



Course Code EUS-495	Course Title Comparative European Politics	ECTS Credits 6
Department European Studies and International Relations	Semester Fall, Spring	Prerequisites IREL-235
Type of Course Required	Field European Studies	Language of Instruction English
Level of Course 1 st Cycle	Year of Study 4 th	Lecturer(s) Dr Craig Webster
Mode of Delivery face-to-face	Work Placement N/A	Co-requisites None

Objectives of the Course:

The main objectives of the course are to:

- Introduce students to the key terms and concepts in the field of Comparative Politics.
- Introduce students to the major ideologies of political economy and how they are applied within Europe.
- Introduce students to the major challenges of the different types of European countries.
- Introduce students to the various choices facing countries in terms of how to organize themselves politically and economically.
- Familiarize students with the different ideologies guiding the structuring of political and economic systems.
- Familiarize students with the way that different European political systems function.

Learning Outcomes:

After completion of the course students are expected to be able to:

1. Utilize the language of Comparative Politics in an intelligent and mature manner.
2. Illustrate a full comprehension of the nature and logic of the different political systems and the political cultures of Europe.
3. Review the major political theories and ideologies in the political world and see how these ideologies influence the political systems of Europe.
4. Report in the English language both orally and in written form at a high level of competence.
5. Use IT skills (word processing, Internet and e-mail) as study and communication tools.
6. Illustrate the ability to continue learning in a self-directed manner and work on an academic level within the intended professional field.
7. Use libraries, bibliographical material and academic research in an efficient manner.

Course Contents:

1. What is Comparative Politics?
2. States: their evolution and role in politics
3. Political Economy: the different regimes of political economy and their implications
4. Democracy and its many forms
5. Advanced Democracies and their current challenges
6. Communism and Postcommunism: the challenges of the transition
7. Globalization and its impact upon economies and societies
8. The Westminster system of government and British politics
9. Monarchies, presidential systems, and parliamentary systems of government
10. Scandinavian politics
11. German and French politics
12. The politics of the post-socialist societies in Europe

Learning Activities and Teaching Methods:

Lectures , conferences and sessions with visiting speakers, Project work

Assessment Methods:

Mid-Term Exam, Final Exam, Class Participation, Essays

Required Textbooks/Reading:

Authors	Title	Publisher	Year	ISBN
Rod Hague and Martin Harrop	Comparative Government and Politics	Palgrave Macmillan	2004	1403913145
Tim Bale	European Politics: A Comparative Introduction	Palgrave	2008	0230573797

Recommended Textbooks/Reading:

Authors	Title	Publisher	Year	ISBN
Gabriel A. Almond and others	Comparative Politics Today: A Theoretical Framework (5th Edition)	Longman	2007	0205576567
Robert Dahl	Modern Political Analysis (6th Edition)	Prentice Hall	2002	0130497029
Rov C. Macridis	Contemporary Political Ideologies (6th Edition)	Longman	1997	0673524582
Patrick H. O'Neil and Ronald Ragowski	Essential Readings in Comparative Politics	W.W. Norton & Co.	2006	0393929507
Patrick H. O'Neil	Essentials of Comparative Politics	W.W. Norton	2007	0393928764
Alan Draper and Ansil Ramsay	The Good Society: An Introduction to Comparative Politics	Longman	2007	0321432177