



## FACULTY OF HUMANITIES AND SOCIAL SCIENCES

### SCHOOL OF HISTORY, PHILOSOPHY, POLITICAL SCIENCE AND INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS

#### POLITICAL SCIENCE AND INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS PROGRAMME

#### POLS 114: INTRODUCTION TO COMPARATIVE POLITICS

20 POINTS

TRIMESTER 2 2014

### Important dates

**Trimester dates:** 14 July to 16 November 2014

**Teaching dates:** 14 July to 17 October 2014

**Mid-trimester break:** 25 August to 7 September 2014

**Study week:** 20–24 October 2014

**Examination/Assessment Period:** 24 October to 15 November 2014

Note: students who enrol in courses with examinations must be able to attend an examination at the University at any time during the scheduled examination period.

**Withdrawal dates:** Refer to [www.victoria.ac.nz/students/study/withdrawals-refunds](http://www.victoria.ac.nz/students/study/withdrawals-refunds). If you cannot complete an assignment or sit a test or examination, refer to [www.victoria.ac.nz/students/study/exams/aegrotats](http://www.victoria.ac.nz/students/study/exams/aegrotats).

### Class times and locations

Lectures: Tuesday, Thursday, Friday, 10.00-10.50am  
Venue: MacLauren MCLT 103  
Tutorials: Weekly from 22 July. Signup is via S-cubed:

### Names and contact details of Course Coordinators

Dr Terence Green  
Room No: MY 505  
Phone: TBA  
Email: [Terence.green@vuw.ac.nz](mailto:Terence.green@vuw.ac.nz)  
Office hours: Tues 11-12

Dr Kate McMillan  
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Office hours: Thurs 11-12

## Communication of additional information

This course uses Blackboard and presumes that all enrolled students have valid myvuw.ac.nz addresses. Please check that this account is active and you have organised email forwarding. Additional information and any changes to the timetable or lecture and tutorial programme will be announced in lectures and posted as Announcements on Blackboard.

## Prescription

What can we learn by comparing the politics and government of different countries? This course examines competing explanations for democratic and authoritarian regimes including economic, cultural and institutional theories of state development. These theories are then applied to several case studies.

## Course learning objectives (CLOs)

Students who pass this course should be able to:

1. Understand theories of state and regime development
2. Identify the purpose and limitations of the comparative method and be able to use this method in their own research to analyse cause and effect
3. Be familiar with the political regimes of selected countries and be able to apply this knowledge as evidence to support theoretical arguments
4. Develop their capacity to question as they read, critically engaging with arguments and evidence rather than accepting them without challenge
5. Distil and synthesise definitions of key concepts and interpretations of central ideas from lectures, tutorials and readings
6. Conduct independent research on their own country case studies
7. Construct persuasive arguments and express these clearly and concisely

## Teaching format

This course is taught by way of three lectures and one tutorial per week. Tutorials begin in the second week of the trimester. Sign up online for a tutorial as soon as possible at:

<https://signups.victoria.ac.nz>. Both tutorials and lectures are essential aspects of the course and the primary means by which course content is delivered. Students are expected to attend lectures regularly, participate in tutorial discussions and keep up with the weekly readings. The lectures introduce students to key concepts and theories in comparative politics, using empirical evidence from case studies to support the learning. The tutorials are intended to consolidate students' understanding of the key concepts, assigned readings and case studies. Many tutorials will involve group work and discussion, both in small groups and via plenary discussion. The final examination will be held during the Trimester 2 examination period, which runs from 24 October to 15 November 2014

## Mandatory course requirements

In addition to achieving an overall pass mark of 50%, students must:

1. Submit both essays in hard copy and electronic format, by the specified dates (subject to such provisions as are stated for late submission of work);
2. Sit the final examination for the course;
3. Attend a minimum of eight of the eleven tutorials.

## Workload

In accordance with Faculty Guidelines, this course has been constructed on the assumption that students will devote 200 hours to the course throughout the trimester. This includes weekly attendance at lectures and tutorials, completion of all set weekly readings and research and writing for set assessment tasks and preparation for the final examination.

## Assessment

Assessment items and workload per item		%	CLO(s)	Due date
1	Essay One (1200-1500 words)	25%	1, 3, 4, 6, 7	5 pm Thursday 21 August
2	Essay Two (1200 -1500 words)	25%	1 - 7	5 pm, Friday 26 September
3	Final 3-hour Examination	50%	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 7	TBA

### Essays One (25%) and Two (25%)

Each of the essays will require students to gather material on a specialised topic related to the course themes, analyse relevant data and ideas, and present an essay in a literate, clearly argued and structured form. Details on the essay questions, as well as guidelines for carrying out your research and writing your essay, will be provided in the first week of the trimester and posted on Blackboard.

### Final Examination (50% of final grade)

A three-hour written examination will be held during the examination period: 24 October to 15 November 2014.

## Submission and return of work

Your research essay must be submitted in **hard copy** in the POLS114 essay box placed outside the School office on the fifth floor of the Murphy building. Your essay must have a signed Programme cover sheet attached.

The Programme's policy requires that students also submit an **electronic copy** along with the hard copy. This will involve uploading your essay via the Turnitin Assignment tool on Blackboard. This function on Blackboard utilises Turnitin, which is an online plagiarism detection tool. For more information on Turnitin, please see the link provided in the section Other Important Information below.

Essays are marked by your tutor and will be returned in tutorials at a time to be advised. If students are not present, they may collect their essay from the School Office, Murphy 518, between 2.00 and 3.00 pm from Monday to Friday and must show their Student ID card before collection.

## Extensions and penalties

### Penalties

Students will be penalised for late submission of the essay – **a deduction of 5% for the first day late, and 2% per day thereafter, up to a maximum of 8 days**. Work that is more than 10 weekdays late can be accepted for mandatory course requirements but will not be marked.

Penalties may be waived if there are valid grounds (for example, illness [presentation of a medical certificate will be necessary] or similar other contingencies). You must contact the head tutor **prior** to the essay deadline if you think you have valid grounds for waiving lateness penalties.

## Set texts

The essential texts for this course are:

1. Patrick H. O'Neil, *Essentials of Comparative Politics*. New York, W. W. Norton & Company. 4<sup>th</sup> edition, 2013.
2. Patrick H. O'Neil et al, *Cases in Comparative Politics*. New York: W. W. Norton & Company, 4<sup>th</sup> edition, 2013.

You should purchase both of these texts, which can be bought as a package. Please note that this course uses the 4<sup>th</sup> edition of the textbook. See [www.vicbooks.co.nz](http://www.vicbooks.co.nz) for further details on when and where to buy or order textbooks.

A limited number of copies of both texts will be made available on Closed Reserve in the Glass Room of the Victoria Kelburn Campus library.

Additional required readings will be available electronically in a folder in the Course Resources section of the POLS 114 Blackboard page. A list of the weekly lecture topics and required readings will be provided in the first lecture and posted on Blackboard.

## Class representative

The class representative provides a useful way to communicate feedback to the teaching staff during the course. A class representative will be selected at the first lecture of the course. Students may like to write the Class Rep's name and details in this box:

Class Rep name and contact details:

## Student feedback

Enhancements made to this course, based on the feedback of previous students, will be covered during the course. Student feedback on University courses may be found at

[www.cad.vuw.ac.nz/feedback/feedback\\_display.php](http://www.cad.vuw.ac.nz/feedback/feedback_display.php).

## Other important information

The information above is specific to this course. There is other important information that students must familiarise themselves with, including:

- Academic Integrity and Plagiarism: [www.victoria.ac.nz/students/study/exams/integrity-plagiarism](http://www.victoria.ac.nz/students/study/exams/integrity-plagiarism)
- Aegrotats: [www.victoria.ac.nz/students/study/exams/aegrotats](http://www.victoria.ac.nz/students/study/exams/aegrotats)
- Academic Progress: [www.victoria.ac.nz/students/study/progress/academic-progress](http://www.victoria.ac.nz/students/study/progress/academic-progress) (including restrictions and non-engagement)
- Dates and deadlines: [www.victoria.ac.nz/students/study/dates](http://www.victoria.ac.nz/students/study/dates)
- FHSS Student and Academic Services Office: [www.victoria.ac.nz/fhss/student-admin](http://www.victoria.ac.nz/fhss/student-admin)
- Grades: [www.victoria.ac.nz/students/study/progress/grades](http://www.victoria.ac.nz/students/study/progress/grades)
- Resolving academic issues: [www.victoria.ac.nz/about/governance/dvc-academic/publications](http://www.victoria.ac.nz/about/governance/dvc-academic/publications)
- Special passes: [www.victoria.ac.nz/about/governance/dvc-academic/publications](http://www.victoria.ac.nz/about/governance/dvc-academic/publications)
- Statutes and policies including the Student Conduct Statute: [www.victoria.ac.nz/about/governance/strategy](http://www.victoria.ac.nz/about/governance/strategy)
- Student support: [www.victoria.ac.nz/students/support](http://www.victoria.ac.nz/students/support)
- Students with disabilities: [www.victoria.ac.nz/st\\_services/disability](http://www.victoria.ac.nz/st_services/disability)
- Student Charter: [www.victoria.ac.nz/learning-teaching/learning-partnerships/student-charter](http://www.victoria.ac.nz/learning-teaching/learning-partnerships/student-charter)

- Student Contract: [www.victoria.ac.nz/study/apply-enrol/terms-conditions/student-contract](http://www.victoria.ac.nz/study/apply-enrol/terms-conditions/student-contract)
- Subject Librarians: <http://library.victoria.ac.nz/library-v2/find-your-subject-librarian>
- Turnitin: [www.cad.vuw.ac.nz/wiki/index.php/Turnitin](http://www.cad.vuw.ac.nz/wiki/index.php/Turnitin)
- University structure: [www.victoria.ac.nz/about/governance/structure](http://www.victoria.ac.nz/about/governance/structure)
- Victoria graduate profile: [www.victoria.ac.nz/learning-teaching/learning-partnerships/graduate-profile](http://www.victoria.ac.nz/learning-teaching/learning-partnerships/graduate-profile)
- VUWSA: [www.vuwsa.org.nz](http://www.vuwsa.org.nz)

**POLS 114, Trimester 2, 2014**

**LECTURE OUTLINE**

**Lecture Times and Locations**

Lectures: Tuesday, Thursday, Friday 10.00 -10.50am  
 Lecture venue: MacLauren MCLT 103

Weekly readings

The readings identified below are *required readings*. Most are from your two textbooks:

- O’Neil, *The Essentials of Comparative Politics*, 4<sup>th</sup> Edition, 2013
- O’Neil, Fields & Share, *Cases In Comparative Politics*, 4<sup>th</sup> Edition, 2013.

All other readings will be posted in **Blackboard**.

<b>Week: Lecture</b>	<b>Date</b>	<b>Topic</b>	<b>Readings</b>
1: 1 TG	15 July	Intro to Comparative Politics	No reading
1: 2 TG	17 July	Comparative Politics as a Science	O’Neil, <i>Essentials</i> , pp. 3-25 (Chapter 1)
1: 3 TG	18 July	State, nation & regime #1	O’Neil, <i>Essentials</i> , pp. 27-40
2: 1 TG	22 July	State, nation & regime #2 <u>Case</u> : France	O’Neil, <i>Essentials</i> , pp. 57-69 O’Neil, Fields & Share, <i>Cases</i> , pp. 149-160; 177-185
2: 2 TG	24 July	State, market & society	O’Neil, <i>Essentials</i> , pp. 91-110; 134
2: 3 TG	25 July	State scope and capacity	O’Neil, <i>Essentials</i> , pp. 40-53
3: 1 TG	29 July	Challenges to state capacity and autonomy	O’Neil, <i>Essentials</i> , pp. 193-195; 233-244; 325-331
3: 2 TG	31 July	<u>Case</u> : Mexico	O’Neil, Fields & Share, <i>Cases</i> , pp. 523-570; O’Neil, S., ‘Mexico Makes It: a transformed society, economy, and government’, <i>Foreign Affairs</i> , 92: 2013, 52-63.
3: 3 TG	1 August	Essay planning and advice	No reading
4: 1 KM	5 August	Regime types.	O’Neil, <i>Essentials</i> , pp. 127-146

		<i>Democratic regimes:</i> Parliamentary and presidential systems.	
4: 2 KM	7 August	<i>Democratic regimes cont. :</i> parties and electoral systems. Majoritarian and Consensus democracies.	O'Neil, <i>Essentials</i> , pp. 146-159. O'Neil, Fields & Share, <i>Cases</i> , pp. 38-93 (UK)
4: 3 KM	8 August	<u>Cases</u> : UK, US	O'Neil, <i>Cases</i> , pp. 94-138 (U.S)
5: 1 KM	12 August	<i>Non-democratic regimes</i>	O'Neil, <i>Essentials</i> , pp. 163-191
5: 2 KM	14 August	Totalitarianism <u>Case</u> : North Korea	Daniel Byman, Jennifer Lind, 'Pyongyang's Survival Strategy: Tools of Authoritarian Control in North Korea', <i>International Security</i> , Volume 35, Number 1, Summer 2010, pp. 44-74
5: 3 KM	15 August	Authoritarianism <u>Case</u> : China	O'Neil, Fields & Share, <i>Cases</i> , pp. 265-398 (China)
6: 1 KM	19 August	Communism	O'Neil, <i>Essentials</i> , pp. 256-270. O'Neil, Fields & Share, <i>Cases</i> , pp. 315-356. (Russia)
6: 2 KM	21 August <b>Essay 1 due!</b>	Post-communism <u>Case</u> : Russia	O'Neil, <i>Essentials</i> , pp. 270-289-
6: 3 KM	22 August	Hybrid regimes: <u>Case</u> : Iran	O'Neil, Fields & Share, <i>Cases</i> , pp. 472-521 (Iran)
<b>25 AUGUST – 5 SEPTEMBER                      MID-TRIMESTER BREAK</b>			
7: 1 TG	9 September	<b>Q1:</b> Is economic development a necessary prerequisite for democracy?  Themes: Modernisation theory; theories of democratization  <u>Case</u> : India	O'Neil, <i>Essentials</i> , pp. 131-136; 302-320
7: 2 TG	11 September		Lerner, D., 'The grocer and chief', <i>Harper's Magazine</i> , September 1955.
7: 3 TG	12 September		O'Neil, <i>Cases</i> , pp. 423-461
8: 1 TG	16 September	<b>Q2:</b> To what extent does diversity impact on the	O'Neil, <i>Essentials</i> , pp. 64-71 ; 245-254.

8: 2 TG	18 September	functioning of democracies?	O'Neil, <i>Cases</i> , 683-717; [and review 453-456]
8: 3 TG	19 September	<u>Cases</u> : India, Nigeria	
9: 1 KM	23 September	<b>Q4</b> : Why does political violence occur?	O'Neil, <i>Essentials</i> , pp. 192-207 pp. 127-149.
9: 2 KM	25 September	Theories of revolutions Theories of political mobilization & protest	O'Neil, <i>Essentials</i> , pp. 207-213
9: 3 KM	26 September <b>Essay 2 due!</b>	<u>Cases</u> : Arab Spring	Bellin, 'Reconsidering the Robustness of Authoritarianism in the Middle East: Lessons from the Arab Spring', <i>Comparative Politics</i> , Vol 44. No. 2, 2012,
10: 1 TG	30 September	<b>Q3</b> : Why are moral and social issues decided so differently across advanced democracies?	O'Neil, <i>Essentials</i> , pp. 83-87. Samuels, D. <i>Comparative Politics</i> , Pearson, 2013, pp. 229-244.
10: 2 TG	2 October	Themes: Social movements; political culture	Danziger, J., <i>Understanding the Political World</i> , Pearson, 2012, pp. 42-53
10: 3 TG	3 October	<u>Case</u> : Debates about marriage equality in France, NZ & the United States	O'Neil, <i>Cases</i> , pp. 172-182
11: 1 KM	7 October	<b>Q5</b> : How does gender affect politics?	Samuels, D., <i>Comparative Politics</i> , Pearson, 2013, pp. 202-225.
11: 2 KM	9 October	Gender inequality in the economy, political participation and representation Gender and leadership	Jalalzai & Krook, 'Beyond Hillary and Benazir: Women's Political Leadership Worldwide', <i>International Political Science Review</i> , Vol 31, No. 1, 2010, pp. 5-21.
11: 3 KM	10 October	<u>Case</u> : Scandinavia	Annette Borchoost: 'Scandinavian gender equality: Competing discourses and paradoxes'. Read online at: <a href="http://vbn.aau.dk/files/16672755/freia_wp_69.pdf">http://vbn.aau.dk/files/16672755/freia_wp_69.pdf</a>



12: 1 KM	14 October	<b>Q6:</b> What are the challenges to the state from globalisation? 1. International migration 2. Free trade	O'Neil, <i>Essentials</i> , pp. 291-315.
12: 2 KM	16 October		Readings to be supplied
12: 3 KM	17 October	Revision	
<b>20 OCTOBER – 16 NOVEMBER: STUDY AND EXAM PERIOD</b>			