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Office Hours: M 11:00 – 12:00, and by appointment

Fall Quarter 2010
MW 9:00-9:50, plus section
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POLITICAL SCIENCE 11: INTRODUCTION TO COMPARATIVE POLITICS

Objectives and Approach: This course will explore questions and concepts in contemporary comparative politics. Themes include democracy and democratization, the persistence of ethnicity, the causes of civil conflict, the role of the state and political institutions, and the cultural foundations of politics. We will examine and critically evaluate several different approaches to politics, including modernization, Marxist, cultural, institutionalist, and leadership-centered approaches. Cases will be drawn from different regions and historical periods to ground students in the tools of comparative analysis. The major objective of the course is to teach students to think about politics in systematic and comparative terms.

Course Assignments and Grading: Assignments include an in-class midterm, one 5-7 page paper on a topic given by the instructor, and a comprehensive final examination. Class and section attendance is required, and you will be responsible for all lecture materials. You are expected to do the reading for each week and be prepared to discuss the reading in section. In-class tests will include both objective and essay questions. For students whose final exam grades are better than their average for the midterm and paper, the final will count 50% and each of the other two assignments 25%, before adjustment for participation. In the opposite case, each major assignment will count one-third. Grades will be adjusted, upward or downward, for section participation and contributions (10% of the final course grade). Students must complete the midterm, the paper, and the final examination to pass the course. Late papers will be penalized by a half grade per day. Extensions, incompletes, or make-up exams will be given only in *exceptionally pressing* cases and in accordance with UCSD policy. Petitions must be *timely, properly documented, and submitted in writing*. All requests for grade changes must be made formally in writing to your TA. Any such requests will cause the entire exam or paper to be reevaluated, and may result in either a higher or lower grade.

Academic Honesty: Fair and effective education requires academic honesty, and any violation is a very serious matter. UCSD rules concerning academic dishonesty are spelled out in the General Catalog. Note especially the strict prohibition against plagiarism, i.e., submitting as your own or without proper attribution work done wholly or in part by another person. Plagiarism includes unauthorized collaboration on course assignments. Unless otherwise indicated, all assignments in this course are *individual*, and no collaboration with any other person is permitted. In-class tests are *closed-book*, with no aids allowed. These rules will be strictly enforced. Any academic dishonesty will without exception be reported to the student's dean for disciplinary action.

Books: The following books have been ordered by the UCSD bookstore. In addition, a course reader will be available for purchase from University Readers (www.universityreaders.com). For students who do not wish to purchase materials, copies of the books and the reader will be placed on library reserve.

Elisabeth Jean Wood, *Forging Democracy From Below: Insurgent Transitions in South Africa and El Salvador*, Cambridge University Press, 2000.

Mihailo Crnobrnja, *The Yugoslav Drama*, McGill-Queens University Press, 1994.

William Sheridan Allen, *The Nazi Seizure of Power*, Watts, 1984.

Schedule: There will usually be two lectures and one section per week. Attendance is required. The paper will be due in class on October 20. The midterm is tentatively scheduled for November 3.

Disclaimer: *This syllabus is intended to provide an overview over the course. You cannot claim any rights from it. In particular, scheduling and dates may change. Although the syllabus should be a reliable guide for the course, official announcements are always those made in class.*

September 27: Introduction and Logistics

September 29: What is Democracy?

Samuel Huntington, *The Third Wave: Democratization in the Late Twentieth Century*, Oklahoma, 1991, pp. 3-30.

Barry Bearak and Celia W. Dugger, "As Zimbabwe's Election Nears, Assassins Aim at the Grass Roots." *The New York Times*, June 22, 2008.

October 4 and 6: Where Does Democracy Come From?

Adam Przeworski, Mike Alvarez, José Antonio Cheibub and Fernando Limongi. *Democracy and Development: Political Regimes and Material Well-Being in the World, 1950-1990*, Cambridge University Press, 2000, pp. 78-117.

S.M. Lipset, "George Washington and the Founding of Democracy," *Journal of Democracy* 9, No. 4, 1998, pp. 24-38.

Elisabeth Jean Wood, *Forging Democracy From Below: Insurgent Transitions in South Africa and El Salvador*, Cambridge University Press, 2000, pp. 6-10.

Thomas Friedman, "Get a Job" and "The Cultural Revolution," *The New York Times*, 17 and 21 Mar 1998.

October 11 and 13: El Salvador and South Africa

Elisabeth Jean Wood, *Forging Democracy From Below*, pp. 25-144; 150-193.

October 13: Paper prompts handed out

October 18: What Explains the Persistence of Ethnicity?

Nelson Kasfir, "Explaining Ethnic Political Participation." *World Politics* 31(3), April 1979: 365-388.

October 20: When Does Grievance Produce War? (Paper due in class).

James Davies, "Toward a Theory of Revolution," *American Sociological Review* 27, No. 1 (1962), pp. 5-19.

Paul Collier, "Doing Well out of War: An Economic Perspective." In *Greed & Grievance: Economic Agendas in Civil Wars*, edited by Mats Berdal and David M. Malone. Boulder: Lynne Rienner, 2000: 91-111.

Theda Skocpol, *Social Revolutions and the Modern World*. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press 1994, pp. 135-146.

October 25 - 27: Yugoslavia

Mihailo Crnobrnja, *The Yugoslav Drama*, McGill-Queens University Press 1994, pp. 15-34, 65-114, 141-188.

November 1: Yugoslavia: Death of a Nation (in class movie).

November 3: IN CLASS MIDTERM

November 8 and 10: Democratic Stability – Does Culture Matter?

Zakaria, Fareed. 1997. "The Rise of Illiberal Democracy." *Foreign Affairs*, November 1997.

Robert Putnam, *Making Democracy Work*, Princeton University Press 1993, chapters 1 and 4.

Ray Salvatore Jennings, "A New Iraqi Civic Culture is Emerging." *The Daily Star*, November 9, 2004.

Christopher Dickey and Owen Matthews, "The New Face of Islam: A Critique of Radicalism is Building within the Heart of the Muslim World." *Newsweek*, June 9, 2008.

November 15 and 17: Do Institutions Matter? Presidentialism vs. Parliamentarism.

Munroe Eagles and Larry Johnston, *Politics: An Introduction to Democratic Government*, Broadview Press, 1999, pp. 211-214, 222-228, 230-240, 241-276.

Matthew Soberg Shugart and Scott Mainwaring, "Presidentialism and Democracy in Latin America: Rethinking the Terms of the Debate," *Presidentialism and Democracy in Latin America*, edited by Scott Mainwaring and Mathew Sober Shugart, Cambridge University Press 1997, pp. 12-54.

November 22 and 29: What Determines the Number of Parties? Does the Number of Parties Matter?

Arend Lijphart, "Electoral Systems: Majority and Plurality Methods versus Proportional Representation." *Patterns of Democracy: Government Forms and Performance in 36 Countries*. Yale University Press 1999, Chapter 8, pp. 143-170.

Arend Lijphart, "Party Systems: Two Party and Multiparty Patterns," *Patterns of Democracy: Government Forms and Performance in 36 Countries*. Yale University Press 1999, Chapter 5, pp. 62-89.

December 1: Nazi Germany

Sheri Berman, "Civil Society and the Collapse of the Weimar Republic," *World Politics* 49 (April 1997): 401-29.

Matthew Soberg Shugart and John M. Carey. *Presidents and Assemblies: Constitutional Design and Electoral Dynamics*. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, 1992: 68-71.

William Sheridan Allen, *The Nazi Seizure of Power*, Watts 1984, pp 1-167, 183-200.