Department	International College of Liberal Arts		
Semester	Spring 2023	Year Offered (Odd/Even/Every Year)	Every Year
Course Number	PSCI220		
Course Title	Comparative Politics		
Prerequisites	PSCI100 Introduction to Political Science		
Course Instructor	RAJAONARISON Haja	Year Available (Grade Level)	1
Subject Area	Political Science	Number of Credits	3
Class Style	Lecture	Class Methods	Face to face

(NOTE 1) Class Methods are subject to change

(NOTE 2) Depending on the class size and the capacity of the facility, we may not be able to accommodate all students who wish to register for the course"

Course Description	This course is designed to equip students with critical thinking, creative thinking, problem-solving, and oral and written communication skills while providing them with a comprehensive understanding of the major theories and concepts in comparative politics. Throughout the course, students will be encouraged to think critically and creatively as they apply these theories to a diverse range of countries and political issues. By using comparative methods, students will analyze and interpret political phenomena, thus strengthening their problem-solving abilities. Moreover, this course provides ample opportunities for students to hone their oral and written communication skills as they make informed comparisons between political systems and critically evaluate different explanatory approaches.
Class plan based on course evaluation from previous academic year	N/A.
Course related to the instructor's practical experience (Summary of experience)	N/A. No prior evaluation exists as this is the first time the instructor is teaching this class.

Learning Goals	1.Demonstrate an understanding of theoretical approaches and methodological techniques used in comparative politics and apply them to analyse political phenomena in a comparative context. 2.Evaluate the political systems, institutions, and processes of a diverse range of countries and explain their similarities and differences. 3.Utilize critical thinking skills to assess different explanations for political outcomes and developments in a comparative context. 4.Communicate their analyses effectively both orally and in writing. 5.Collaborate effectively with peers to develop and present comparative political analyses, integrating diverse perspectives and ideas into their work. 6.Demonstrate an increased awareness of cultural differences and global perspectives through the study of politics in an international context.

iCLA Diploma Policy	DP1／DP2／DP3／DP4

iCLA Diploma Policy

(DP1) To Value Knowledge - Having high oral and written communication skills to be able to both comprehend and transfer knowledge

(DP2) To Be Able to Adapt to a Changing World - Having critical, creative, problem-solving, intercultural skills, global and independent mindset to adopt to a changing world

(DP3) To Believe in Collaboration - Having a disposition to work effectively and inclusively in teams

(DP4) To Act from a Sense of Personal and Social Responsibility - Having good ethical and moral values to make positive impacts in the world

Active Learning Methods	In-class discussion, debate／group work/ Group presentation
Use of ICT in Class	Electronic devices may be used during class for academic purposes only. Laptops and tablets are permitted for class-related activities, but the use of smartphones and watches is not allowed. This policy aims to ensure a focused and productive learning environment for all students.
Use of ICT outside Class	Students should not be concerned about the use of quantitative tools as we have carefully designed them to be user-friendly. Our goal is to enhance critical thinking, creativity, and problem-solving skills, and we believe that incorporating various ICT tools such as ChatGPT, Datawrapper, JASP, JAMOVI, and Python will help us achieve this. Through the use of these tools, students will have opportunities to develop skills that are highly valued in today's professional world.
Expected study hours outside class	Class Preparation: 2 hours every week (reading time for each material approximately 40-60 min) Class Attendance: 3 hours every week
Feedback Methods	Written and oral assignments will receive feedback through email correspondence via UNIPA and/or during periodic class reviews. The purpose of conducting class reviews is to adapt our learning process, taking into account the dynamics of the class and the participants' ability to comprehend the course materials. We will use UNIPA for correspondence and class information. Whenever it is needed, the participants can discuss either face-to-face or via any online communication tools such as Zoom. Participants can get the office hours timetable from the administrative office. Outside of office hours, please feel free to consult with the instructor directly via email.

Grading Criteria		
Grading Methods	Grading Weights	Grading Content
Systematic Assessment	30%	Systematic assessment: quizzes, cases, discussions and critical thinking.
Group presentation	20%	Group presentations emphasise collaboration, communication, problem-solving, and creative thinking.
Individual	20%	Individual presentations graded on oral clarity, problem-solving, and critical thinking skills.
Final paper	30%	Grading based on assigned case and instructor feedback for presentation.

Required Textbook(s)	Caramani Daniele. 2020. Comparative Politics Fifth ed. Oxford: Oxford University Press. ISBN:978019882060 (details about how to access the reading matierals will be provided during the class orientation)
Other Reading Materials/URL	O'Neil Patrick, H Karl J Fields, and Donald Share. 2021. Cases in Comparative Politics Seventh ed. New York NY: W.W. Norton & Company. ISBN:9780393422931 O'Neil Patrick H Karl J Fields and Donald Share. 2021. Cases and Concepts in Comparative Politics Second ed. New York: W.W. Norton & Company. ISBN:9780393422955
Plagiarism Policy	At iCLA, we believe in fostering a culture of academic integrity and responsibility. Plagiarism, which is the dishonest presentation of the work of others as if it were one's own, is strictly prohibited. Duplicate submission is also considered plagiarism. Any work submitted must be the student's own original work. The use of ICT tools, including AI, is allowed only when explicitly mentioned in the assignments. Students must ensure that the work produced is their own and that any sources used are properly cited. Ethical behavior is expected when using AI, and any unethical behavior, such as using AI to generate work for which credit is taken, will result in disciplinary action. Any instance of plagiarism or unethical behavior will result in a failing grade for the assignment and may result in further disciplinary action. (see class policy)
Other Additional Notes	1) In this course, students will have the opportunity to showcase their research findings both individually and in groups. Individual presentations will be given 10 minutes to react to reading materials, while group presentations will be allotted 15 minutes to discuss case studies. Please note that the presentation format may change based on class size. 2) As this course focuses on comparative methodology, we will introduce a gentle approach to data analysis to gain a better understanding of political phenomena. Basic data will be analyzed and compared using tools such as JASP, JAMOVI, and Datawrapper – all free and available on Windows and Mac. These tools are specifically designed for non-statisticians with no prior statistical knowledge or experience. This makes them accessible and easy-to-use for everyone. The instructor will provide guidance on how to use these tools effectively so that you can participate fully in the data analysis process.

(NOTE 3) Class schedule is subject to change

Class Schedule	
Class Number	Content
Class 1	Introduction to the Course 4 / 7
Class 2	Understanding Comparative Politics
Class 3	Theoretical Approaches in Comparative Politics
Class 4	Methods for Comparative Research
Class 5	The Nation-State and its Role in Comparative Politics
Class 6	Comparative Analysis of Democracies
Class 7	Comparative Analysis of Authoritarian Regimes
Class 8	Legislatures and Comparative Politics

Class 9	Comparative Analysis of Governments and Bureaucracies
Class 10	Constitutional Law and Judicial Power in Comparative Politics
Class 11	Comparative Analysis of Elections and Referendums
Class 12	Multilevel Governance and Comparative Politics
Class 13	Comparative Analysis of Political Parties
Class 14	Comparative Analysis of Party Systems
Class 15	Comparative Analysis of Interest Groups
Class 16	Comparative Analysis of Regions and Regionalism

Class 17	Comparative Analysis of Social Movements
Class 18	Political Culture and Comparative Politics
Class 19	Comparative Analysis of Political Participation
Class 20	Comparative Analysis of Political Communication
Class 21	Policy Making in Comparative Politics
Class 22	Comparative Analysis of the Welfare State
Class 23	The Impact of Public Policies on Comparative Politics
Class 24	The European Union as a New Political System

Class 25	Globalization and the Nation-State in Comparative Politics
Class 26	From Supporting Democracy to Supporting Autocracy: Comparative Analysis
Class 27	Internet Governance and Cyberpolitics in Comparative Perspective
Class 28	Student presentations
Class 29	Student presentations