

**CHAMINADE UNIVERSITY  
SEMESTER: FALL 2017**

**COURSE SYLLABUS**

**POL 111-90-4  
COMPARATIVE GOVERNMENT AND POLITICS**

**INSTRUCTOR: MICHAEL E. WEAVER**

**CONTACT INFORMATION:**

**Email: michael.weaver@chaminade.edu**

**REQUIRED TEXT: *GEOPOLITICS: A VERY SHORT INTRODUCTION***

**AUTHOR: KLAUS DODDS**

**EDITION: 2ND 14**

**PUBLISHER: OXFORD**

**ISBN: 9780199676781**

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**Scope of the Course**

The course is designed to introduce students to important concepts in comparative politics, such as democratization, the state, institutions, political culture, civil society, political economy, and incorporate these into the comparative analysis of various countries around the world.

**Goals of the Course**

- Survey contemporary politics and political trends in selected countries and regions around the world.
- Compare and contrast the variety of ways that different countries have chosen to shape their political institutions and processes, and assess the costs and benefits of these choices.

**Course Requirements**

**Overall**

- Satisfactory completion of all assignments as given throughout the course.
- Satisfactory completion of a Final Exam

**Specific**

- Every two weeks, I will post an assignment/project on CANVAS for you to work on during those two weeks. Instructions for each assignment will be given at the time each one is assigned. I expect you to report to the Computer Lab at your appointed times during the week to work on these assignments, as well as talk with your classmates about the material assigned. I don't mind discussion among the class but each person is expected to do their own independent work, including a your personal opinion on the subject matter as well as thoughtful consideration of the readings and the questions posed.

### **CLASS SCHEDULE**

<b>WEEK</b>	<b>DATES</b>	<b>TOPIC</b>	<b>ASSIGNMENT DUE</b>
1 & 2	8/21 – 9/1	Comparing Nations	9/1
3 & 4	9/4 – 9/15	Types of Government	9/15
5 & 6	9/18 – 9/29	Nation Building	9/29
7 & 8	10/2– 10/13	Political Culture	10/13
9 & 10	10/16– 10/27	Interest Articulation	10/27
11 & 12	10/30 – 11/11	Media and Government	11/11
13 & 14	11/13 – 11/24	Terrorism	11/24
15 & 16	11/27 – 12/8	Globalization	12/8
17	12/11 – 12/15	Final Exam- Date and Time TBA	

***PLEASE NOTE: Some of the dates listed above, including dates when assignments are due, may be school holidays. Therefore, please use the time in class wisely so you do not get caught short when an assignment is due.***