strategies (Evening Class):

Components	Description	Weightage Allocation (%)
Overall Continuous Assessment	TUTOR-MARKED ASSIGNMENT 1	15
	TUTOR-MARKED ASSIGNMENT 2	25
	REFLECTION JOURNAL 1	5
	REFLECTION JOURNAL 2	5
	PARTICIPATION 1	10
Overall Examinable Components	Written Exam	40
Total		100