

WINTER 2023

Champlain
COLLEGESAINTE-LAMBERT

385-202-LA

Comparative Politics

IMPORTANT INFORMATION

Academic Discipline for this Course

Political Science (Social Science)

Credits, Course Length, and Hours

- Credits: 2.00
- Hours: The weighting for this course is 3-0-3. This means that the course requires 3 hours per week of lecture time, 0 hour a week of lab time, and an average of 3 hours per week of homework.

Prerequisites

Political Science 385-101-LA

Evaluations

Research Paper Outline: 5%

Research Paper: 35%

Tests: 60%

Reading Material

Draper, Alan and Ansil Ramsay. 2019. *The Good Society: An Introduction to Comparative Politics*, 3rd Edition. Pearson.

About the instructor

- Name: Mark Paradis, PhD
- Email: MIO
- Class:
 - Monday, 11:00-12:15 in A-231
 - Wednesday, 8:00-9:15 in A-215
- Office hours: Wednesday, 9:30-10:30
- Office: G-238

This Level II course helps the student develop and apply the comparative method to the study of political systems in the contemporary world. It focuses on contemporary forms of government, political cultures, ideologies, constitutional frameworks, designs of governmental institutions, party systems, interest groups, electoral systems and public policy. Topics covered in the course: the comparative method in political science; comparative theoretical frameworks; industrialized democracies; current and former communist regimes; developing and less developed political regimes; selected area studies including Europe, North America, Africa, Latin America, the Middle East and Asia.

REQUIRED READINGS

Draper, Alan and Ansil Ramsay. 2019. *The Good Society: An Introduction to Comparative Politics*, 3rd Edition. Pearson.

- **Revel link:** <https://www.pearson.com/en-ca/subject-catalog/p/good-society-the-an-introduction-to-comparative-politics/P200000002799/9780133976106/>.

STUDENT EVALUATION

<i>Research Paper Outline (due March 8; formative)</i>	5%
<i>Research Paper (due May 11; summative)</i>	35%
<i>Tests (3 x 20%; summative)</i>	60%

Assignment Descriptions:

Research Paper Outline (due March 8; summative)

In a one page document, students must provide an outline of their proposed research paper. Outlines must include: 1) your research topic, 2) your research question, and 3) at least five academic references. All paper topics must be drawn from the course material. If students do not hand in a paper outline, they will receive a 0 on both their paper outline and on the research paper. The Research Paper Outline will be used in the Midterm Assessment Grade.

Research Paper (formative)

The research paper is due on May 11. The paper must be 6-8 pages in length (excluding any cover page and your reference list). Papers must be double-spaced with a 12-point Times New Roman font. Your paper should include the following sections: 1) an introduction that introduces your topic and briefly presents your research question and thesis statement, 2) a literature review that briefly presents the literature on your topic, 3) the development of your argument (hypotheses), 4) a presentation of evidence to test your argument, and 5) a brief conclusion.

Tests (summative)

Each test will cover approximately 5 weeks of material. Questions can be drawn from any of the material covered in class or in the assigned readings. Students will be judged on their understanding of the course concepts and on their ability to apply them to real world issues. *Test #1 will be used for the midterm assessment grade.*

SCHEDULE

Note: Schedule is subject to change. I will inform you of any changes through email and/or in class.

Legend: Regular Classroom; **No Class**; **Writing Day**; **Assessment**; **Asynchronous Class**

Monday, January 16 – Introduction to the Course

Wednesday, January 18 and Monday, January 23: Comparative Politics and the Good Society

- Reading: Chapter 1

Monday, January 23 – Wednesday, February 1: The State

- Reading: Chapter 2

Monday, February 6 – Monday, February 13: State and Society

- Reading: Chapter 3

Wednesday, February 16 – Review Day

Monday, February 20 – TEST #1 (Covers material up to and including February 17)

Wednesday, February 22 – Midterm Recovery Day / Writing Day

Monday, February 27 – Reading Week (NO CLASS)

Wednesday, March 1 – Reading Week (NO CLASS)

Monday, March 6 – Monday, March 13: Political Culture and Identity

- Reading: Chapter 4
- Assignment: RESEARCH PAPER OUTLINE (March 8 at 8:00)

Wednesday, March 15 – Wednesday, March 22: Political Economy

- Reading: Chapter 5

Monday, March 27 – TEST #2 (Covers material from March 7 up to and including March 24)

Wednesday, March 29 – Midterm Recovery Day / Writing Day

Monday, April 3 – Wednesday, April 5: Authoritarianism

- Reading: Chapter 6

Monday, April 10 – Easter Monday (No Class)

Wednesday, April 12 – Monday, April 17: Democracy

- Reading: Chapter 7

Wednesday, April 19 – Monday, April 24: Economic and Human Development

- Reading: Chapter 8

Wednesday, April 26 – Review

Monday, May 1 – TEST #3 (Covers material from April 4 up to and including April 28)

Friday, May 3 – Writing Day

Monday, May 8 – Writing Day

AFTER SEMESTER

Thursday, May 11 – FINAL PAPER DUE at 11:00

COURSE POLICIES:

To ensure that you have the best possible chance of succeeding in this course and that you have the best possible learning environment, the following policies are in effect:

Email/MIO ASSIGNMENTS: Assignments sent by email WILL NOT be accepted unless otherwise specified.

LATE assignments: One of the goals of CEGEP is to help you to develop skills in managing deadlines. All assignments are to be handed in on the day assigned at the beginning of class. Late marks will be given to all assignments received after class has begun, unless official documentation is presented to the Registrar's office. Late marks are as follows: 5% per day. Late assignments will not be accepted more than a week late.

CLASSROOM COMPORTMENT guidelines: The classroom is an educational environment. All students will be treated with respect, regarded as equals, and treated fairly without discrimination. On your part, you will be expected to respect your peers' right to learn in the best possible environment and to act as responsible adults. To this end, completing work unrelated to the course, private conversations, talking during lectures, sleeping, and any other disruptive behaviour is not permitted. In particular, the following are prohibited during class time: using cell phones for calling, texting or photography, listening to an iPod or other audio device, using a laptop for purposes other than note-taking or unrelated to the course (laptop users must sit in front row), chatting while teacher or classmates are speaking, passing notes to a classmate(s), doing work/reading material for another course, putting your head down on the desk, sleeping in class. Note: Any meetings or discussions on Zoom are to be treated as if taking place in a classroom.

ACADEMIC INTEGRITY and EVALUATION: The College has established a comprehensive policy on the evaluation of students, which spells out the criteria on literacy, plagiarism, cheating and attendance. This policy will be applied in the course. It is your responsibility to familiarize yourself with the policy. Key excerpts are printed in the current college calendar. Disciplinary action runs from receiving a zero grade on the work in question to expulsion from the college. Here's a more constructive solution: If you are having trouble with any part of this course, come see me as soon as possible. There are usually more solutions available if we address the problem early. You should retain all copies, rough drafts, notes etc. of all your work so that should you wish to appeal a grade, you will have evidence of your work. Save all of your work on your own data storage device.

ATTENDANCE, PUNCTUALITY AND PARTICIPATION are extremely important. They are an integral part of a positive attitude toward your academic responsibilities. Attendance has a proven positive effect on your success in the course. Students who miss more than 3 classes/meetings are usually unable to successfully pass the course because they have missed too much material. Avoid arriving late to class or leaving early as it distracts your fellow students and it will result in your being marked absent for the day. It is not enough to just hand your work in: you must attend classes and be “mentally” present during classes. Chronic absenteeism will affect your grade. If you miss a class, get the notes from a classmate. You can also see me during my office hours.

LITERACY: The proper use of English in all your work is very important and will affect your grade in this course. If I cannot understand what you are trying to say, I cannot give you a grade. In addition to disciplinary content, such written work will also be evaluated for adequate writing style and mechanics. The correction of written English is part of the quality of the teaching offered at Champlain Saint Lambert. One of the goals of this course is for students to use and develop their English-language skills in reading and oral comprehension, speaking and writing. All assignments and papers must be typed, be presented in the correct form, be well-written and organized and be printed using a computer printer unless otherwise specified. Evaluation criteria applied are academic tone, appropriate disciplinary vocabulary, flow and clarity of style, continuity, correct paragraph and sentence structures, grammar, punctuation, spelling and use of adequate in-text and end-text documentation according to Chicago, in-text style. There are language tutors and other services available at the learning center for any Champlain students in need of help in this area. it is your responsibility to get the help you need.

CLEAR GRADING: Every evaluation method will contain clear grading criteria. Numerical grades will be assigned as follows, as per the College policy: 90-100% for work that is of outstanding quality, 80-90% for very good work quality, 70-79% good quality work, 60-69% work that is of satisfactory quality, and 0-59% for work that is of unsatisfactory quality (failure).