Comparative Politics And Government
比較政治與政府

Instructor: Dr. Chin-fu Hung (洪敬富), Department of Political Science & Graduate Institute of Political Economy
Office: B618
Course Hours: 09:10~12 noon, Wednesday
Classroom: 80101
Office Hours: 1:10~3PM, Wednesday (additional appointments may be arranged through email).
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Course Description / Objectives

This course is to introduce undergraduate students key methodological and theoretical discussions that underpin comparative politics research. After completing this course, students should be better familiarized with academic debates about some of the principal issues in comparative politics, such as how to compare countries, what are concepts of political development, political culture, civil society, causes for democracy/democratization, political violence and terrorism, and so forth. This course will also explore some of the major variations in domestic politics across the world, reviewing chief explanations for these differences.

- Students should be able to apply the comparative analysis framework presented in the lectures and textbooks to any country in the world;
- Students should be able to judge the relative merit of specific policy initiatives based on the experiences of other countries;
- Student should develop analytical skills to compare any two or more countries with regard to their political culture, political institutions, political developments, democratic and non-democratic systems, and civil societies in an increasingly globalized context;
- Students should appreciate the nature and direction of change(s) in the contemporary world within and between states.

Grades
Your grades in this course will be allocated in the following ways:

-- Class Attendance, Participation, and Oral Presentation(s) 20%
-- Mid-term Exam 40%
-- Final Exam 40%
Textbooks


Syllabus

Week 1 (9/14)  **Course Introduction**
Week 2 (9/21)  Introduction: Comparative Politics and Democracy (Ch.1)
Week 3 (9/28)  Democracy and Democratization in Historical Perspective (Ch.2)
Week 4 (10/5)  Economics and Political Development (Ch.3)
Week 5 (10/12) Political Culture and Ethnopolitics (Ch.4)
Week 6 (10/19) Social Structure and Politics (Ch.5)
Week 7 (10/26)  **Film Time**
Week 8 (11/2)  Democratization and the Global Environment (Ch.6)
Week 9 (11/9)  Electoral Systems (Ch.7)
Week 10 (11/16) Legislatures and Executives (Ch.8) & Conclusion (Ch.10)
Week 11 (11/23)  **Mid-term Exam**
Week 12 (11/30) The United States (Ch.3)
Week 13 (12/7)  Great Britain (Ch.4)
Week 14 (12/15) France (Ch.5)
Week 15 (12/21) Germany (Ch.6)
Week 16 (12/28) The European Union (Ch.7)
Week 17 (1/4)  Final Exam
Week 18 (1/11)  Course Review