



Course Specifications

Course Title:	COMPARATIVE POLITICAL SYSTEMS
Course Code:	HIST 153
Program:	BACHELOR OF LAW
Department:	LAW
College:	COLLEGE OF LAW
Institution:	PRINCE SULTAN UNIVERSITY

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A. Course Identification

1. Credit hours: 3
2. Course type
a. University <input type="checkbox"/> College <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Department <input type="checkbox"/> Others <input type="checkbox"/>
b. Required <input type="checkbox"/> Elective <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
3. Level/year at which this course is offered: 3 or 4
4. Pre-requisites for this course (if any): None
5. Co-requisites for this course (if any): Not available

6. Mode of Instruction (mark all that apply)

No	Mode of Instruction	Contact Hours	Percentage
1	Traditional classroom	30	67
2	Blended	15	33
3	E-learning		
4	Distance learning		
5	Other		

7. Contact Hours (based on academic semester)

No	Activity	Contact Hours
1	Lecture	30
2	Laboratory/Studio	
3	Tutorial	15
4	Others (specify)	
	Total	45

B. Course Objectives and Learning Outcomes

1. Course Description

This course is an elective course on Comparative Political systems. This course offers a broad introduction to comparative politics, the subfield of political science concerned mainly with political ideas, institutions, and behavior within states.

Politics, the distribution, exercise, and consequences of power – exists at multiple levels of our society and in our daily lives. We experience politics in action, for example, during international negotiations, government policy choices, in the workplace, and in our own families. This course focuses on the formal, public sphere of politics and power relations through a systematic study and comparison of types of government and political systems.

2. Course Main Objective

- (i) To inform the students about the basic characteristics and functions of political systems
- (ii) To develop students' understandings on the various types of political systems
- (iii) To equip the students with necessary knowledge on the various structures and theories

governing the operations of differing political systems.

3. Course Learning Outcomes

CLOs		Aligned PLOs
1	Knowledge and Understanding	
1.1	Explain the basic principles of comparative political systems, its importance as well as the history of comparative politics	PLO 1
2	Skills :	
2.1	Identify and to apply the relevant legal theories and practice of the different forms of government (e.g. democracy, monarchy, dictatorship, totalitarian, autocracy to given scenarios.	PLO 3
2.2	Apply critical-thinking skills when solving practical problems concerning political systems.	PLO 4
2.3	Develop effective skills, both orally and in writing, in the construction of political issues arguments and analysis of various political systems	PLO 5
2.4	Demonstrate technical skills for tracking information related to major political systems of the world, to identify and critically examine arguments and counter arguments in discussions of important issues and trends in comparative politics	PLO 6
3	Values:	
3.1	Demonstrate understanding of group dynamics, become a contributing team member and apply the principles of independent work and leadership related to political systems	PLO 8

C. Course Content

No	List of Topics	Contact Hours
1	Introduction of comparative political systems	9
2	Different political theories	6
3	Democracy, features of democracy, importance of democracy in political system Political System of America and important political parties of America (Republican & Democrats) Comparative analysis of UK and American political system Principles of separation between authorities (executive, legislative and judicial authority), Importance of this doctrine and Application of this doctrine in America.	12
4	Monarchy system	3
5	Totalitarian systems	

		3
6	Role of media in political systems	3
7	Elections and voting systems	3
8	Machiavelli and his theory of politics	3
9	Revision classes	3
Total		45

D. Teaching and Assessment

1. Alignment of Course Learning Outcomes with Teaching Strategies and Assessment Methods

Code	Course Learning Outcomes	Teaching Strategies	Assessment Methods
1.0	Knowledge and Understanding		
1.1	Explain legal the basic principles of comparative political systems, their importance and the history of comparative politics.	Lectures Group Discussion Case analysis	Exams Class discussion Assignment
2.0	Skills		
2.1	Identify and to apply the relevant legal theories and practice of the different forms of government (e.g. democracy, monarchy, dictatorship, totalitarian, autocracy to given scenarios.	Tutorial Group Discussion Problem solving exercises	Exams Class discussion
2.2	Apply critical-thinking skills when solving practical problems concerning political systems.	Tutorial Group Discussion Problem solving exercises	Exams Class discussion
2.3	Develop effective skills, both orally and in writing, in the construction of political issues arguments and analysis of various political systems	Tutorial Group Discussion Problem solving exercises	Exams Class discussion
2.4	Demonstrate technical skills for tracking information related to major political systems of the world, to identify and critically examine arguments and counter arguments in discussions of important issues and trends in comparative politics	Tutorial Group Discussion Problem solving exercises	Exams Class discussion
3.0	Values		
3.1	Demonstrate understanding of group dynamics, become a contributing team member and apply the principles of	Tutorial Problem solving exercises	Assignments Presentation

Code	Course Learning Outcomes	Teaching Strategies	Assessment Methods
	independent work and leadership related to political systems		
3.2			
...			

2. Assessment Tasks for Students

#	Assessment task*	Week Due	Percentage of Total Assessment Score
1	Major 1	6	20
2	Major 2	10	20
3	Assignment & presentation	12	15
4	Class activities	1-12	5
5	Final exams	15	40

*Assessment task (i.e., written test, oral test, oral presentation, group project, essay, etc.)

E. Student Academic Counseling and Support

Arrangements for availability of faculty and teaching staff for individual student consultations and academic advice :

- 4 weekly office hours.
- Contact by email
- Using moodle to make any necessary announcement

F. Learning Resources and Facilities

1. Learning Resources

Required Textbooks	Foundations of comparative politics by kenneth newton & Jan deth 2nd edition Cambridge ISBN 13- 978-0-521-13679-2 Introduction to Comparative Politics by Tomas Vaišnoras Kaunas 2013 ISBN 978-9955-21-371-0
Essential References Materials	Relevant materials available in the library for research assignment
Electronic Materials	Websites: https://journals.sagepub.com/home/cps https://jcp.gc.cuny.edu/ https://www.cpbs-data.org/
Other Learning Materials	https://www.ingentaconnect.com/content/cuny/cp

2. Facilities Required

Item	Resources
Accommodation	Classroom with up to 30 seating capacity

Item	Resources
(Classrooms, laboratories, demonstration rooms/labs, etc.)	
Technology Resources (AV, data show, Smart Board, software, etc.)	Interactive smartboard
Other Resources (Specify, e.g. if specific laboratory equipment is required, list requirements or attach a list)	

G. Course Quality Evaluation

Evaluation Areas/Issues	Evaluators	Evaluation Methods
Course exit survey	Students	Indirect
Online Course evaluation survey	Students	Indirect
Peer review	Faculty	Direct Co-signing of final exams
Class observation of teaching quality	Chairperson	Direct
Teaching and course learning outcomes achievement	Faculty	Direct Course assessment report
Action plan continuity (Closing the loop)	QA Committee	PLO assessment report

Evaluation areas (e.g., Effectiveness of teaching and assessment, Extent of achievement of course learning outcomes, Quality of learning resources, etc.)

Evaluators (Students, Faculty, Program Leaders, Peer Reviewer, Others (specify))

Assessment Methods (Direct, Indirect)

H. Specification Approval Data

Council / Committee	
Reference No.	
Date	