

NOTE: PLEASE TRY TO HAVE THE TEXTBOOK BY THE TIME CLASS STARTS. THE TEXTBOOK SHOULD BE AVAILABLE IN THE UGA BOOKSTORE BY THE TIME THE SEMESTER BEGINS. IF NOT, YOU CAN ORDER IT THROUGH THE UGA BOOKSTORE

INTL 3300: Introduction to Comparative Politics
Fall 2008

Tues/Thurs 3:30-4:45 (SLC 268)
Instructor: Dr. Stacey Mitchell (gs12smg@uga.edu)
Office Hours: Tues/Thurs. 11:00am-1:00pm
Office: Candler 318

Welcome to INTL 3300—Introduction to Comparative Politics. This course is designed to prepare International Affairs majors and minors for further course work in the department, and to introduce students to the field of comparative politics. Comparative politics is the study and explanation of similarities and differences between political systems. This semester, students will be introduced to some of the theoretical perspectives used in comparative politics, as well as various aspects of comparative methodology. In this class we will also examine the governments and politics of a number of countries. Rather than focus on developed democracies, this course specifically examines developing countries. Students will develop knowledge not only about the governing institutions of these countries, but also greater knowledge as it relates to various issues of political and economic development in the Third World.

Grading and Course Requirements

Grading in this course will be based upon these components:

- Class participation: 10%
- Quizzes: 20%
- Midterm: 30%
- Final exam: 40%

Grades will be scaled as follows:

- A: 90-100%
- B: 80-89%
- C: 70-79%
- D: 60-69%
- F: 59% and below

Exams

The midterm exam will consist of 20 multiple choice questions and one essay question. The final exam will consist of 25 multiple choice questions and two essay questions. The final exam is not comprehensive.

Quizzes

A quiz will be given once a week. The purpose of the quizzes is both to encourage your attendance and to check whether you are doing the readings for class.

Required Readings

The following textbook is required for this course and is available at the UGA bookstore:

- Joseph, William A., Joel Krieger and Mark Kesselman. 2007. *Introduction to Politics of the Developing World: Political Challenges and Changing Agendas*, 4th ed. Boston; New York: Houghton Mifflin Company.

All other reading assignments are available through the UGA Library's electronic reserve system. To access the system go to <http://gil.uga.edu>, hit "search course reserves"; under "instructor" scroll down to "Mitchell"; under "course" scroll to "INTL 3300." A password is required; the password for this course is "sgm3300."

Ground Rules

First and most importantly, this course will require a great deal of reading and analysis, as well as participation in class. If you are not prepared to work hard, this may not be the course for you. Your remaining in this course will be understood to be an acceptance of the following ground rules:

- If you miss a class, and therefore miss an attendance grade, your absence will only be excused with official documentation: I accept doctor's notes, copies of court subpoenas, jury subpoenas and other official court documentation, as well as funeral notices and notices for school-sponsored events. Any documentation you present to me must be presented in a **timely** manner and **must include** the date or dates you missed class—otherwise your absence will not be excused.
 - I **do not accept** as a valid excuse the following: weddings, vacations, birthdays, other family events including births (unless of course it is you who is giving birth) and missing class because you have to work on something for another class or you have to take an entrance exam for grad school, law school, med school or bartending school.
- More than 3 unexcused absences will be taken by me as a sign that a student has a lack of interest in the course and will count negatively against that student's final average.
- If you miss a quiz, no makeup quiz will be given. However, the quiz grade will be dropped from your overall quiz average if you present me with a valid excuse.
- If you miss an exam without a valid excuse no makeup test will be given. **NO EXCEPTIONS.**
- Please turn off all cell phones before you come to class.

Block One: Introduction and Theoretical Approaches to the Study of Comparative Politics (Aug. 19-Aug. 28)

- Comparative Methods and Theory (Aug. 21-26)
- Comparative Politics in the Developing World: Introduction (Aug. 28)
 - Joseph et al. chapter 1

Block Two: The "Third World" and Issues of Economic Development (Sept. 2-18)

- Overview: What is the Third World? (Sept. 2-4)
 - Lewellen chaps. 1-2
- Economic Development (Sept. 9-25)
 - Modernization and Dependency: Theories of Underdevelopment (Sept. 9-11)
 - Lewellen chapter 3
 - Import Substitution, Basic Needs and the Physical Quality of Life Index (Sept. 16-18)
 - Lewellen, chapter 4
 - Bhalla, Surjit. 2007. Today's Golden Age of Poverty Reduction. *Developing World, 2007/2008*, pp. 15-18.
- Debt and Foreign Aid (Sept. 23-25)
 - Lewellen, chapter 5

- Birdsall, Nancy et al. 2007. How to Help Poor Countries. *Developing World, 2007/2008*, pp. 3-9.
- Heller, Peter. 2007. Making Aid Work. *Developing World, 2007/2008*, pp. 46-52.
- Radlett, Steven et al. 2007. Aid and Growth. *Developing World, 2007/2008*, pp. 53-57.

- **REVIEW FOR MIDTERM: September 30, 2008**

- **MIDTERM: October 2, 2008**

Block Three: Political Systems and Democratization (Oct. 7-23)

- Dictatorship and Democracy (Oct. 7-9)
 - Lewellen chapter 6
- Third Wave Transitions to Democracy: (Oct. 14-16)
 - Walker, Martin. 2007. The Democratic Mosaic. *Developing World, 2007/2008*, pp. 101-104.
 - Piano, Ailli and Arch Puddington. 2007. The 2005 Freedom House Survey. *Developing World, 2007/2008*, pp. 111-114.
 - Diamond, Larry. 2007. Iraq and Democracy: The Lessons Learned. *Developing World, 2007/2008*, pp. 124-128.
 - Herzog, Michael. 2007. Can Hamas be Tamed? *Developing World, 2007/2008*, pp. 129-133.
 - Castaneda, Jorge G. 2007. Latin America's Left Turn. *Developing World, 2007/2008*, pp. 144-149.
 - Diamond, Larry. 2004. "Promoting Real Reform in Africa." In *Democratic Reform in Africa: The Quality of Progress*, ed. E. Gyimah-Boadi, 263-292. Boulder, CO: Lynne Reinner Publishers.
 - Widner, Jennifer. 2007. Africa's Democratization: A Work in Progress. *Developing World, 2007/2008*, pp. 139-143.
- Hybrid Democracies and Conflict (Oct. 21-23)
 - Lemarchand, Rene. 1994. Managing Transition Anarchies: Rwanda, Burundi, and South Africa in Comparative Perspective. *The Journal of Modern African Studies*, Vol. 32, No. 4: 581-604
 - Kirschke, Linda. 2000. Informal Repression, Zero-sum Politics and Late Third Wave Transitions. *The Journal of Modern African Studies*, Vol. 38, No. 3: 383-405.
 - Maltz, Gideon. 2007. Zimbabwe after Mugabe. *Developing World, 2007/2008*, pp. 90-94.

Block Four: Case Studies: (Oct. 28-Dec. 9)

- China: (Oct. 30-Nov. 6)
 - Joseph et al. chapter 2
- Mexico: (Nov. 11-13)
 - Joseph et al. chapter 4
- Nigeria: (Nov. 18-20)
 - Joseph et al. chapter 6
- Iran: (Dec. 2-4)
 - Joseph et al. chapter 7

[NOTE: No class on October 31 or November 24-28]

- **REVIEW FOR FINAL EXAM: December 9th**
- **READING DAY: December 10th**
- **FINAL EXAM: December 16, 2008, 3:30-6:30 pm**