

GVPT 459B
T-Th 9:30-10:45
Fall 2017
Room: TYD 0101

Professor Ernesto Calvo
Office Hours: W 12:00-13:00
3140 TYD - ecalvo@umd.edu

GVPT 459 B: Comparative Political Institutions

This course will provide a general introduction to Comparative Political Institutions. It will explore basic political concepts that relate to issues of representation, elections, and congresses.

Students are expected do the assigned readings and participate in class discussion. Grades will be based on two in-class exams, participation, presentation of cases, and a short paper discussing Simone de Beauvoire *All men are Mortal*. Please familiarize yourself with the academic honesty policy of the University of Maryland. Collaborative papers require a joint 10 minute presentation on the last week of classes (only groups of two students are expected to present their work in class). Individual papers do not require a separate presentation.

Grade:

Participation	10%
First Exam	30%
Second Exam	40%
Short Paper	<u>20%</u>
	100%

Learning Outcomes:

- Student will master basic concepts, theories and methods pertaining to the comparative study of political institutions.
- Students will write an original paper on comparative political institutions, seen from a literary viewpoint.
- Students will be able to understand how the study of comparative politics fits within the field of Political Science in general.

One of this three books:

Simone de Beauvoire. *All Men Are Mortal*. W.W. Norton. NY.
Saramago, José. *The gospel according to Jesus Christ*. Random House, 1999.
Llosa, Mario Vargas. *The feast of the goat*. Macmillan, 2001.

Support Book:

Almond, G; Powell, G; Strom, K; Dalton, R. 2011. *Comparative Politics Today*. Longman. It can be rented for less than U\$ 30.

ALL OTHER READINGS WILL BE MADE AVAILABLE THROUGH CANVAS

SCHEDULE

WEEK 1, AUGUST 29 AND 31: REPRESENTATION.

Przeworski, Manin and Stokes. *Democracy, Accountability, and Representation*. Cambridge U.P. Introduction and Chapter 1.

Optional:

Adam Przeworski, Interview in *Passion, Craft and Method*.

WEEK 2, SEPTEMBER 5 AND 7: STATE FORMATION.

Cox, G. W. (2016). *Marketing Sovereign Promises*, Cambridge University Press. Chapters 1, 2, and 3.

Case study: England

https://www.dropbox.com/s/e9te2u50pgneidk/0205109152_Powell_CPT_10e_Ch.8.ppt?dl=0

WEEK 3, SEPTEMBER 12 AND 13: PRESIDENTIALISM AND PARLIAMENTARISM

Hellwig, Tim and David Samuels. 2008. "Electoral Accountability and the Variety of Democratic Regimes." *British Journal of Political Science* 38(01): 65-90.

Optional:

Philippe Schmitter, Interview in *Passion, Craft, and Method*.

Case study: Germany

https://www.dropbox.com/s/i58hir9ca0x66c3/0205109152_Powell_CPT_10e_Ch.10.ppt?dl=0

WEEK 4, SEPTEMBER 19 AND 21: REPRESENTATION II.

Achen, Chris and Larry Bartels. 2004. *Blind Retrospection: Electoral Responses to Droughts, Floods, and Shark Attack*.

Case study: USA

https://www.dropbox.com/s/j5umj04qde3kanf/0205109152_Powell_CPT_10e_Ch.19.ppt?dl=0

WEEK 5, SEPTEMBER 26 AND 28: DEMOCRATIZATION I

O'Donnell and Schmitter. 1985. *Transitions from Authoritarian Rule: Tentative Conclusions*. John Hopkins.

Optional:

Guillermo O'Donnell, Interview in *Passion, Craft, and Method*.

WEEK 6, OCTOBER 3 AND 5: DEMOCRATIZATION II

David L. Epstein, Robert Bates, Jack Goldstone, Ida Kristensen, Sharyn O'Halloran. 2006." Democratic Transtions." American Journal of Political Science, Volume 50 Issue 3, Pages 551 – 569.

Optional:

Robert Bates, Interview in Passion, Craft, and Method.

WEEK 7, OCTOBER 10 AND 12: LEGISLATURES.

Cox, Gary. 2004. The organization of democratic Legislatures.

Case Study: Argentina

WEEK 8, OCTOBER 17 AND 19: MOVIE

The Deal

WEEK 9: REVIEW AND MIDTERM EXAMINATION:

Review: Tuesday October 24

Midterm: Thursday October 26.

WEEK 10, OCTOBER 31, NOVEMBER 2: PARTIES.

Octavio Amorin Neto and Gary W. Cox, 1997."Electoral Institutions, Cleavage Structures, and the Number of Parties

Case study: Brazil

https://www.dropbox.com/s/j6hkhkj65uyxjld/0205109152_Powell_CPT_10e_Ch.15.ppt?dl=0

WEEK 11, NOVEMBER 7 AND 9: MOVIE

Good Bye, Lenin

WEEK 12, NOVEMBER 14 AND 16: DE-COLONIZATION AND ETHNIC CLEAVAGES: TUESDAY NOVEMBER 10-THURSDAY NOVEMBER 12.

Eifert, Benn, Miguel Edward, Daniel N. Posner. 2010. "Political Competition and Ethnic

Identification in Africa." American Journal of Political Science 54, 2 (April): 494-510.

Case study: Nigeria

https://www.dropbox.com/s/fqlwkgubx4pphab/0205109152_Powell_CPT_10e_Ch.18.ppt?dl=0

WEEK 13, NOVEMBER 21: WHY ELECTORAL REFORMS?

Calvo, E. The Competitive Road to Proportional Representation. **[EV]**

Case study: Chile

WEEK 14, NOVEMBER 28 AND 30: GENDER POLITICS

Barnes, T. D., et al. (2016). "A Reexamination of Women's Electoral Success in Open Seat Elections: The Conditioning Effect of Electoral Competition." Journal of Women, Politics & Policy: 1-20.

WEEK 15: REVIEW AND SECOND EXAM

Review: December 5.

Second Exam: December 7.

EXAMS WEEK: Monday December 17

Turn in Final Paper