

Comparative Politics / Introduction to the Politics of the Developing World

Politics 60 • 43120 • Winter 2011
University of California, Santa Cruz

Professor Benjamin L. Read
Email: bbread (at) ucsc (dot) edu
Office: 157 Merrill Faculty Annex, 831-459-4469
<http://benread.net>

Teaching Assistants:
Teresa Enright / tenright (at) ucsc (dot) edu
Don Kingsbury / dkingsbu (at) ucsc (dot) edu
Jan Kotowski / jkotowsk (at) ucsc (dot) edu

Lectures: Mon., Wed., & Fri. 8a to 9:10a, Engineering 152

Course web site: <http://ecommons.ucsc.edu/>

Professor's office hours: Mon. & Wed. 9:30a to 11a, 157 Merrill Faculty Annex, and by appointment

Date of this syllabus: January 4, 2011. Subject to change; check websites for latest version

Overview:

This course is an introduction to Comparative Politics that focuses on countries of the developing world; the main cases we look at are Nigeria, Indonesia, Afghanistan, India, Brazil, and South Korea. How do the political systems of such states work, or fail to work? How is governance in such areas affected by historical legacies, domestic and international economic forces, non-governmental organizations, ethnic strife, and the actions of other states? How does the study of politics help us to understand issues like poverty, disease, and instability? These and other questions will be examined in the process of learning and applying basic concepts of this branch of political science.

Readings:

- W. Phillips Shively, ed., *Comparative Governance: Political Structure and Diversity Across the Globe* (McGraw-Hill Create, 2010)
This is a custom-published textbook. It has my (Prof. Read's) name on it as well as Shively's, though I have no financial relationship with McGraw-Hill. Please buy a copy of this text at the Bay Tree bookstore.
- Howard Handelman, *The Challenge of Third World Development*, 5th or 6th edition (Prentice Hall, 2008 or 2010)
This book, too, is available at the Bay Tree bookstore.
- Other assigned items are on the course web page, where optional extra readings will also be posted.

Assignments, Ground Rules, and Notices:

- Read this syllabus all the way through.
- Attendance at lectures and discussion sections is a firm requirement of this course. Attendance will be taken at some lectures and at every section meeting. The instructors are understanding about family emergencies, illness or other serious exigencies, and will treat them as excused absences if verifiable documentation is provided. Unexcused absences will lower your grade. See the course web page or the professor's web page for absence forms.
- After the first lecture, please send an email to Prof. Read and to your teaching assistant, telling us about yourself. Include the following information: the name you would like to be called, what year you are in school (first, second, etc.), your major if you have one already, a phone number at which we could contact you if that were urgently necessary for some reason, where you are from, what factors made you decide to take the course, what foreign languages you have studied (if any) and for how long, and what foreign countries you have visited or lived in (if any) and for how long. Also include anything else you'd like to tell us about your background and interests.
- Complete the readings, and prepare thoughts on the discussion questions, before each week's section. Discussion questions will be posted on the eCommons site and will also be circulated by email.
- Students' grades for the quarter will be determined as follows:
 - Section participation and reading comprehension (20 percent of the quarter grade)
 - Midterm examination (35 percent): In class on Friday, February 11, 2011.
 - Final examination (45 percent): Wednesday, March 16, 2011, 8a-11a.

- The percentages above are subject to adjustment. All grades are given on a 0-100 scale, where 90-100 is an A, 80-89 is a B, etc. A-range grades are reserved for work of exceptionally high quality.
- If you qualify for classroom accommodations because of a disability, please submit your Accommodation Authorization from the Disability Resource Center (DRC) to Prof. Read after lecture or during office hours within the first two weeks of the quarter.

Some Things to Bear in Mind

- Your curiosity and participation are very important to the success of this class.
- There is no such thing as a stupid question. Ask anything!
- We strongly recommend that you use and check your UCSC email while you are taking this course. We plan to use that address to contact you.
- Email is also an excellent way to reach us. Often, questions submitted by email will be useful to the rest of the class and the answer will be forwarded accordingly (without the sender's name.)
- Students are encouraged to attend Prof. Read's office hours as well as those of their assigned teaching assistant, and to visit Prof. Read's personal web page for a few pieces of general advice to students, such as "How to Read in College."

Schedule of Class Meetings and Assignments:

- Most readings are found in the Shively and Handelman texts.
- For all other readings, go to the course web page. A few readings are available directly via internet URLs given here in the syllabus, though links are also available on the course web page.

WEEK 1: INTRODUCING COMPARATIVE POLITICS, THE STATE, AND THE DEVELOPING WORLD

Wednesday, January 5 Lecture
 Friday, January 7 Lecture

- Handelman: first part of chapter 1, "Understanding Underdevelopment," up to the section titled "The Causes of Underdevelopment" (in 5th edition: pp. 1-12. In 6th edition: pp. 1-15.)
- Shively: chapter 1, "Why (and How) Should We Compare?" and chapter 2, "The Setting of Power: the State"
- Hans Rosling, "Debunking Myths about the Third World" (2006), 20-minute video, at <http://tinyurl.com/23nhu22>. If you are interested, use "Gapminder World" at www.gapminder.org to explore data graphs in the way that Rosling does.

Optional further reading:

- UNDP, "The Real Wealth of Nations: Pathways to Human Development," Human Development Report 2010, at <http://hdr.undp.org/en/reports/global/hdr2010/chapters/>

WEEK 2: REGIME TYPES, REGIME CHANGE, AND INSTITUTIONS

Monday, January 10 Lecture
 Wednesday, January 12 Lecture
 Friday, January 14 Lecture

- Handelman: chapter 2, "Democratic Change and the Change to Democracy"
- Shively: chapter 3, "Holding the State Together," and chapter 4, "Political Conflict"
- Stein Ringen, "The Measurement of Democracy: Towards a New Paradigm," *Society*, 48/1 (2011), 12-16
- Andrew Sabl, "Managing Disagreement: A Defense of 'Regime Bias'," *Society*, 48/1 (2011), 19-23

WEEK 3: COLONIALISM, PLURALISM AND NORTH-SOUTH RELATIONS

Monday, January 17 * **University holiday, no class** *
Wednesday, January 19 Lecture
Friday, January 21 Lecture

- Shively: chapter 5, "Decision Making in the State"
- Handelman: chapter 4, "The Politics of Cultural Pluralism and Ethnic Conflict"
- David B. Abernethy, "Legacies," chapter 16 of *The Dynamics of Global Dominance: European Overseas Empires, 1415-1980* (New Haven: Yale University Press, 2000), pp. 363-386

WEEK 4: INDONESIA AND ISLAM

Monday, January 24 Lecture
Wednesday, January 26 Lecture
Friday, January 28 Lecture

- Shively: chapter on Indonesia by R. William Liddle
- Handelman: chapter 3, "Religion and Politics"
- Saiful Mujani and R. William Liddle, "Personalities, Parties, and Voters," *Journal of Democracy*, 21/2 (2010), 35-49

WEEK 5: NIGERIA, OIL, AND THE MILITARY

Monday, January 31 Lecture
Wednesday, February 2 Lecture
Friday, February 4 Lecture

- Shively: chapter on Nigeria by Rotimi Suberu and Larry Diamond
- Handelman: chapter 9, "Soldiers and Politics"
- Richard Joseph and Alexandra Gillies, "Nigeria's Season of Uncertainty," *Current History*, 109/727 (May 2010), 179-85
- George Packer, "The Megacity: Decoding the Chaos of Lagos," *The New Yorker* (November 13, 2006)

WEEK 6: REVIEW AND MIDTERM

Monday, February 7 Lecture
Wednesday, February 9 Optional review for midterm
Friday, February 11 * **In-class midterm** *

WEEK 7: AFGHANISTAN AND STATE FAILURE

Monday, February 14 Lecture
Wednesday, February 16 Lecture
Friday, February 18 Lecture

- Martin Ewans, *Afghanistan: A New History*, 2nd edition (London: RoutledgeCurzon, 2002), introduction and ch. 15-16, 18-20, pp. 1-9, 150-173, 182-207
- Elizabeth Rubin, "Karzai in His Labyrinth," *New York Times Magazine*, August 4, 2009
- International Crisis Group, "Afghanistan: Elections and the Crisis of Governance," Nov. 25, 2009

WEEK 8: SOUTH KOREA AND THEORIES OF DEVELOPMENT

Monday, February 21 * **University holiday, no class** *
Wednesday, February 23 Lecture
Friday, February 25 Lecture

- Shively: chapter on South Korea by Vicki L. Hesli, Jae Mook Lee and Hyeon Seok Park
- Handelman:
 - Chapter 1: The remainder of the chapter, after the part assigned in Week 1
 - Chapter 10, "The Political Economy of Third World Development"
- Hahm Chaibong, "South Korea's Miraculous Democracy," *Journal of Democracy* 19:3, July 2008, pp. 128-142

WEEK 9: BRAZIL AND DEMOCRATIZATION

Monday, February 28 Lecture
Wednesday, March 2 Lecture
Friday, March 4 Lecture

- Shively: chapter on Brazil by Barry Ames
- Handelman: chapter 7, "Rapid Urbanization and the Politics of the Urban Poor"
- Barry Bearak, "Poor Man's Burden," *New York Times Magazine* (June 27, 2004)
- Kenneth Maxwell, "Lula's Last Year," *Current History* 109/724 (February 2010), pp. 43-46

WEEK 10: INDIA AND THE STATUS OF WOMEN

Monday, March 7 Lecture
Wednesday, March 9 Lecture
Friday, March 11 Lecture

- Shively: chapter on India by James Manor
- Handelman: chapter 5, "Women and Development"
- Ashutosh Varshney, "India's Democratic Challenge," *Foreign Affairs* 86:2 (March/April 2007), pp. 93-106
- Kalyani Menon-Sen and A. K. Shiva Kumar, *Women in India: How Free? How Equal?* (2001), pp. 61-84. The other parts of this United Nations report are optional reading.

Final exam: Wednesday, March 16, 8:00a–11:00a, in our regular lecture room