Comparative Politics in a Globalized World

Thursdays: 10.30am-12.30pm
Lecturer: Dr. Antonios Vlassis
avlassis@uliege.be

Objectives of the course

This course is an introduction to the study of comparative politics for students of political science. In fact, the core of comparative politics as a scientific activity is the comparison of political phenomena across political units. Comparative politics scholars are required to understand the structures that shape political decisions, the processes making those decisions, and the actors who oversee the process in a variety of settings.

This course will be essential for an understanding of how political institutions, actors and processes operate across the globe and how they affect society, culture and the economy. Of course, teaching such a diverse field of study in one course is practically not feasible. Instead, the goal is to acquire a key knowledge of the basic concerns and approaches of the field.

Therefore, this course aims to introduce students to the main concepts, approaches and arguments that will enable them to successfully compare the fundamentals, structures and processes of political systems across the globe. This means that our course will be primarily thematic and interactive. Taking into account the institutions of government on sub-national, national, regional and international levels, the course includes a wide range of case studies, focusing on the foundations of the political phenomenon, on institutions, as well as on wider political processes.
Course requirements

- Final written exam, date: January 2022

The questions of the exam will be based on the power-points of the course and on the discussions taken place in the class. The compulsory readings are an essential tool for the final exam. It is a closed-book examination.

**You are responsible for attendance at all class meetings

Compulsory readings (for the final exam)


## Program of the course

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<th>Session 1</th>
<th>23 September 2021</th>
<th><strong>Briefing session</strong></th>
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| Session 2 | 30 September 2021 | **The State**  
**Globalisation and the State**  

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<th>07 October 2021</th>
<th><strong>Democratic rule</strong></th>
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| Session 5  | Legislatures  
| Executives |
|-----------|-------------------|
| 21 October 2021 |


### Session 6
**28 October 2021**

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<th><strong>Bureaucracies</strong></th>
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### Session 7
**04 November 2021**

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<th><strong>Political parties</strong></th>
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### Session 8
**18 November 2021**

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<td>Session 9</td>
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<td><strong>International organizations in comparative perspective</strong></td>
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| **Comparative regionalism(s)**
**The European Union as a New Political System (I)** |
| Session 11 | Comparative regionalism(s)  
The European Union as a New Political System (II) |
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<td>Session 12</td>
<td>Conclusion(s)</td>
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