

**2053-2: Introduction to Comparative Politics**  
**MWF: 1:30 – 2:20pm.**  
**Location: 116 Stubbs**

**Instructor:** Dr. Yann Kerevel  
**Office:** Stubbs 230

**Office Hours:** MW 3:30 – 4:30pm or by appt.  
**Email:** ykerev1@lsu.edu

**Course overview:**

Comparative politics is more than just the study of foreign countries, it is an approach designed to answer interesting questions about the world.

cannot make it up.

**Exams:** There will be three exams throughout the semester that relate to the readings, lectures and videos. The exams are not cumulative. Prior to each exam I will provide you with a study guide. All exams must be taken on the specified date. If you have a DOCUMENTED illness, emergency or excused absence on the date of an exam, you may take an alternate exam during the scheduled final exam period.

**Final Paper and Constitutional Convention Simulation:** At the end of the course you will be provided with a prompt to develop a 4-5 page proposal for a new constitution for a fake country. The paper should draw on the material learned in the course along with outside readings to defend your proposal. The proposal is due on November 30<sup>th</sup>. During the final week of the course we will then simulate a constitutional convention as the entire class then attempts to agree on a single constitution. Students who do not come to class with a proposal on 11/30 will not be able to participate in the simulation. After the simulation is completed, you will be expected to write a 2-3 page reflection on the simulation experience. The reflection is due on the specifiem BT 50 0 00.24 64.80

graduation. For a second academic violation, the result could be suspension from LSU. For graduate students, suspension is the appropriate outcome for the first offense.

**Plagiarism and Citation Method:** As a student at LSU, it is your responsibility to refrain from plagiarizing the academic property of another and to utilize appropriate citation methods for all coursework. Ignorance of the citation method is not an excuse for academic misconduct. Remember there is a difference between paraphrasing and quoting and how to properly cite each respectively. If you have questions regarding what is appropriate, please consult with the library's tutorials on avoiding plagiarism and proper citation formats (links are also provided on the course Moodle page).

**Lectures and Readings:**

All assigned readings **MUST BE COMPLETED BEFORE ATTENDING CLASS**. I reserve the right to alter specific readings or the timing of certain lectures, but I will announce any changes in class or through email with sufficient advance notice.

**Week 1: Democratic Regimes**

Aug 24: Introduction to course

Aug 26: Schmitter and Karl.

