

## POLS 5331.001 Course Syllabus

Dr.Stadelmann  
Spring 2023  
E-mail: mstadelmann@uttyler.edu  
Phone: 903.566.7412  
Office: Bus 120

### **SEMINAR IN COMPARATIVE POLITICS**

#### **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 structural functionalism, elitism, and culture theory as well as newer approaches, including rational choice 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
- Demonstrate competency to engage in scholarly research

#### **Required Texts:**

Dalton, et al. *Comparative Politics Today*. 6<sup>th</sup> edition.  
Gourevitch, Peter. *Politics in Hard Times*.

#### **Office Hours:**

Wednesday from 5:00 pm to 6:00 pm and 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 face to face on Wednesdays at 6:00 pm in CAS 104 and online.

## POLS 5331.001 Course Syllabus

### **Course Requirements:**

1. Successful completion of two exams to be held on February 24-26, 2023, and April 28-30, 2023. 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 and submit them on Canvas.
2. Successful completion of a research project discussed below. The final research project is worth 100 points. The research projects will be due April 12, 2023, and presented in class on April 12 and April 19, 2023. The presentations will be graded based on the rubric below.

### **Grading Policy:**

The grading scale will be the following:

### **Grading Policy:**

A=300-270 points  
B=269-240 points  
C=239-210 points  
D=209-180 points  
F=179 or fewer points

### **Research Project:**

- The research project for this class will constitute 33 percent of your grade.
- Please log on to Canvas.
- After logging on to Canvas, instructions about the research project can be found under POLS 5331-001.
- Listen to a brief description and an example of the project.
- Then watch the YouTube videos detailing how to create and present a PowerPoint presentation.

# POLS 5331.001 Course Syllabus

## Presentation Rubric:

Name of Student: \_\_\_\_\_

Title of Presentation: \_\_\_\_\_

Name of Evaluator: \_\_\_\_\_

	3	5	7	10	Total
<b>Organization</b>	Audience cannot understand presentation because there is no sequence of information.	Audience has difficulty following presentation because student jumps around.	Student presents information in logical sequence which audience can follow.	Student presents information in logical, interesting sequence which audience can follow.	/ 10
	6	10	15	20	
<b>Subject Knowledge</b>	Student does not have grasp of information; student cannot answer questions about subject.	Student is uncomfortable with information and is able to answer only rudimentary questions.	Student is at ease with expected answers to all questions, but fails to elaborate.	Student demonstrates full knowledge (more than required) by answering all class questions with explanations and elaboration.	/ 20
	2	3	4	5	
<b>Graphics</b>	Student uses superfluous graphics	Student occasionally uses graphics that rarely support text and presentation.	Student's graphics relate to text and presentation.	Student's graphics explain and reinforce screen text and presentation.	/ 5
<b>Mechanics</b>	Student's presentation has four or more spelling errors and/or grammatical errors.	Presentation has three misspellings and/or grammatical errors.	Presentation has no more than two misspellings and/or grammatical errors.	Presentation has no misspellings or grammatical errors.	/ 5
<b>Eye Contact</b>	Student reads all of report with no eye contact.	Student occasionally uses eye contact, but still reads most of report.	Student maintains eye contact most of the time but frequently returns to notes.	Student maintains eye contact with audience, seldom returning to notes.	/ 5
<b>Elocution</b>	Student mumbles, incorrectly pronounces terms, and speaks too quietly for students in the back of class to hear.	Student's voice is low. Student incorrectly pronounces terms. Audience members have difficulty hearing presentation.	Student's voice is clear. Student pronounces most words correctly. Most audience members can hear presentation.	Student uses a clear voice and correct, precise pronunciation of terms so that all audience members can hear presentation.	/ 5
No Presentation results in a zero (0).				<b>Total Points:</b>	<b>/ 50</b>

## Course Outline:

- I. Introduction-Getting Started/Research Presentation
- II. Core Concepts of the Field of Comparative Politics-Module on Canvas
- III. The Evolution of the Field of Comparative Politics
- IV. Cultural Approaches to Comparative Politics  
Almond and Verba-The Civic Culture  
Materialism vs. Postmaterialism.
- V. Structural-Functional Approaches to Comparative Politics
- VI. Systemic Approaches to Comparative Politics
- VII. Elite Theory/Populism

## POLS 5331.001 Course Syllabus

VIII. Historical Sociology

IX. Rational Choice Approaches to Comparative Politics

X. Conclusion