

Comparative Politics A | POU22031

Year	Senior Fresh
ECTS Credits	5
Contact Hours	22 hours of lectures and 4 hours of tutorials
Pre-requisite	POU11011 & POU11012 I or POU11033 & POU11034
Semester	1
Module Leader & Lecturer	Dr Noah Buckley
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Module Outline

Learning Outcomes:

On successful completion of this module students should be able to:

- Describe and assess the study of comparative politics in a systematic, social-scientific way
- Examine key issues in comparative politics
- Identify interesting research questions in comparative politics
- Describe a variety of political systems around the world
- Explain how democratic and non-democratic regimes emerge and survive
- Explain what happens when peaceful democratic politics fails
- Understand the challenges in building stable and peaceful multi-ethnic states
- Understand the primary cause of phenomena such as corruption, civil wars and ethnic violence

Module Learning Aims:

This module aims to build student's understanding of the basics of comparative politics, research methodology and argumentation in political science, with particular reference to less developed countries.

Module Content:

This module is an introduction to the study of comparative politics and provides an overview of some of the key theoretical frameworks, concepts and analytical methods of this field of study, as applied to the developing world. We particularly examine political regime types (e.g., democracy and authoritarianism), asking why and how authoritarian regimes persist and what the origins of democracy are. Other topics covered in depth include the causes of civil war, ethnic violence, corruption, and economic development.

Assessment

Tutorial participation and response papers – weighted 10%

Essay – weighted 30%

Exam – weighted 60%

Recommended Reading List

Caramani, Daniele. Ed. 2017. *Comparative Politics* (4th edition). Oxford University Press

Acemoglu, Daron and James Robinson (2012) *Why Nations Fail*. Crown Books

Putnam, Robert (1993) *Making Democracy Work: Civic Tradition in Modern Italy*. Princeton: Princeton University Press