1 Course Description

The course requires one text book and a pack of journal articles. The content and required readings are subject to change.

2 Course Texts and Readings

The course requires one text book and a pack of journal articles. The content and required readings are subject to change.

Required Texts

- A pack of journal articles. Supplemental readings are required for doctoral students.

3 Grading Policy

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Requirement</th>
<th>% of Grade</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Class Participation</td>
<td>20</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Reaction Paper 1</td>
<td>10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Reaction Paper 2</td>
<td>10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Reaction Paper 3</td>
<td>20</td>
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<tr>
<td>Research Paper</td>
<td>30</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Oral Presentation</td>
<td>10</td>
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<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>100</td>
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- Class participation (20%): involvement in class discussion will reflect your preparation for the class. Credits are based on your involvement in raising questions, responding to questions, or leading discussion. This class is a seminar; starting at the second week, you will be asked to pick up three weeks to play as a discussion leader. A discussion leader is responsible to summarize the readings, raise related questions, sharing thoughts to the class. As each week may have more than one discussion leader, team work is fine.
• The three reaction papers (10%, 10%, 20%) will show your reflections and critical thinking about the assigned readings for a specific week. You will be asked to choose other 3 weeks to write the papers. Each reaction paper written in Chinese is at least 3 pages long and no longer than 5 pages (12pt, A4, double spaced). Citing self-selected external reading is encouraged. You are also encouraged to write in English and this will rewarded with 1% to 15% extra points to your final grade. Whatever language you use, your paper will be evaluated based on the logic of thinking and the fluency of your writing, NOT on the comprehensiveness of summary of the readings. Turn in your paper BEFORE the week of choice. For example, if you choose Week 4, turn in your paper before the class of Week 4 starts. Also note that you can be asked to rewrite the paper if your own thoughts is shorter than 1/2 of the whole paper.

• Research paper (30%) is a semester-long project that should address your interest in topics related to this class. Extended reading is required. Your research paper is no longer than 10,000 words or 25 pages in Chinese or 15 pages in English. It should not be lesser than 8,000 words for doctoral students or 5,000 words for master students. It requires at least 5 citations beyond the assigned readings. These extended readings need to be journal articles published in recent 5 years, or book chapters published in recent 10 years. A proposal—including your tentative title and description about why you choose the topic—is due in class on Oct. 19, 2006 and the completed paper is due in class on Jan. 18, 2007. Feel free and be prepared to change or be asked to change your paper title during the semester. Come to discuss with me if have any question about your paper topic.

• The cover page of your paper should include the following information: class name, author’s name and student id, paper type (1st, 2nd, or 3rd reaction paper, or research paper), turn-in date, and contact information.

• Oral presentation (10%) shows your ability to present your research paper clearly and to respond questions. Your presentation is no longer than 10 minutes and will be scheduled in one of the final two weeks.

4 Topics & Schedules

1 · [Sep. 21] Introduction to the Class
   • Note: Study the syllabus and ask questions about it.

2 · [Sep. 28] Theory Construction & the Overview of the Field
   • Note: Report the topics you choose for short paper assignments and your choices of the week to be discussion leader.
   • LZ, Chapter 1;

3 · [Oct. 5] The State and Main Issues of Comparative Politics
   • Note: Start searching for a topic for your term paper. Turn in your proposal on Oct. 19.
   • Supplemental:


- Supplemental:


- Note: The research proposal is due in class. The grading policy and the format of research paper format will be given.


- Supplemental:

6 \ Oct. 26] The Approaches to Study Comparative Politics (I): An Overview & Historidal/Sociological Approaches

- LZ, Chapters 2, 3, and 4;

- Supplemental:

7 \ Nov. 2] The Dominant Approaches to Comparative Politics (II): Rationality

- LZ, Chapters 9 and 10;


- Supplemental:

8 \ Nov. 9] The Dominant Approaches to Comparative Politics (III): Structure


- Supplemental:
9 \ [Nov. 16] The Dominant Approaches to Comparative Politics (IX): Culture

- **Note:** Research paper grading policy is released.


- Supplemental:

10 \ [Nov. 23] Macro Forms of Government: Parliamentary, Presidential, Semi-Presidential, and Dictatorial


11 \ [Nov. 30] Political Economy, Welfare State, and Political Development

- LZ, Chapters 7 & 8;


12 \ [Dec. 7] Democratic Theories (I)

- **Note:** Oral report to the class your research status.


13 \ [Dec. 14] Democratic Theories (II) & Democratization


- Supplemental:

14 \ [Dec. 21] Democratization and Protest

- LZ, Chapter 6;


- Supplemental:
15 \[Dec. 28\] Electoral Laws, Political Parties, and Their Consequences


- Supplemental:

16 \[Jan. 4, 2007\] Comparing Micro-Politics and Voting Behavior

- **Note**: Your term paper is due in class on Jan. 18.

- LZ, Chapter 5;


17 \[Jan. 11\] Concluding Remarks & Reevaluate Taiwan Studies in a Global Perspective


18 \[Jan. 18\] Student presentations

- **NOTE**: Research paper due in the class. No late submission. No E-mail attachment.