

POL203e Introduction to Comparative Politics

Level: 2

Credit Units: 5 Credit Units

Language: ENGLISH

Presentation Pattern: EVERY SEMESTER

E-Learning: BLENDED - Learning is done MAINLY online using interactive study materials in Canvas. Students receive guidance and support from online instructors via discussion forums and emails. This is supplemented with SOME 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. 7th Cengage
ISBN-13: 9789814844536-AA

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Learning Outcome:

- Discuss the characteristics of the major political 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.
- Appreciate 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:

Continuous Assessment Component	Weightage (%)
PRE-CLASS QUIZ	5
PRE-CLASS QUIZ	5
TUTOR-MARKED ASSIGNMENT	20
TUTOR-MARKED ASSIGNMENT	20
Sub-Total	50

Examinable Component	Weightage (%)
Written Exam	50
Sub-Total	50

Weightage Total **100**