FAU

FLORIDA ATLANTIC UNIVERSITY

COURSE CHANGE REQUEST
Undergraduate Programs

Department Political Science

College Arts & Letters

UUPC Approval 12/01/25
UFS Approval _____
SCNS Submittal _____
Confirmed _____
Banner Posted _____
Catalog _____

***Current* Course Prefix and Number**	CPO 2002	***Current* Course Title** Introduction to Comparative Politics

*Syllabus must be attached for **ANY** changes to current course details. See Template. Please consult and list departments that may be affected by the changes; attach documentation.*

Change title to:

Change prefix

From: **To:**

Change course number

From: **To:**

Change credits*

From: **To:**

Change grading

From: **To:**

Change WAC/Gordon Rule status**

Add ☐ **Remove** ☐

Change General Education Requirements***

Add ☑ **Remove** ☐

*See Definition of a Credit Hour.

**WAC/Gordon Rule criteria must be indicated in syllabus and approval attached to this form. See WAC Guidelines.

***GE criteria must be indicated in syllabus and approval attached to this form. See Intellectual Foundations Guidelines.

Change description to:

Change prerequisites/minimum grades to:

Change corequisites to:

Change registration controls to:

Please list existing and new pre/corequisites, specify AND or OR and include minimum passing grade (default is D-).

Effective Term/Year for Changes:	Fall 2027	**Terminate course? Effective Term/Year for Termination:**

Faculty Contact/Email/Phone Steven. D. Roper/ropers@fau.edu/297-4920

Approved by		***Date***
Department Chair	[signature]	10-20-25
College Curriculum Chair	Robin Larson [signature]	10-20-25
College Dean	[signature]	10-20-25
UUPC Chair	Korey Sorge	12/01/25
Undergraduate Studies Dean	Dan Meeroff	12/01/25
UFS President		
Provost		

Email this form and syllabus to mjenning@fau.edu seven business days before the UUPC meeting.

FLORIDA ATLANTIC UNIVERSITY

CPO 2002: Introduction to Comparative Politics

Professor: Dr. Roper
Classroom and Time:
Office: SO 391F
Office Hours:
Office Phone: 561-297-4920
E-mail: ropers@fau.edu
Course Web Page: www.stevendroper.com/CPO3003.htm

COURSE DESCRIPTION

This course introduces students to an analysis of major themes and concepts of comparative politics including development, state building, institutions, and political behavior. This course is part of the General Education.

INSTRUCTIONAL METHOD

This course is designated as "in-person" by FAU.

COURSE OBJECTIVES

My course objectives for you include the following:

- Students will be able to explain how historical and political legacies have shaped state formation and the classification of regime types through understanding the key concepts theories of comparative politics.
- Students will recognize the structure of different political institutions and be able to compare and evaluate them across cases based on key theoretical concepts from

comparative politics.
- Students will apply comparative methods to analysis the development and functioning of various political systems around the world.

COURSE POLICIES

1. It is not appropriate to come to class late; however if you come to class late, please find a seat near the door.
2. If you need to leave early, please discuss this with me prior to the start of class.

SELECTED UNIVERSITY & COLLEGE POLICIES

ACCESSIBILITY POLICY STATEMENT:

In compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act Amendments Act (ADAAA), students who require reasonable accommodations due to a disability to properly execute coursework must register with Student Accessibility Services (SAS) and follow all SAS procedures. SAS has offices across three of FAU's campuses – Boca Raton, Davie and Jupiter – however disability services are available for students on all campuses. For more information, please visit the SAS website at www.fau.edu/sas.

ARTIFICAL INTELLIGENCE PREAMBLE:

FAU recognizes the value of generative AI in facilitating learning. However, output generated by artificial intelligence (AI), such as written words, computations, code, artwork, images, music, etc., for example, is drawn from previously published materials and is not your own original work. FAU students are not permitted to use AI for any course work unless explicitly allowed to do so by the instructor of the class for a specific assignment. [Policy 12.16 Artificial Intelligence] Class policies related to AI use are decided by the individual faculty. Some faculty may permit the use of AI in some assignments but not others, and some faculty may prohibit the use of AI in their course entirely. In the case that an instructor permits the use of AI for some assignments, the assignment instructions will indicate when and how the use of AI is permitted in that specific assignment. It is the student's responsibility to comply with the instructor's expectations for each assignment in each course. When AI is authorized, the student is also responsible and accountable for the content of the work. AI may generate inaccurate, false, or exaggerated information. Users should approach any generated content with skepticism and review any information generated by AI before using generated content as-is.
If you are unclear about whether or not the use of AI is permitted, ask your instructor before starting the assignment. Failure to comply with the requirements related to the use of AI may constitute a violation of the Florida Atlantic Code of Academic Integrity, Regulation 4.001. Proper Citation: If the use of AI is permitted for a specific assignment, then use of the AI tool must be properly documented and cited. For more information on how to properly cite the

use of AI tools, visit https://fau.edu/ai/citation.

AI LANGUAGE SPECIFIC TO THIS COURSE:

AI Prohibited: The use of AI to assist in any work assigned in this specific course is prohibited.

ATTENDANCE POLICY:

Students are expected to attend all of their scheduled University classes and to satisfy all academic objectives as outlined by the instructor. The effect of absences upon grades is determined by the instructor, and the University reserves the right to deal at any time with individual cases of non-attendance. Students are responsible for arranging to make up work missed because of legitimate class absence, such as illness, family emergencies, military obligation, court-imposed legal obligations or participation in University-approved activities. Examples of University-approved reasons for absences include participating on an athletic or scholastic team, musical and theatrical performances and debate activities. In accordance with rules of the FAU, students have the right to reasonable accommodations to participate in University approved activities, including athletic or scholastics teams, musical and theatrical performances and debate activities. It is your responsibility to notify the instructor at least one week prior to missing any course assignment. It is the student's responsibility to give the instructor notice prior to any anticipated absences and within a reasonable amount of time after an unanticipated absence, ordinarily by the next scheduled class meeting. Instructors must allow each student who is absent for a University-approved reason the opportunity to make up work missed without any reduction in the student's final course grade as a direct result of such absence.

CODE OF ACADEMIC INTEGRITY POLICY STATEMENT:

Students at FAU should endeavor to maintain the highest ethical standards. Academic dishonesty is a serious breach of these ethical standards because it interferes with the University mission to provide a high-quality education in which no student enjoys an unfair advantage over any other. Academic dishonesty is also destructive to the University community, which is grounded in a system of mutual trust and places high value on personal integrity and individual responsibility. For more information, see University Regulation 4.001.

COUNSELING AND PSYCHOLOGICAL SERVICES (CAPS) POLICY STATEMENT:

Life as a university student can be challenging physically, mentally and emotionally. Students who find stress negatively affecting their ability to achieve academic or personal goals may wish to consider utilizing FAU's Counseling and Psychological Services (CAPS) Center. CAPS provides FAU students a range of services – individual counseling, support meetings, and psychiatric services, to name a few – offered to help improve and maintain emotional well-being. For more information, go to http://www.fau.edu/counseling.

DROPS/WITHDRAWALS:

Please consult the FAU Registrar FAQ for more information on dropping and/or withdrawing from a course.

GRADE APPEAL PROCESS:

You may request a review of the final course grade when you believe that one of the following conditions apply (FAU Regulation 4.002 information on the grade appeals process):

- There was a computational or recording error in the grading.
- The grading process used non-academic criteria.
- There was a gross violation of the instructor's own grading system.

PLAGIARISM:

Plagiarism is unacceptable in a university community. Academic work must be an original work of your own thought, research or self-expression. When students borrow ideas, wording or organization from another source, they must acknowledge that fact in an appropriate manner. Plagiarism is the deliberate use and appropriation of another's work without identifying the source and trying to pass-off such work as one's own. Any student who fails to give full credit for ideas or materials taken from another has plagiarized. Al written work will be submitted via Turnitin, a tool which assesses the similarity of writing to known source material. I will use this tool and its AI detection function as well as other AI tools to determine if students have engaged in plagiarism either by using material from others or using AI to generate a paper. If I determine that you have engaged in plagiarism based on these tools, you will receive a "0" for the assignment. Repeated use will result in the use of FAU academic integrity procedures for the course. I take plagiarism very seriously and will be diligent in ensuring the integrity of academic work for the course.

POLICY ON MAKEUP TESTS, LATE WORK AND INCOMPLETES:

No late work will be accepted. However, students will not be penalized for absences due to participation in University-approved activities, including athletic or scholastics teams, musical and theatrical performances, and debate activities. Reasonable accommodations will also be made for students participating in a religious observance. Grades of Incomplete ("I") are reserved for students who are passing the course but have not completed all the required work because of exceptional circumstances.

RELIGIOUS ACCOMMODATION POLICY STATEMENT:

In accordance with rules of the Florida Board of Education and Florida law, students have the right to reasonable accommodations from the University in order to observe religious practices and beliefs regarding admissions, registration, class attendance and the scheduling of examinations and work assignments. For further information, see FAU Regulation 2.007.

RECORDING OF LECTURES POLICY:

Students enrolled in this course may record video or audio of class lectures for their own personal educational use. A class lecture is defined as a formal or methodical oral presentation as part of a university course intended to present information or teach students about a particular subject. Recording class activities other than class lectures, including but not limited to student presentations (whether individually or as part of a group), class discussion (except when incidental to and incorporated within a class lecture), labs, clinical presentations such as patient history, academic exercises involving student participation, test or examination administrations, field trips, and private conversations between students in the class or between a student and the lecturer, is prohibited. Recordings may not be used as a substitute for class participation or class attendance and may not be published or shared without the written consent of the faculty member. Failure to adhere to these requirements may constitute a violation of the University's Student Code of Conduct.

COURSE ASSESSMENTS, ASSIGNMENTS & GRADING POLICY

GRADING REQUIREMENTS:

Grades in the course are based on the following: First, there are three examinations during the semester. The examinations consist of multiple-choice questions. Material for the examinations is drawn from both the lectures and the assigned readings. The first two exams are twenty-five questions. The exam lasts twenty-five minutes (from 12:30-12:55) The third exam is fifty questions and lasts fifty minutes (12:30-1:20). I provide a make-up examination only with a University-approved excuse (please see the FAU policy above). Second to assist you in thinking about the different ways in which the system of government, rights and freedoms and divisions of power can be structured as well as the social development of a state, you have been assigned a country in which you are required to summarize its constitutional features as well as level of democracy, corruption and economy. Third, you will design a constitution for the hypothetical country of Kerblakistan. The constitution involves incorporating several institutional issues discussed in the class. Grades are not curved or adjusted.

GRADE ASSESSMENT POINTS:

Examination 1	50 points
Examination 2	50 points
Examination 3	100 points
Country Constitution	45 points
Constitution Design	50 points
Introduction	5 points
Total	300 points

GRADE SCALE:

Grade	Percentage/Points
A	93-100% (279-300)
A-	90-92% (270-278)
B+	88-89% (264-269)
B	83-87% (249-263)
B-	80-82% (240-248)
C+	78-79% (234-239)
C	73-77% (219-233)
C-	70-72% (210-218)
D+	68-69% (204-209)
D	63-67% (189-203)
D-	60-62% (180-188)
F	0-59% (0-179)

LATE ASSIGNMENT POLICY:

Each exam and Canvas assignment has a clearly stated due date and time. You can also see assignment due dates and time in the Canvas Calendar. Each exam and Canvas assignment will close at the stated due date and time. Canvas late submissions will not be possible.

COURSE READING AND REQUIREMENT OUTLINE

All readings are available in Canvas. There is a "Readings" folder in the files application that contains all the course readings. Please bring them with you to class as we will be addressing specific arguments made by the authors.

Section 1:

Introduction: How to Study Comparative Politics:

John S. Dryzek. 2006. "Revolutions without Enemies: Key Transformations in Political Science." *American Political Science Review* 100:4 (Nov):487-492.

State and Society

Zahraa Barakat and Ali Fakih. 2021. "Determinants of the Arab Spring Protests in Tunisia, Egypt, and Libya: What Have We Learned?" *Social Sciences* 10:8 (July):1-15.

Nurseit Niyazbekov. 2018. "Is Kazakhstan Immune to Color Revolutions? The Social Movements Perspective." *Demokratizatsiya: The Journal of Post-Soviet Democratization* 26:3 (Summer):401-425.

Examination 1

Section 2:

Unitary and Federal Arrangements:

Omar G. Encarnación. 2024. "Why Separatism Is No Match for Democracy." *Journal of Democracy* 35(1):134-146.

Jan Erk, and Lawrence Anderson. 2009. "The Paradox of Federalism: Does Self-Rule Accommodate or Exacerbate Ethnic Divisions? *Regional and Federal Studies* 19:2 (May):191–202.

Democratization and Political Culture

Scott Mainwaring and Aníbal Pérez-Liñán. 2023. "Why Latin America's Democracies Are Stuck." *Journal of Democracy* 34:1 (Jan)156-170.

Marc F. Plattner. 2019. "Illiberal Democracy and the Struggle on the Right." *Journal of Democracy* 30:1 (Jan):5-19.

Sarah Repucci and Amy Slipowitz. 2022. "Authoritarians on Offense." *Journal of Democracy* 33(2):45-59.

Economic Development and Democracy

Christopher Walker and Melissa Aten. 2018. "The Rise of Kleptocracy: A Challenge for Democracy." *Journal of Democracy* 29:1 (Jan):20-24.

Daniel Treisman. 2020. "Economic Development and Democracy: Predispositions and Triggers." *Annual Review of Political Science* 23:241–257.

Examination 2

Section 3:

Variations of Presidentialism and Parliamentarism:

Filip Reyntjens. 2016. "The Struggle Over Term Limits in Africa: A New Look at the Evidence." *Journal of Democracy* 27:3 (Jul):61-68.

Elections and Electoral Systems

Cynthia McClintock. 2018. "Reevaluating Runoffs in Latin America." *Journal of Democracy* 29:1 (Jan): 96-110

Pippa Norris. 1997. "Choosing Electoral Systems: Proportional, Majoritarian and Mixed Systems." *International Political Science Review* 18:3 (Jul):297-312.

Parties, Party Systems and Voting Behavior

Joseph LaPalombara. 2007. "Reflections on Political Parties and Political Development, Four Decades Later." *Party Politics* 13:2 (March):141-154.

Examination 3

Section 4:

Designing a Constitution for Multi-Ethnic Societies (Suggested Readings):

Eduardo Alemán and Patricio Navia. 2023. "Chile's Failed Constitution: Democracy Wins." *Journal of Democracy* 34(2):90-104.

Josep M. Colomer. 2001. "The Strategy of Institutional Change." *Journal of Theoretical Politics* 13:3 (Jul): 235-247.

Tom Ginsburg and Mila Versteeg. 2023. "The Constitutionalization of Democracy." *Journal of Democracy* 34(4):36-50.

Dylan O'Driscoll, Irene Costantini and Serhun Al. 2020. "Federal versus Unitary States: Ethnic Accommodation of Tamils and Kurds." *Nationalism and Ethnic Politics* 26:4 (Oct):351-368.

Jennifer M. Piscopo and Peter M. Siavelis. 2023. "Chile's Constitutional Chaos." *Journal of Democracy* 34(2): 141-155.

Alfred Stepan and Cindy Skach. 1993. "Constitutional Frameworks and Democratic Consolidation: Parliamentarianism versus Presidentialism." *World Politics* 46 (Oct):1-22.

Constitution Assignment for Kerblakistan

General Education Course Approval Request
Social Science

Name: Jeffrey S. Morton

FAU Email: jmorton@fau.edu

Department Name: Political Science

College: Arts and Letters

Course prefix and number: CPO 2002

Course title: Introduction to Comparative Politics

Semester course offered (select all that apply):

Fall: ☒ Spring: ☒ Summer: ☒

Total number of students expected in all sections per academic year: 100

Is this course Gordon Rule Writing/WAC certified?	Yes ☐	No ☒	
Are multiple sections offered?	Yes ☒	No ☐	
If yes, is there a common syllabus?	Yes ☒	No ☐	N/A ☐

If there is no common syllabus, how will the department/program maintain consistency of content and objectives in multiple sections?

Social Science courses afford students an understanding of the basic social and behavioral science concepts and principles used in the analysis of behavior and past and present social, political and economic issues.

Course Description- Provide a course description that conveys the general content of the course, and identifies methods of instruction (e.g., lectures modeling, event experiences, discussions, small groups, simulations):

ANALYSIS OF MAJOR THEMES AND CONCEPTS OF COMPARATIVE POLITICS INCLUDING DEVELOPMENT, STATE BUILDING, INSTITUTIONS, AND POLITICAL BEHAVIOR.

The course meets in person and contains lectures and discussions of the readings and case studies.

Describe the purpose of the course:

This course introduces students to the study of comparative politics. Focusing on the interplay among political institutions, economic interests, and social identities, we explore the evolution of countries in today's nation-state system and apply the comparative method to understand the evolution of various political systems around the world.

General Education Course Approval Request
Social Science

For each of the Social Science student learning outcomes listed below, please:

1. Describe explicit connections or linkages between the SLO and teaching/learning experiences (e.g., assignments, teaching methods, events, projects, displays, performances).
2. Explain how the outcome will be measured including a clear path for collecting and analyzing the data.
3. Describe how performance will be evaluated (e.g., rubric, sub-tests, ratings--as related to specific learning outcomes).

Learning outcome #1: Describe patterns of human behavior.

Students will be able to explain how historical and political legacies have shaped state formation and the classification of regime types through understanding the key concepts theories of comparative politics.

Learning outcome #2: Describe how institutions influence human behavior and how humans influence these institutions.

Students will recognize the structure of different political institutions and be able to compare and evaluate them across cases based on key theoretical concepts from comparative politics.

Learning outcome #3: Apply appropriate disciplinary methods to the analysis of social, psychological, ethical, political, technological or economic issues.

Students will apply comparative methods to analysis the development and functioning of various political systems around the world. There are three examinations during the semester that measure student comprehension of assigned material. To assist students in thinking about the different ways in which the system of government, rights and freedoms and divisions of power can be structured as well as the social development of a state, each will be assigned a country in which they are required to summarize its constitutional features as well as level of democracy, corruption and economy. Finally, students will design a constitution for the hypothetical country of Kerblakistan. The constitution involves incorporating several institutional issues discussed in the class.