

## **Course Outline: PLSC 202 - Governments of Developing Countries**

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Office Location: E-114A

Student Meeting Hours: Tuesday & Thursday 9:30 to 11AM (or by appointment)

### **Course Details**

Room E330, 15:00 -15:50. MWF- This is a major course and amounts to 3 credit hours and will be held in-person.

### **INTRODUCTION**

This course studies the political structures and processes of developing countries from a comparative political perspective. Comparative politics helps us in drawing evidences by comparing governments and political cultures in developing and developed countries. The aim is to understand why some countries are democratic while others are not. Why some countries have authoritarian and centralized political structures while in others, power is shared both horizontally and vertically.

Our focus in this course will be on institutions, as institutions play an important role in defining and shaping political culture by laying out the rules, norms, and structures in which we live. In addition, we will take up the ideals of freedom and equality to understand how they are being practiced in our selected case studies i.e., Pakistan, India, Iran and South Africa?

### **Course Aim**

- Introduce students to the key concepts, approaches and methods of comparative politics to develop a critical understanding of the political processes.

- Enable students to acquire knowledge and understanding of the substance, structure, and political practices in the developing countries by drawing comparative analysis.
- Provide Students with the ability to analyse political developments in the developing countries and situate them in the broader historical context and their relationship with broader themes in comparative politics.

### **LEARNING OUTCOMES**

Upon successful completion of this course, students will be able to:

- Appreciate the complexity, distinctiveness and diversity of politics in developing countries by linking conceptual and theoretical ideas to political practices.
- Discuss and critically analyse major political developments in the developing countries by relating the contemporary events to historical processes.
- Demonstrate a sound theoretical and practical understanding of the concepts at the forefront of academic discipline of Political Science.
- Link conceptual and theoretical ideas to political practices in developing countries.
- Synthesize information (which may be conflicting) to construct persuasive analysis of contemporary debates on regime types and political culture in developing countries.
- Identify practical deterrents in the way of achieving the ideal values such as democracy and freedom and equality in developing countries

### **Required Textbooks**

The readings for this course will be distributed by the instructor through Moodle.

## **Course Assessment**

The course will be taught by using Inquiry based learning techniques. Students will be asked to read the reading material given in advance and take an active part in discussions during the class. Learning process will be in an environment of close student-teacher interaction to encourage students to develop independent analytical perspectives and will help the instructor to identify students' academic interests, strengths and weaknesses at a very early stage. With this in mind, teaching approaches are more inductive than expository. This means that students need to come to class fully prepared in order to contribute to the learning process through participation in discussions and presentations. The assessment will be based on 4 Quizzes (20%), 1 PowerPoint presentations (10%) on topics of their choice from the topics listed in the course outline, Mid-Term (30%) and Final Term Examination (40%).

### **Power Point Presentation**

Students are required to give Power Point Presentations (PPT) from the topic listed in the course outline. The purpose of the Power Point Presentations is to keep students engaged in learning from the very beginning and to ensure two-way traffic of knowledge. Depending on the class size, the presentations can be individual or in a group of 3 students. The Power Point Presentations by the student or a group of students will be followed by a Question & Answer session. Students will be assessed on the basis of the clarity and coherence of the content, meticulousness in the presentations of the ideas and analysis as well as the effective use of slides and images. 3 marks will be reserved to judge how the students handle and respond to the questions. Students are required to limit their presentation within the time period of 10 minutes. Negative marking will be applied, in case the students exceed their time limit. The criteria used for assessing the presentation is as follows.

The degree of knowledge and understanding of the subject matter.

The ability to present a coherent and systematic argument.

The ability to communicate effectively in a clear and cogent manner.

The extent to which the time limits are observed.

The effectiveness with which oral questions are dealt with.

The clarity of delivery (pace, audibility, etc.)

Depending on the size of the class intake, students will be required either to make one individual presentation or contribute to one group presentation. If group presentations are required, student will also need to submit a log of their contribution to the group. Each contributing group member will be awarded with the same marks, i.e. 10% of the total marks.

### **Quizzes**

Student are required to give 4 quizzes based on short question answers, two before the Mid-Term and two after the Mid-Term based on the readings assigned in advance from the course outline. The purpose of the quizzes is to check the students' conceptual clarity and to ensure that they are engaged with the readings from the very beginning.

### **Mid -Term and Final- Term**

The Mid-Term and Final-Term Examinations will be held on the University's prescribed dates. During online instructions, students will be assigned **Take-Home Mid-Terms**. The instructor will assign a question for a take-home Mid-Term exam. The Take-Home Mid-Term exam will make students answer a question by applying the concept that they would have covered in their readings. This paper must be submitted online through Moodle; no other modes of submission are allowed. The grading rubric for the research paper is available on Moodle.

### **Grading Legend**

Below is the grading legend of FCCU (published in all catalogs and available on the FCCU website) as approved by the Academic Council and applies for Fall as well.

<b>Grade</b>	<b>Point value</b>	<b>Numerical value</b>	<b>Meaning</b>
<b>A</b>	4	93 - 100	Superior
<b>A-</b>	3.7	90-92	
<b>B+</b>	3.3	87-89	
<b>B</b>	3	83-86	Good
<b>B-</b>	2.7	80-82	
<b>C+</b>	2.3	77-79	
<b>C</b>	2	73-76	Satisfactory
<b>C-</b>	1.7	70-72	
<b>D+</b>	1.3	67-69	Passing
<b>D</b>	1	60-66	
<b>F</b>	0	59 or below	Failing

### **Important Course Policies**

**Mode of Instruction:** This course will be taught in-person, but will profoundly make use of Moodle and Microsoft Teams (for individual online meetings). Kindly ensure that you are familiar with the use of both.

**Submission of Assignments and Plagiarism:** All written assignments must be submitted through Moodle, and will be checked for plagiarism via Turnitin. This software ensures that the work submitted is the student's own, and plagiarism and cheating in any class discussion or assignment will be dealt with a failing grade, and further disciplinary action will be taken according to FCC policies. Please read the relevant sections in your Student Handbook for further details.

**Contacting the Instructor:** The best way to reach the instructor is through email. During the scheduled office hours, the instructor will respond within 45 minutes of the query being sent; response time outside of office hours is 12 hours max. If a student is participating in the course online, individual meetings can be arranged online via email. The instructor will be readily available for such meetings during office hours (listed above) and all that is required from a

student is to send a request for an individual meeting through email.

**Response Time for Emails:** The instructor will respond to all emails during 9am to 5pm during Mondays to Fridays, with a maximum reply time of 12 hours. If you have urgent matters that need discussion, try to participate during scheduled office hours (in-person or online).

**Submission of Assignments and Plagiarism:** All written assignments must be submitted through Moodle, and will be checked for plagiarism via TurnItin. This software ensures that the work submitted is the student's own, and plagiarism and cheating in any class discussion or assignment will be dealt with a failing grade, and further disciplinary action will be taken according to FCC policies. Please read the relevant sections in your Student Handbook for further details.

**Late Submissions:** Late submission of the research paper, Mid-Term Exam, and research paper will result in automatic penalties. Each day that passes after the deadline for submission will result in a 5% overall grade reduction.

**Re-take Policies:** Absolutely no re-takes for any assignment are allowed, and no extensions will be given for any assignment as well. Under extreme circumstances beyond the student's control - such as electric or internet outages during online quizzes – he/she should inform the instructor.

**Participation Etiquette:** Students are expected to come to class on time. Personal attacks on other participants - including the instructor - through class discussions or other means will garner strict punishments. A written warning will be issued after one transgression, and further transgressions will result in an automatic failing grade in the course.

**Electronics Policy:** Usage of cell phones and other electronic or recording devices is strictly prohibited in the class. If you need to use your laptop or tablet to take notes, please see the instructor to obtain permission beforehand.

**Language of Instruction:** The language of instruction for the course is English, as required by the Higher Education Commission (HEC). As such, the instructor is not responsible for delivering the lecture or disseminating class-related reading materials in a language other than English; however, reasonable accommodations can be made on an individual basis. All assignments are to be completed and submitted in English as well. Students facing difficulty with the medium of

instruction should contact the instructor and seek help during office hours (or by appointment).

**Accommodation for Disabled Students:** If a student is facing difficulty in the course due to a disability or handicap, please contact the instructor immediately to arrange for an appropriate instruction method.

**Health Emergencies:** If a student or a student's family member encounters a health emergency that can have significant impact on the student's performance in the course, s/he should immediately inform the instructor. Failure to do so will result in absolutely no accommodations being made towards the course assessments.

**Modifications in Syllabus:** This syllabus was designed to convey course information and requirements as accurately as possible. It is important to note however that it may be subject to change during the course depending on the needs of the class and other situational factors. Such changes would be for the students' benefit and they will be notified of them as soon as possible.

## **COURSE SCHEDULE AND READING ASSIGNMENTS**

(Note: This course schedule is subject to revisions under some unavoidable circumstances)

### **Week 1: Introduction to the Course: What is Comparative Politics?**

#### **Required Reading**

O'Neil, Patrick H. 2017. *Essentials of Comparative Politics*. 6th. 3-29. New York: W. W. Norton & Company.

### **Week 2: Pakistan - I - Democracy or Authoritarianism – The Constitutional Development / Civil-Military Relation**

#### **Required Readings**

- Kamran, Tahir. 2008. *Democracy and Governance in Pakistan*. Lahore: South Asian Partnership.

### **Week 3: Pakistan II - Issues of Federalism in Pakistan**

#### **Required Readings**

- Kamran, Tahir. 2008. *Democracy and Governance in Pakistan*. Lahore: South Asian Partnership.
- Katharine Adeney, A Step Towards Inclusive Federalism in Pakistan? The Politics of the 18th Amendment

#### **Suggested Reading**

- Wright, Theodore P. 1991. "Center-Periphery Relations and Ethnic Conflict in Pakistan: Sindhis, Muhajirs, and Punjabis." *Comparative Politics* 23 (3): 299-312.
- Jalal, Ayesha. 1995. *Democracy and Authoritarianism in South Asia: A Comparative and Historical Perspective*. 29-63. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press.

### **Week 4: Pakistan III – Judiciary - Accountability and Transparency/ Judicial Activism**

#### **Required Readings**

- Shah, Amanullah, Mobina Mehsud, and Shadiullah Khan. 2014. "Analysis of Judicial Independence and Judicial Accountability in Pakistan." *Gomal University Journal of Research* 30 (1): 64-75. <http://www.gujr.com.pk/index.php/GUJR/article/view/365/229>.

### **Week 5: Pakistan IV – Decentralization: Challenges and Prospects**

#### **Required Readings**

- Cheema, Ali, Asim Ijaz Khwaja, and Adnan Qadir. 2003. *Decentralization in Pakistan: Context, Content and Causes*. Preliminary draft, World Bank.



<http://www1.worldbank.org/publicsector/decentralization/Feb2004Course/Background%20materials/Cheema.pdf>.

## **Week 6: India - I - Political Culture / Institutions**

### **Required Readings**

- Ghosh, Ambar Kumar. 2020. *The Paradox of 'Centralised Federalism': An Analysis of the Challenges to India's Federal Design*. Occasional papers, Kolkata: Observer research foundation. <https://www.orfonline.org/research/the-paradox-of-centralised-federalism/>.
- O'Neil, Patrick H. 2017. *Essentials of Comparative Politics*. 6th. 450-561. New York: W. W. Norton & Company.

## **WEEK 7: MID TERM EXAMS**

## **Week 8: India - II Party Politics / Electoral System**

### **Required Readings**

- Macdonald, Geoffrey, and Babak Moussavi. 2015. "Minoritarian Rule: How India's Electoral System Created the Illusion of a BJP Landslide." *Economic and Political Weekly* 50 (8): 18-21.
- O'Neil, Patrick H. 2017. *Essentials of Comparative Politics*. 6th. 472-482. New York: W. W. Norton & Company.

## **Week 9: India – III - Political Cooperation and Conflict / Ethnic and National Identity**

### **Required Readings**

- Share, Donald, Karl Fields, and Patrick H. O'Neil. 2017. *Cases in Comparative Politics*. 6th. 483-486. New York: W. W. Norton & Company

- Varshney, Ashutosh. 1993. "Contested Meanings: India's National Identity, Hindu Nationalism, and the Politics of Anxiety." *Daedalus* 122 (3): 227-261. [http://ashutoshvarshney.net/wp-content/files\\_mf/daedalus\\_1993.pdf](http://ashutoshvarshney.net/wp-content/files_mf/daedalus_1993.pdf).

## **Week 10: Iran – I - Historical Development of the State – The Persian Legacy and the Islamic State**

### **Required Reading**

- Moin, Baqer. 1994. "Khomeini's search for Perfection: Theory and Reality." In *Pioneers of Islamic Revival*, by Ali Rahnama, 64-93. London: Zed books Ltd.
- Share, Donald, Karl Fields, and Patrick H. O'Neil. 2017. *Cases in Comparative Politics*. 6th. 505-548. New York: W. W. Norton & Company.

## **Week 11: Iran - II - Political Conflict and Competition - The Challenges of Political Reform**

### **Required Readings**

- Gasiorowski, Mark, and Sean L. Yom. 2017. *The Government and Politics of the Middle East and North Africa*. 8th. 181-203. New York: Rotledge

## **Week 12: South Africa – I Historical Context / Political Institutions/ The Party System and Elections**

### **Required Readings**

- Hiffee, John. 2007. *African: The History of the Continent*. 273-288. London: Cambridge University Press.

- Share, Donald, Karl Fields, and Patrick H. O'Neil. 2017. *Cases in Comparative Politics*. 6th. 673-697. New York: W. W. Norton & Company.

### **Week 13: South Africa– II – From Failure to Reform 1983 Constitution/ Political Economy**

#### **Required Readings**

- Clark, Nancy L, and William H. Worger. 2011. *South Africa: The Rise and Fall of Apartheid*. 67-111. London: Routledge.
- Share, Donald, Karl Fields, and Patrick H. O'Neil. 2017. *Cases in Comparative Politics*. 6th. 697-718. New York: W. W. Norton & Company.