

CAPILANO UNIVERSITY COURSE OUTLINES				
TERM:	SUMMER 2013		COURSE NO:	POL 299
INSTRUCTOR:	TBA		COURSE NAME:	REGIONAL COMPARATIVE POLITICS: FIELD SCHOOL
OFFICE:	TBA	LOCAL:	TBA	SECTION NO(S): TBA
E-MAIL:	TBA			CREDITS: 3

COURSE FORMAT:

This course will be delivered through face-to-face and on-line components as well as in the field. On-line assignments and reading as well as some lectures will be completed prior to departure. Lectures and student presentations will be delivered in the field. A post-trip assignment will be required as well. The location of the field school will depend on the political region to be studied.

COURSE PREREQUISITES:

No prerequisites are required for this course but Political Studies 100 or 102 are recommended.

GENERAL COURSE OBJECTIVES:

Through exams, written assignments, class discussion and oral presentations, the student will be able to show an understanding of the field of comparative politics. The student will be able to identify and explain similarities and differences between political phenomena within states in a specific region, including the historical, social, cultural, geographic and international contexts in which those states exist. Students will also show they have an understanding of the methods, typologies, theories, and concepts used in the comparative study of politics as applied to the region studied.

COURSE STUDENT LEARNING OUTCOMES:

Specific instructional outcomes will change with the location of the region studied. Upon successful completion of this course, a student will be able to:

- Recognize and understand the basic concepts and terms associated with academic work on regional organizations and in particular the region which is the focus of the particular course being taught.
- Recognize, identify and explain the character and purpose of major institutions of the region and governments selected.
- Recognize and apply the major theories which explain political phenomena and institutions in the selected region.
- Demonstrate skills in research and analysis of primary and secondary materials.
- Demonstrate written and oral communication skills in assignments and other work which focuses on problems and issues of the selected region.
- Recognize and articulate the relationship of the study of regional intergovernmental organizations and comparative politics to the discipline of political studies generally and other social sciences.
- Apply the learning to a variety of issues and problems which demonstrates understanding of the subject matter.

REQUIRED TEXTS:

The textbook and/or printed material and/or on-line materials will depend on the region to be studied.

RECOMMENDED OPTIONAL MATERIALS:

- Scott, Gregory M., and Stephen M. Garrison. *The Political Science Student Writer's Manual*. 5th ed. Upper Saddle River, NJ: Pearson/Prentice Hall, 2004. (On reserve in the Library).
- Heckman, Grant. *Nelson Guide to Web Research for Canadian Students*. Scarborough, Ontario: Nelson, 2008. (On reserve in the Library).

Students will be required to access the web for internet materials relevant to the course.

COURSE REQUIREMENTS:

All Political Studies 299 Field School offerings will include Pre-Departure, Study Abroad, and Post-Field Trip activities. While the Study Abroad Orientation and re-entry activities will be delivered by the International Education office, the academic content and requirements of each course will vary according to the instructor and region studied.

	ACTIVITY	LOCATION
1	Pre-Departure: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Study Abroad Orientation • Regional Comparative politics readings, on-line assignments, and lectures. 	Capilano University and/or On-Line
2	Study Abroad: Regional Comparative Politics observational activities and comparative analysis assignments.	In the field
3	Post-field trip: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Study abroad debriefing/Re-entry activities • Post-trip academic assignments 	Capilano University and/or On-Line

COURSE CONTENT:

The course will include both **general** comparative politics content as well as **specific** regional comparative politics content.

The **general** content could include, but not be limited to, the following topics: defining a “political region”; theories of the state; a typology of political systems (democracy, authoritarianism, totalitarianism, etc); unitary, federal, and confederal states; nationalism, ethnicity and identity; regionalism and global influences; gender and politics; political culture; civil society; constitutions, political institutions and the separation of powers; electoral systems; comparative public policy; authority, legitimacy, and power; ideology.

The **specific** comparative politics content will depend on the region studied, but could include such topics as: theories of economic development; nationalist movements (intrastate and/or international); theories of democratic transition; human security; supranationalism; globalization; theories of revolution; the challenges faced by transitional states (for example, post-communist states.)

EVALUATION PROFILE:

The specific assignments will depend on the instructor and region studied, but would generally include the following, with no individual assignment worth more than 35% of the final grade.

1. Pre-departure assignments and/or quizzes;
2. In-country activities, oral presentations, reflections;
3. Post-field trip written assignments.

GRADING PROFILE:

A+ = 90 - 100%	B+ = 76 - 79%	C+ = 64 - 67%	D = 50 - 54%
A = 85 - 89	B = 72 - 75	C = 60 - 63	F = 0 - 49
A- = 80 - 84	B- = 68 - 71	C- = 55 - 59	

OPERATIONAL DETAILS:

Capilano University has policies on Academic Appeals (including appeal of final grades), Student Conduct, Cheating and Plagiarism, Academic Probation and other educational issues. These and other policies are available on the University website.

Attendance:

Students are encouraged to participate in pre-departure on-line activities and class discussion as one method of clarifying their understanding of the concepts raised. Active participation has been demonstrated to raise the grades of students on exams. Student participation in the field studies component of this course is expected.

Missed Exams:

Make-up exams may be accepted, depending on the instructor and the nature of the field school.

Late Assignments:

Late assignments may be accepted, depending on the instructor and the nature of the field school.

Cheating/ Plagiarism:

Know what plagiarism is and how to avoid it. Any form of plagiarism -- including quoting either directly or by paraphrasing the ideas of another writer without acknowledging such, or "borrowing" a paper from a friend or buying one from an entrepreneur -- will result in an "F" for the paper and possibly the course. Students should make themselves aware of the university's policy on plagiarism as well. Plagiarism is a serious action which has serious consequences.

Incomplete Grades:

Incompletes may be given depending on the instructor and the nature of the field school.

English Usage:

A university-level use of English is expected of all take home written work. All take-home work must be typed and be presented in a professional manner. For pre-departure and post-field trip assignments, students are encouraged to use the writing lab to avoid mechanical and organizational problems with their assignments as those can significantly impact their grade.

Electronic Devices:

No personal electronic devices (cell phones, pagers, calculators, electronic dictionaries, etc...) may be used during an examination without prior approval from the instructor. During an exam, turn off all cell phones and pagers and remove them from the desk.

Emergency Procedures:

Please read the emergency procedures posted on the wall of the classroom.