

5331-Seminar in Comparative Politics

Dr. Stadelmann

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SYLLABUS

This course is designed to acquaint the graduate student with issues and approaches in the field of Comparative Politics. Besides covering the history and evolution of the field of Comparative Politics, special emphasis will be placed upon major approaches and issues the discipline has been dealing with. These will include the rise of populism and the problem of extreme nationalism. Approaches to study these issues will include well known classics such as culture theory as well as newer approaches, including rational choice theory, integration theory, and Historical Sociology.

Credit Hours: 3

Prerequisites: None

Course Goals and Objectives:

After successfully completing this course, graduate students should be able to:

- Incorporate terminology used to study Political Science and Comparative Politics
- Exhibit knowledge of a variety of approaches used to study governments, politics, and cultures of other countries
- Explain major political ideologies such as communism, fascism and populism
- Demonstrate competency to engage in scholarly research

Required Texts:

Dalton, et al. *Comparative Politics Today*. 6th edition.

Gourevitch, Peter. *Politics in Hard Times*.

Office Hours:

Tuesday: 1:00 pm until 2:00 pm. Thursday: 1:30 -3:30 pm and online by appointment.

Communication Policy:

E-mails will be answered within 24 hours during the school week and 48 hours on weekends.

Class Meetings:

Class will meet online.

Course Requirements:

1. Successful completion of two exams to be held on October 9 and December 8, 2025. Each exam will be worth 100 points. The exams will consist of essay questions and will be taken online. Each student will have three days to complete the exams after they open and submit them on Canvas or email them to the professor.
2. Successful completion of a research paper discussed below. The research paper is worth 100 points. The paper will be due December 3, 2025, and needs to be emailed to: mstadelmann@uttyler.edu

Grading Policy:

The grading scale will be the following:

A=300-270 points

B=269-240 points

C=239-210 points

D=209-180 points

F=179 or fewer points

Guidelines for Research Paper for POLS 5331

Due: December 3, 2025

Write a ten-page paper on a populist or extreme nationalist political party. Your political party can be from anywhere in the world. It can be a European or American political party. However, if you want to make it more interesting go ahead and pick a populist political party from South America, Asia, Australia, or Africa.

Discuss the history of the party; here mention how and when and why it was created. Then discuss the issues your party advocates, in other words what kind of policies does your party favor and finally focus on the party's electoral performance. Has your party ever won control of government, what was its share of the vote and who are its supporters?

Conclude by analyzing your party's future. Will your party retain/win control over government? Will it always be a minor third party or might it even disappear in the foreseeable future.

The paper should be ten pages in length, excluding title page and bibliography.

The font size should be 12-point Times New Roman, and the paper needs to be double spaced.

Use at least ten sources and use proper citation styles, MLA, APA and Chicago style (footnotes or endnotes plus bibliography) are acceptable.

For citation style question please consult Kate Turabian “A Manual for Writers “on reserve in the library.

Required Artificial Intelligence Syllabus Statement:

UT Tyler is committed to exploring and using artificial intelligence (AI) tools as appropriate for the discipline and task undertaken. We encourage discussing AI tools’ ethical, societal, philosophical, and disciplinary implications. All uses of AI should be acknowledged as this aligns with our commitment to honor and integrity, as noted in UT Tyler’s Honor Code. Faculty and students must not use protected information, data, or copyrighted materials when using any AI tool. Additionally, users should be aware that AI tools rely on predictive models to generate content that may appear correct but is sometimes shown to be incomplete, inaccurate, taken without attribution from other sources, and/or biased. Consequently, an AI tool should not be considered a substitute for traditional approaches to research. You are ultimately responsible for the quality and content of the information you submit. Misusing AI tools that violate the guidelines specified for this course (see below) is considered a breach of academic integrity. The student will be subject to disciplinary actions as outlined in UT Tyler’s Academic Integrity Policy.

AI is not permitted in this course at all. I expect all work students submit for this course to be their own. I have carefully designed all assignments and class activities to support your learning. Doing your own work, without human or artificial intelligence assistance, is best for your efforts in mastering course learning objectives. For this course, I expressly forbid using ChatGPT or any other artificial intelligence (AI) tools for any stages of the work process, including brainstorming. Deviations from these guidelines will be considered a violation of UT Tyler’s Honor Code and academic honesty values.

Course Outline:

1. Introduction-Getting Started on Canvas
2. Core Concepts of the Field of Comparative Politics-Module 1
3. The Evolution of the Field of Comparative Politics-Module 2
4. Cultural Approaches to Comparative Politics-Module 2
5. Integration Theory-The case of the European Union-Module 3

October 9 (due October 12) : Exam#1-Covering Modules 1,2 and 3

6. Right Wing Political Ideologies-Module 4
7. Center/Left Political Ideologies-Module 5
8. Rational Choice Approaches to Comparative Politics-Module 6
9. Historical Sociology-Module 7

December 8 (due December 11): Exam#2-Covering Modules 4, 5, and 6

Research Paper is due December 3, 2025.

