Ohio Articulation Number (OAN)
Course Submission Form
2005-2006

College/Univ Bowling Green State University

Course(s) Submitted (Title & Course #) POLS 171. Introduction to Comparative Government for
Ohio Articulation Number OSS 013

Date April 6, 2006 Course _______ of a _______ Course OAN mapping.

Name and title of individual submitting on behalf of the college/university
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Credit Hours 3 qtr sem x
Lecture Hours 3
Laboratory Hours _______ (if applicable)
Pre-Requisites(s) Course work (if applicable)

Placement Score (if applicable)
(Name of test) 
(Domain) (Score)

Catalog/Course Description (Includes Course Title and Course #)
POLS 171. Introduction to Comparative Government (3). Fall, Spring,
Summer. Basic concepts, approaches to and comparisons of different political systems, including political cultures, participation, interest groups, institutions and processes; essential tools and methods for the study of political systems in the world. Applicable to the BG Perspective (general education) social sciences and international perspective requirements. Approved for Distance Ed.

Texts/Outside Readings/Ancillary Materials

- P. O’Neill and R. Rogowski, *Essential Readings in Comparative Politics*

Course Objectives and/or Plan of Work

Comparative politics seeks to find empirical facts about seemingly disparate units. In other words, it investigates the ways in which countries, states, governments, etc... are similar or dissimilar from each other.

Comparative politics encompasses many different areas of study. It includes the study of revolution, political development, political economy, comparative policy, ideology, political culture and mass behavior.

In the first half of this course we examine theoretical issues of comparative politics which apply to all regions of the world. We examine topics as varied as theories about post-modernization, the nature of the state, the role of political parties and whether institutions matter.

The second half of the course examines the nature of domestic political institutions. To explore the relationship between governmental systems, we will employ a “Five-systems” approach. These include the liberal democracies, communist and post-communist states, the newly industrializing countries (NICs), the less developed countries (LDCs) and the Islamic nations. We identify the institutional, behavioral, cultural, ideological, economic and historical structures that distinguish these systems from the liberal democracies and from each other.

While an understanding of all five systems is important, the course examines the structure and result of democratic government in a more extensive manner than the other four systems. Our focus is on the parliamentary system of government, the nature of governmental bureaucracies, and policy-making. In comparisons between countries, we explore why institutions that work for one nation do not for another. We also investigate how the particular institutions of a country influence the stability of the government.

Description of Assessment and/or Evaluation of Student Learning

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<th>Assessment Component</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
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<tr>
<td>Mid-term examinations (Two exams, each worth 20%)</td>
<td>40%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Short Paper</td>
<td>25%</td>
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<td>Final examination</td>
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Master Syllabi and Working Syllabi (if both are used)
### Week 1
**Introduction to Comparative Politics**

**Readings:**
- Danziger, Ch. 1 (pg. 3-23)
- O’Neill & Rogowski, Ch. 1 (1-31) “What is Comparative Politics”
  Including: R. Macridis, “A Survey of the Field of Comparative Government”

**Questions:**
If every country is unique, is it fair to compare them?

### Comparative Politics in Theoretical Perspective

### Week 2
**The Nation and the State**

**Readings:**
- Danziger, Ch. 5 (pg. 109-135)
- Roskin, Ch. 1 (pg. 1-19)
- O’Neill & Rogowski, Ch. 2 (pg. 32-69) “The State”
  Including: M. Weber, “Politics as a Vocation”
  T. Skocpol, “Bringing the State Back In”
  J. Herbst, “War and the State in Africa”
- O’Neill & Rogowski, Ch. 3 (pg. 70-80 only) “Nations and Society”
  Including: E. Hobsbawm, “Nationalism”

**Questions:**
Which is more important, the nation or the state?

### Week 3
**Political Change, Ideology and Political Culture**

**Readings:**
- Danziger, Ch. 2 (pg. 25-49) & Ch. 10 (pg. 245-273)

**Questions:**
Does economic development lead to political development or vice-versa?

### Week 4
**Participation: From Protest to Revolution**

**Readings:**
- O’Neill & Rogowski, Ch. 11 (pg. 463-481 only) “Political Violence”
  Including: T. Skocpol, “France, Russia, China”

**Questions:**
What do the French, Russian and Chinese revolutions have in common?

### Week 5
**Democracy**

**Readings:**
- Danziger, Ch. 7 (pg. 163-197)
- O’Neill & Rogowski, Ch. 6 (pg. 203-238 only) “Democracy”
  Including: F. Zakaria, “A Brief History of Human Liberty”
  A. Lijphart, “Constitutional Choices for New Democracies”
Questions: What are the drawbacks of having a democracy?

MIDTERM EXAM #1

Week 6  Authoritarian Regimes
Readings: O’Neill & Rogowski, Ch. 5 (pg. 152-177 only) “Authoritarianism”
Including: J. Linz & A. Stepan, “Modern NonDemocratic Regimes”
L. Diamond, “Thinking about Hybrid Regimes”

Questions: What are the forms of modern Authoritarianism?

Week 7  Transitions to Democracy
Readings: O’Neill & Rogowski, Ch. 7 (pg. 278-300 only) “Advanced Democracies”
Including: A. De Tocqueville, “Author’s Introduction”
S. M. Lipset, “Economic Development and Democracy”

Questions: Why is it so hard to become a democracy?

Democratic Institutions

Week 8  Political Parties, Interest Groups and Voters
Readings: Danziger, Ch. 3-4 (pg. 51-107)
O’Neill & Rogowski, Ch. 7 (pg. 301-313 only) “Advanced Democracies”
Including: M. Duverger, “The Number of Parties”
J. Huber and G. B. Powell, Jr., “Congruence between Citizens…”

Questions: Why do political parties exist?

Week 9  Democratic Government
Readings: Danziger, Ch. 6 (pg. 137-161)

Questions: Which works better, a President or a Prime Minister?

The Five Systems of Government

Week 10  Advanced Liberal Democracies Part I
Readings: Danziger, Ch. 13 (pg. 343-377)
O’Neill & Rogowski, Ch. 6 (pg. 239-277 only)
Including: R. Putnam, “Tuning In, Tuning Out”
S. Berman, “Civil Society and the Collapse of the Weimar Republic”
Roskin, Choose and read ONE country from among the following:

- Great Britain (Part I, pg. 20-93)
- France (Part II, pg. 94-175)
- Germany (Part III, pg. 176-259)
- Japan (Part V, pg. 338-411)

Questions: What makes for a successful Democracy in a specific Advanced Liberal Democracy?

Week 11  Advanced Liberal Democracies Part II
Readings: Roskin, Choose and read ANOTHER country from among the following:

- Great Britain (Part I, pg. 20-93)
- France (Part II, pg. 94-175)
- Germany (Part III, pg. 176-259)
- Japan (Part V, pg. 338-411)

Questions: as last week

MIDTERM EXAM #2

Week 12  Communist and Post-Communist Countries
Readings: Danziger, Ch. 15 (pg. 429-465)
O’Neill & Rogowski, Ch. 8 (pg. 322-340 only) “Communism and Post-Communism”
A. Przeworski, “A Prologue: The Fall of Communism”
Roskin, Choose and read one (1) country from among the following:

- Russia (Part IV, pg. 260-337)
- China (Part VI, Ch. 27, pg. 416-447)

Questions: Why is communist China’s economy doing better than capitalist Russia’s?

Week 13  Newly Industrializing Countries: Latin America, Africa & Asia
PAPER DUE: Friday, November 18 (in Lecture)
Readings: Danziger, Ch. 14 (pg. 379-427)
Roskin, Choose and read one (1) country from among the following:

- Brazil (Part IV, Ch. 28, pg. 448-481)
- South Africa (Part IV, Ch. 29, pg. 482-516)

Questions: Which NIC do you think is going to be the next ALD and why?
Week 14  Wrap-up Newly Industrializing Countries
Thanksgiving Recess -- November 23-25 -- no class

Week 15  Less Developed Countries and the Islamic World
Readings: Roskin, read both:
• Handout on Nigeria
• Iran (Part IV, Ch. 30, 518-549)
O’Neill & Rogowski, Ch. 11 (481-510 only)
   Including: M. Crenshaw, “The Causes of Terrorism”
   J. A. Goldstone, “States, Terrorist, and the Clash of Civilizations”
Questions: What are the main causes of Terrorism?
Why do the Islamic Nations often seem anti-modern?

Week 16  Course Wrap-Up
Readings: Danziger, Ch. 16 (pg. 467-480)
O’Neill & Rogowski, Ch. 10 (pg. 433-462) “Globalization”
   Including: S. Hoffman, “Clash of Civilizations”
   J. Galbraith, “A Perfect Crime”
   J. Nye, Jr., “Globalization’s Democratic Deficit”
   The Economist, “Grinding the Poor”
Questions: Do you agree with the Clash of Civilizations theory? Why or why not?

Final Examination, Wednesday, December 14, 10:45 A.M. - 12:45 P.M.

Additional Documentation

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