

# POLI 2053 (Section 2) Intro to Comparative Politics

(Last Updated: September 5, 2020)

Tuesdays and Thursdays  
12:00-1:20  
100% Web Based

## Instructor Information

Jeong Hyun Kim, Ph.D.  
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Office Hours: by appointment

## Course Description

Why are some states democracies, and others not? Why do democracies use different electoral rules, and what are their consequences? Why do some people vote, and others not? Comparative Politics is a subfield of political science that addresses these questions and more in different contexts around the world. This course provides an introduction to fundamental concepts, theories and questions of the study of comparative politics. We will learn a number of topics central to understanding the political systems and political events around the world: democratization, voting and elections, political parties, representation, and political violence. This course will give students a basic understanding of how politics operates in the political systems around the world, and how historical, cultural, economic, and institutional differences across countries affect politics and policy-making.

## Course Structure

1. This course will be delivered 100% online. There are two components of the course. First, all lectures will be pre-recorded by the instructor and will be posted on Moodle in the format of narrated PowerPoint slides. Second, there will be Zoom synchronous sessions for the

## **Teaching Assistant**

Harriet Sellers

Ph.D. Student, Department of Political Science, Louisiana State University

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## **Learning Objectives**

- Understand the fundamental concepts and theories in the study of comparative politics.
- Employ critical thinking and

## Special Accommodations

For students who have special needs or who require accommodations through Disability Services, please advise me of your situation so arrangements can be made. To request academic accommodations, students must contact Disability Services (<https://www.lsu.edu/disability/>); 1.23 Td pw ( )Tj 0.00

## Requirements and Evaluation

Grading in this class will be based on the components described below.

### Grading Scale

Score	Grade	Score	Grade	Score	Grade	Score	Grade	Score	Grade
• 97	A+	87 - 89	B+	77-79	C+	67-69	D+	<60	F
93 - 96	A	83 - 86	B	73 - 76	C	63 - 66	D		
90 - 92	A-	80-82	B-	70-72	C-	60-62	D-		

### Grading breakdown

- Attendance (10%) After taking each lecture, you are required to take a quiz/ poll posted on Moodle. I will take your attendance based on whether you take this quiz/ poll. I will also take attendance for Zoom synchronous sessions. If you are unable to

Both midterm and final exams will be delivered in an open, takehome format. The purpose of the exams is to assess your comprehension of concepts we are discussing and

# Course Schedule (Subject to Change)

Date	Topic	Reading	Platform
Week 1			
8/25	Introduction and Course Overview	Syllabus	Zoom