This course is designed to acquaint the student with some of the most frequently used research techniques within the discipline of Comparative Politics. In addition to covering the history and evolution of the field of Comparative Politics, special emphasis will be placed upon six major approaches to the study of comparative analysis. These six approaches will cover cultural, structural-functional, rational-choice, class, elite and group studies within the field of Comparative Politics. Major works from each of the six approaches will be discussed and studied and finally applied to the analysis of select political systems from all over the world.

In addition, the course will focus on political ideologies ranging from fascism to various types of communism while focusing on both advanced industrialized nations and underdeveloped societies. The student will thus be able to learn about a variety of political systems, including democratic and authoritarian ones.

Learning Outcomes:

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

- familiarity with terminology used to study Political Science and Comparative Politics
- basic knowledge of a variety of approaches used to study governments, politics and cultures of other countries
- an understanding of major political ideologies such as communism and fascism
- comprehension of the interrelationships of domestic policies and international events

Office Hours:

Monday and Friday: 10:00 am. until 11:00 am.
Monday, Wednesday, Friday: Noon until 2:00 p.m.

Class Meetings:
Classes will meet Monday, Wednesday and Friday at 11:00 a.m. in BUS 257.

Text:
The following text is required and is available for purchase at the campus bookstore. *Comparative Politics Today*. 6th edition. Dalton, Powell and Strom.
**Course Requirements:**
1. Attendance of Class Meetings
2. Successful completion of two exams to be held on February 15 and March 27, 2013.
4. Successful completion of a five-page research paper with the topic to be discussed in class. The paper will be due on April 26, 2013.

**Attendance and Grading Policy:**
Each exam, including the final, will be worth 100 points. The exams will consist of essay questions and short identifications. The report is worth an additional 100 points and will be discussed in detail in class. The grading scale will be the following:

- A = 400-360 points
- B = 359-320 points
- C = 319-280 points
- D = 279-260 points
- F = 259 or fewer points

**POLICIES THAT MUST APPEAR IN EACH COURSE SYLLABUS**

**Students Rights and Responsibilities**
To know and understand the policies that affect your rights and responsibilities as a student at UT Tyler, please follow this link: [http://www2.uttyler.edu/wellness/rightsresponsibilities.php](http://www2.uttyler.edu/wellness/rightsresponsibilities.php)

**Grade Replacement/Forgiveness and Census Date Policies**
Students repeating a course for grade forgiveness (grade replacement) must file a Grade Replacement Contract with the Enrollment Services Center (ADM 230) on or before the Census Date of the semester in which the course will be repeated. Grade Replacement Contracts are available in the Enrollment Services Center or at [http://www.uttyler.edu/registrar](http://www.uttyler.edu/registrar). Each semester’s Census Date can be found on the Contract itself, on the Academic Calendar, or in the information pamphlets published each semester by the Office of the Registrar.

Failure to file a Grade Replacement Contract will result in both the original and repeated grade being used to calculate your overall grade point average. Undergraduates are eligible to exercise grade replacement for only three course repeats during their career at UT Tyler; graduates are eligible for two grade replacements. Full policy details are printed on each Grade Replacement Contract.

The Census Date is the deadline for many forms and enrollment actions that students need to be aware of. These include:
- Submitting Grade Replacement Contracts, Transient Forms, requests to withhold directory information, approvals for taking courses as Audit, Pass/Fail or Credit/No Credit.
- Receiving 100% refunds for partial withdrawals. (There is no refund for these after the Census Date)
- Schedule adjustments (section changes, adding a new class, dropping without a “W” grade)
- Being reinstated or re-enrolled in classes after being dropped for non-payment
- Completing the process for tuition exemptions or waivers through Financial Aid
State-Mandated Course Drop Policy
Texas law prohibits a student who began college for the first time in Fall 2007 or thereafter from dropping more than six courses during their entire undergraduate career. This includes courses dropped at another 2-year or 4-year Texas public college or university. For purposes of this rule, a dropped course is any course that is dropped after the census date (See Academic Calendar for the specific date).
Exceptions to the 6-drop rule may be found in the catalog. Petitions for exemptions must be submitted to the Enrollment Services Center and must be accompanied by documentation of the extenuating circumstance. Please contact the Enrollment Services Center if you have any questions.

Disability Services
In accordance with Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act, Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) and the ADA Amendments Act (ADAAA) the University offers accommodations to students with learning, physical and/or psychiatric disabilities. If you have a disability, including non-visible disabilities such as chronic diseases, learning disabilities, head injury, PTSD or ADHD, or you have a history of modifications or accommodations in a previous educational environment you are encouraged to contact the Student Accessibility and Resources office and schedule an interview with the Accessibility Case Manager/ADA Coordinator, Cynthia Lowery Staples. If you are unsure if the above criteria applies to you, but have questions or concerns please contact the SAR office. For more information or to set up an appointment please visit the SAR office located in the University Center, Room 3150 or call 903.566.7079. You may also send an email to cstaples@utttyler.edu

Student Absence due to Religious Observance
Students who anticipate being absent from class due to a religious observance are requested to inform the instructor of such absences by the second class meeting of the semester.

Student Absence for University-Sponsored Events and Activities
If you intend to be absent for a university-sponsored event or activity, you (or the event sponsor) must notify the instructor at least two weeks prior to the date of the planned absence. At that time the instructor will set a date and time when make-up assignments will be completed.

Social Security and FERPA Statement:
It is the policy of The University of Texas at Tyler to protect the confidential nature of social security numbers. The University has changed its computer programming so that all students have an identification number. The electronic transmission of grades (e.g., via e-mail) risks violation of the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act; grades will not be transmitted electronically.

Emergency Exits and Evacuation:
Everyone is required to exit the building when a fire alarm goes off. Follow your instructor’s directions regarding the appropriate exit. If you require assistance during an evacuation, inform your instructor in the first week of class. Do not re-enter the building unless given permission by University Police, Fire department, or Fire Prevention Services.
Course Outline:

I. Introduction

II. A History of Comparative Politics

III. Core Concepts of the Field of Comparative Politics-Chapter 1

IV. Cultural Approaches to Comparative Politics-Chapter 3

V. Class Approaches to Comparative Politics-Chapter 4

VI. Systemic/Functional Approaches to Comparative Politics- Chapter 2

VII. Rational Choice Approaches to Comparative Politics-- Chapter 6

VIII. Elite /Group Approaches to Comparative Politics- Chapter 5

IX. Conclusion- Chapter 7