



**Course Name:** Introduction to Comparative Politics

**Course Number:** POL\*102

**Credits:** 3

**Catalog description:**

A comparative survey of the structures and functions of the national governments of selected industrialized and developing nations. Topics to be discussed will include key institutions, political attitudes, patterns of interaction, and contemporary issues facing each nation.

**Prerequisite:** ENG\*E101 - Composition

**General Education Competencies Satisfied:**

\*\* This course has been designated as an “Additional General Education II—Global Knowledge” Course\*\*

**Discipline-Specific Attribute Code(s):**  SSCI Social Science elective

**Course objectives:**

**Course Specific Objectives:**

1. Develop a capacity to compare and contrast political systems across various countries using comparative methodology
2. Acquire an understanding of both global and regional contemporary trends associated with democracy and democratization.
3. Develop a capacity to analyze the affect international political systems have on domestic institutions and trends.
4. Understand the impact of the historical processes on the development of Western and Non-Western countries.

**Course Content:**

1. **Framework and Methodology**
  - a. The comparative method
  - b. The modern state system
  - c. Regime types

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**2. Political Institutions**

- a. Democratic systems
- b. Authoritarian systems
- c. Social movements
- d. Democratization

**3. Conflict**

- a. Sources of political violence
- b. Civil war
- c. Terrorism

**4. Political Economy**

- a. Development
- b. Economic institutions
- c. The role of the state in the market

