

ST. LOUIS UNIVERSITY  
DEPARTMENT OF POLITICAL SCIENCE  
POLS-1510-01 Politics of the Developing World  
3 Credit Hours  
Spring 2023

Dr. Emmanuel Uwalaka  
TR: 11:00 12:15 pm  
Classroom: McGannon Hall 121

Office: McG 150  
Cell: 314-749-5917  
Hours: TR: 9-10 am  
W: 10-11 am  
or by appointment

### **Welcome to the course**

This comparative politics course is designed to introduce undergraduate students to politics of developing regions (Africa, Asia, Latin America, and the Middle East). We begin the course by examining the contending paradigms scholars have used to describe, explain, and understand political processes in these regions. The course examines the following questions: How do we conceptualize development? Why do we compare countries? Why are countries developed and other countries developing? To answer these questions and, moreover, operationalize development we shall examine colonial heritage, modernization and dependency theories, politics and culture, democracy, and authoritarianism, and two models of development Nigeria and India.

### **COURSE OBJECTIVES**

The objectives for the course are:

1. To introduce the student to the process of conceptualizing and operationalizing broad concepts
2. To introduce the student to the approaches and theories of politics of developing countries
3. To provide the student with contextual understanding and sufficient factual background to assess comparative politics theories and concepts in relation to developing countries
4. To discuss the essential elements in the governing process through illustrations from various political systems; and
4. To articulate how our values and morals shape our analysis of political events and outcomes

### **LEARNING OUTCOMES**

After taking this course, students will be able to:

1. Conceptualize and operationalize the concepts development, capabilities, cultural pluralism,
2. Explain the strengths and weaknesses of the key theories in explaining and understanding the politics in developing countries
3. Demonstrate knowledge of major external and internal factors impacting political processes in different countries and regions
4. Articulate how our values and moral shape our analysis of political events and outcomes in developing countries.

Required Book(s)

Draper, Allan and Ramsay, Ansil. 2016. *The Good Society: An Introduction to Comparative Politics, 3<sup>rd</sup> edition*. New York: Pearson

Handelman, Howard and Brynen, Rex. 2019. *Challenges of the Developing World*, 9<sup>th</sup> edition. New York: Rowman & Littlefield

## COURSE REQUIREMENTS

Students are required to attend class sessions regularly and punctually. Students are required to sign the roll at each session, and a record of attendance will be maintained. Students will be

discussions and prepare for case studies. Students should be aware of how politics affects their everyday lives. Most of the time, the instructor will begin class by asking

The idea is to allow you express yourself on what you have observed about politics at the international level. Your participation efforts at this level will be recorded toward class participation points. During class, **cell phones must be turned off or to vibrate mode**. If you need to respond to a call, please step outside the room. Use of laptop computers during class is only allowed to take lecture notes.

A class session might be changed to discussion session depending on how the class responds to lectures, readings, and issues in international politics. Students will be informed of discussion topic in advance.

## COURSE EVALUATION

**As part of class participation, during the last week of the semester students will be reminded to complete an on-line course evaluation. Students will be notified when screens will be accessible for students to submit the evaluation.**

### EVALUATION

#### A. Methods

Two quizzes (which will be announced days in advance), class participation (involvement in class discussions, asking and answering questions, courteous to classmates, etc.), midterm, and final examinations, and short reflection paper not more than 5 pages will be used in evaluating the performance of students.

1. Students will be required to take the mid-semester and the final examinations.
2. Students are required to take all examinations as scheduled. Exams will consist short answers and essays. Exams are not cumulative, that is, only the material since the last exam is included.

#### B. Grading Scale and Distribution of Points

1.		10
2.	Mid-Semester Exam . . . .	30
3.	Final Exam . . . . .	30
4.		
4.		10

(Asking and answering questions, actively involved in class discussions, relating media international events to concepts and theories learned in class,

class attendance, etc.}

The numerical equivalents of letter grades are:

93-100 = A

83-86 = B

73-76 = C

90-92 = A-

80-82 = B-

70-72 = C-

87-89 = B+

77-79 = C+

60-69 = D

Below 65 = F

NOTE: Final grades will not be changed unless there is an error in computation.

## OFFICE VISITS

Students are encouraged to visit the instructor during office hours in connection with their work in this class, or to discuss any career-related problems. If unable to visit during posted hours, an appointment will be made convenient to both the student and the instructor.

**IT IS IMPORTANT THAT YOU GET TO KNOW YOUR TEACHERS AND TO MAKE YOURSELF KNOWN TO THEM. IT IS THE ONLY WAY TEACHERS CAN BE OF HELP TO YOU OUTSIDE THE CLASSROOM.**

Syllabus Statement on ~~H~~Person Class Attendance and Participation





4. Instructors will notify students promptly if these absences will prevent the student from meeting the course objectives so that the student may drop the course during the add/drop period.

Bereavement

Official notification from the Dean of Students or Academic Dean.

Upon request to and approval by the Dean of Students Office, students shall be given up to five (5) consecutive days (not including weekends or holidays) of excused absence for bereavement.

In addition, this instructor requires students to sign the roll at each session, and a record of attendance will

participate in class discussions and prepare for case studies. Students should be aware of how politics affects their

The idea is to allow you express yourself on what you have observed or read about politics at the local, state, national or international level. Your participation efforts at this level will be recorded toward class participation points. During class, **cell phones must be turned off or to vibrate mode.** If you need to respond to a call, please step outside the room. Use of laptop computers during class is only allowed to take lecture notes.

## Title IX

Saint Louis University and its faculty are committed to supporting our students and seeking an environment that is free of bias, discrimination and harassment. If you have encountered any form of sexual misconduct (e.g. sexual assault, sexual harassment, stalking, domestic or dating violence), we encourage you to report this to the University. If you speak with a faculty member about an incident of misconduct, that faculty member must notify SLU's Title IX coordinator, Anna R. Kratky (DuBourg Hall, room 36; [anna.kratky@slu.edu](mailto:anna.kratky@slu.edu); 314-977-3886) and share the basic facts of your experience with her. The Title IX coordinator will then be available to assist you in understanding all of your options and in connecting you with all possible resources on and off campus.

If you wish to speak with a confidential source, you may contact the counselors at the University Counseling Center at 314-977-  
visit the [Office of the General Counsel](#).

## Disability Services

Students with a documented disability who wish to request academic accommodations must contact [Disability Services](#) to discuss accommodation requests and eligibility requirements. Once successfully registered, the student also must notify the course instructor that they wish to access accommodations in the course.

Please contact Disability Services, located within the Student Success Center, at [Disability\\_services@slu.edu](mailto:Disability_services@slu.edu) or 314-977-3484 to schedule an appointment. Confidentiality will be

accommodations will be shared with course instructors via email from Disability Services and viewed

Note: Students who do not have a documented disability but who think they may have one are encouraged to contact Disability Services.

## **Academic Integrity**

Academic integrity is honest, truthful and responsible conduct in all academic endeavors. The mission of [Saint Louis](#) University is "the pursuit of truth for the greater glory of God and for the service of humanity." Accordingly, all acts of falsehood demean and compromise the corporate endeavors of teaching, research, health care, and community service via which SLU embodies its mission. The University strives to prepare students for lives of personal and professional integrity, and therefore regards all breaches of academic integrity as matters of serious concern.

The governing University-level Academic Integrity Policy was adopted in Spring 2015, and can be accessed on the Provost's Office website at: [https://www.slu.edu/provost/policies/academic-and-course/policy\\_academic-integrity\\_6-26-2015.pdf](https://www.slu.edu/provost/policies/academic-and-course/policy_academic-integrity_6-26-2015.pdf).

Additionally, each SLU College, School, and Center has adopted its own academic integrity policies, available on their respective websites. All SLU students are expected to know and abide by these policies, which detail definitions of violations, processes for reporting violations, sanctions, and appeals. Please direct questions about any facet of academic integrity to your faculty, the chair of the department of your academic program, or the Dean/Director of the College, School or Center in which your program is housed.

## **Student Success Center**

In recognition that people learn in a variety of ways and that learning is influenced by multiple factors (e.g., [prior experience](#), study skills, learning disability), resources to support student success are available on campus. The Student Success Center assists students with academic-related services and is located in the Busch Student Center (Suite, 331). Students can visit the [Student Success Center](#) to learn more about tutoring services, university writing services, disability services, and academic coaching.

## **University Writing Services**

Students are encouraged to take advantage of University [Writing Services](#) in the Student Success Center; getting feedback benefits writers at all skill levels. Trained writing consultants can help with writing projects, multimedia projects, and oral presentations. University Writing Services offers one-on-one consultations that address everything from brainstorming and developing ideas to crafting strong sentences and documenting sources. For more information, visit the [Student Success Center](#) or call the Student Success Center at 314-977-3484.

## **Basic Needs Security**

Students in personal or academic distress and/or who may be specifically experiencing challenges such as securing



**Mar. 2** Comparative Political Analysis: Does Diversity Undermine Democracy?  
Readings: *Good Society*, Ch.7p. 159

**Mar. 7** **Midterm Review**

**Mar. 9** **Midterm Examination**

**Mar. 14, 16** **Spring Break**

**Mar. 21, 23, 28** Authoritarianism

Why they intervene in politics

How they come to power and consolidation of power