

Note:

Course content may be changed, term to term, without notice. The information below is provided as a guide for course selection and is not binding in any form, and should not be used to purchase course materials.

COURSE SYLLABUS

GOVT 330

INTRODUCTION TO COMPARATIVE POLITICS

COURSE DESCRIPTION

An introduction to a variety of concepts and approaches to the study of the domestic politics of other countries.

RATIONALE

This course aims to acquaint the student with a variety of different forms of government and to encourage the critical evaluation of issues related to governing a nation-state through participation in simulation of the world. The course also is intended to give the student an appreciation of the science of governing as well as an understanding of ten conditions for democracy. This course is important to acquaint the student with various competing political ideologies and worldviews in order to allow him/her to evaluate political positions and opinions while applying a Christian perspective.

I. PREREQUISITE

For information regarding prerequisites for this course, please refer to the [Academic Course Catalog](#).

II. REQUIRED RESOURCE PURCHASE

Click on the following link to view the required resource(s) for the term in which you are registered: <http://bookstore.mbsdirect.net/liberty.htm>

III. ADDITIONAL MATERIALS FOR LEARNING

- A. Computer with basic audio/video output equipment
- B. Internet access (broadband recommended)
- C. Blackboard [recommended browsers](#)
- D. Microsoft Office

IV. MEASURABLE LEARNING OUTCOMES

Upon successful completion of this course, the student will be able to:

- A. Encourage the comparison between different forms of government and thereby gain an appreciation of their own form of government.
- B. Acquaint the student with various competing political ideologies in order to allow him/her to evaluate political positions and opinions with a Christian perspective.

- C. Develop an awareness of the problems which exist in governing a state and to help students gain an understanding of the different ways that governments try to solve these problems.
- D. Foster a great appreciation of the challenges facing a state in the international community and how different governments meet those challenges.
- E. Present students with an integral analysis of the significant persons, events, issues, and trends in the conflicting intellectual traditions of Western-American and social history and their impact upon political, economic, and social issues.
- F. Interest students in informed reading, research, analysis, and discussion of contemporary political systems.
- G. Encourage students to reaffirm, restate, and reapply the historic biblical Christian worldview and to practice the politics of grace.

V. COURSE REQUIREMENTS AND ASSIGNMENTS

- A. Textbook readings and lecture presentations
- B. Course Requirements Checklist

After reading the Course Syllabus and [Student Expectations](#), the student will complete the related checklist found in Module/Week 1.

- C. Discussion Board Forums (6)

Discussion boards are collaborative learning experiences. Therefore, the student is required to create a thread in response to the provided prompt for each forum. Each thread must be 300–400 words and demonstrate course-related knowledge. In addition to the thread, the student is required to reply to 2 other classmates' threads. Each reply must be at least 200 words. For each thread and each reply, the student must support his/her assertions with at least 3 outside sources (other than the text and course materials).

- D. Book Critiques (2)

The student will write two 3–5-page Book Critiques in current Turabian format on 2 of the texts listed within the course. The paper must include at least 2 references in addition to the course textbooks and the Bible.

- E. Simulation Manual Quiz

This quiz will cover the Statecraft Simulation manual. The quiz will be open-book/open-notes, contain 15 multiple-choice and true/false questions, and be taken through the simulation website.

- F. Exams (2)

Each exam will cover the Reading & Study material for the assigned modules/weeks. Each exam will be open-book/open-notes, contain 22 multiple-choice questions and 1 essay question, and have a 1-hour and 15-minute time limit.

VI. COURSE GRADING AND POLICIES**A. Points**

| | | |
|--|---------------|-------------|
| Course Requirements Checklist | | 10 |
| Simulation Manual Quiz | | 30 |
| Discussion Board Forums (4 at 100 pts ea, 2 at 40 pt ea) | | 480 |
| Book Critiques (2 at 120 pts ea) | | 240 |
| Exam 1 | (Modules 1–4) | 125 |
| Exam 2 | (Modules 5–7) | 125 |
| | Total | 1010 |

B. Scale

A = 900–1010 B = 800–899 C = 700–799 D = 600–699 F = 0–599

C. Disability Assistance

Students with a documented disability may contact Liberty University Online's Office of Disability Accommodation Support (ODAS) at LUODAS@liberty.edu to make arrangements for academic accommodations. Further information can be found at www.liberty.edu/disabilitysupport.

If you have a complaint related to disability discrimination or an accommodation that was not provided, you may contact ODAS or the Office of Equity and Compliance by phone at (434) 592-4999 or by email at equityandcompliance@liberty.edu. Click to see a full copy of Liberty's [Discrimination, Harassment, and Sexual Misconduct Policy](#) or the [Student Disability Grievance Policy and Procedures](#).

COURSE SCHEDULE

GOVT 330

Textbooks: Berger, *The Desecularization of the World* (1999).
 Klesner, *Comparative Politics: An Introduction* (2014).
 Martin, *Prevailing Worldviews of Western Society Since 1500* (2006).

| MODULE/ WEEK | READING & STUDY | ASSIGNMENTS | POINTS |
|-------------------------|---|--|---------------------|
| 1 | Klesner: chs. 1–3 Martin: chs. 1–2 1 presentation 1 website | Course Requirements Checklist Class Introductions DB Forum 1 Simulation Manual Quiz | 10 0 80 30 |
| 2 | Klesner: ch. 4-5 Martin: chs. 3–6 1 presentation | DB Forum 2 | 80 |
| 3 | Klesner: chs. 6, 13 Martin: chs. 7–8 1 presentation | DB Forum 3 | 80 |
| 4 | Klesner: chs. 7-8, 19 Martin: chs. 9–10 1 presentation | Exam 1 | 125 |
| 5 | Berger: ch. 7 Klesner: chs. 9-10, 16 Martin: chs. 11–13 1 presentation | DB Forum 4 | 80 |
| 6 | Klesner: chs. 11, 14-15 1 presentation | Book Critique 1 | 120 |
| 7 | Berger: ch. 1-3 Klesner: chs. 12, 17-18 1 presentation | DB Forum 5 Exam 2 | 80 125 |
| 8 | Berger: chs. 4–6 1 presentation | DB Forum 6 Book Critique 2 | 80 120 |
| TOTAL | | | 1010 |

DB = Discussion Board

NOTE: Each course module/week (except Module/Week 1) begins on Tuesday morning at 12:00 a.m. (ET) and ends on Monday night at 11:59 p.m. (ET). The final module/week ends at 11:59 p.m. (ET) on **Friday**.