

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

PSCI 600

COMPARATIVE POLITICS

COURSE DESCRIPTION

This course provides comparative frameworks for alternative models of politics, government, international relations, and statesmanship. Students will compare not only the American system of government and politics to other systems, but also examine the key philosophical and theoretical influences of these various systems, particularly in light of a Biblical perspective on government, politics, and statesmanship.

RATIONALE

This course provides a study and foundation in comparative politics and the study of governing structures and models. As such, it plays an important role in producing well-rounded public administration and public policy programs and prepares students with a nuanced understanding of the forces that shape the governing and public policy process.

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. Evaluate the impacts of key philosophical and theoretical influences on various models of government.
- B. Compare various models of government.
- C. Apply knowledge of the literature to the study of comparative politics.
- D. Synthesize a Judeo-Christian worldview with aspects of comparative politics.

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 (3)

Discussion boards are collaborative learning experiences. Therefore, the student is required to provide a thread in response to the provided prompt for each forum. Each thread must be 400–500 words and demonstrate course-related knowledge. Each thread must also include 1 unique, relevant scholarly reference and 1 scriptural reference. In addition to the thread, the student is required to reply to 2 other classmates' threads. Each reply must be 250–300 words. All sources must be cited in current Turabian format.

- D. Comparative Approach Research Paper

The student will write 5–7 pages for a research-based paper in current Turabian format that focuses on the comparative approach employed in comparative politics. The paper must include at least 3 scholarly references in addition to the course textbooks, assigned readings, and the Bible.

- E. Comparative Process Research Paper or Presentation

The student will create a paper or presentation examining the comparative process. If the student chooses to submit a paper, it must be 5–7 pages written in current Turabian format and must include at least 3 scholarly references in addition to the course textbooks, assigned readings, and the Bible. If the student chooses to submit a presentation, he or she will create either a PowerPoint presentation with audio or a creative video. The presentation must include 9–10 minutes of student-spoken audio and incorporate at least 3 scholarly references in addition to the course textbooks, assigned readings, and the Bible.

F. Political Economy Research Paper

The student will write a 5–7-page research-based paper in current Turabian format that focuses on the topic of political economy. The paper must include at least 3 scholarly references in addition to the course textbooks, assigned readings, and the Bible.

G. Final Research Paper or Presentation

The student will create a presentation or a paper that focuses on the comparative ideas and characteristics of constitutions. If the student chooses to submit a paper, it must be 5–7 pages written in current Turabian format and must include at least 3 scholarly references in addition to the course textbooks, assigned readings, and the Bible. If the student chooses to submit a presentation, he or she will create either a PowerPoint presentation with audio or a creative video. The presentation must include 10–12 minutes of student-spoken audio and incorporate at least 3 scholarly references in addition to the course textbooks, assigned readings, and the Bible.

H. Exam

The Exam will cover the assigned readings for the module/week in which it is assigned. The Exam will be open-book/open-notes and contain 5 multiple-choice and 5 corresponding essay questions. Each essay answer question will require a well-reasoned explanation of the analysis the student employed in reaching his or her multiple-choice answer. The exam will have a time limit of 1 hour and 30 minutes.

VI. COURSE GRADING AND POLICIES

A. Points

Course Requirements Checklist	10
Discussion Board Forums (3 at 100 points each)	300
Comparative Approach Research Paper	150
Comparative Process Research Paper or Presentation	150
Political Economy Research Paper	150
Final Research Paper or Presentation	150
Exam	100
Total	1010

B. Scale

A = 940–1010 A- = 920–939 B+ = 900–919 B = 860–899 B- = 840–859
 C+ = 820–839 C = 780–819 C- = 760–779 D+ = 740–759 D = 700–739
 D- = 680–699 F = 0–679

C. Disability Assistance

Students with a documented disability may contact Liberty University Online's Office of Disability Accommodation Support (ODAS) at LUOODAS@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

PSCI 600

Textbooks:

Dickovick & Eastwood, *Comparative Politics: Integrating Theories, Methods, and Cases* 3rd Ed., (2019).

Dickovick & Eastwood, *Comparative Politics: Classic and Contemporary Readings*, (2017).

Martin, *Prevailing Worldviews of Western Society Since 1500*, (2006).

MODULE/ WEEK	READING & STUDY	ASSIGNMENTS	POINTS
1	Dickovick & Eastwood (2019) Chap. 1 Dickovick & Eastwood (2017) Chap. 1 Martin (2006): Chap. 1	Course Requirements Checklist Class Introductions Comparative Approach Research Paper	10 0 150
2	Dickovick & Eastwood (2019) Chap. 2 Dickovick & Eastwood (2017) Chap. 2 Martin (2006): Chap. 2	Comparative Process Research Paper or Presentation	150
3	Dickovick & Eastwood (2019) Chap. 3 Dickovick & Eastwood (2017) Chap. 3 Martin (2006): Chap. 3	DB Forum 1	100
4	Dickovick & Eastwood (2019) Chap. 4 Dickovick & Eastwood (2017) Chap. 4 Martin (2006): Chap. 9 1 presentation 2 websites	Political Economy Research Paper	150
5	Dickovick & Eastwood (2019) Chap. 5 Dickovick & Eastwood (2017) Chap. 5 1 presentation	DB Forum 2	100

MODULE/ WEEK	READING & STUDY	ASSIGNMENTS	POINTS
6	Dickovick & Eastwood (2019) Chap. 6 Dickovick & Eastwood (2017) Chap. 6	DB Forum 3	100
7	Dickovick & Eastwood (2019) Chap. 7 Dickovick & Eastwood (2017) Chap. 7 Martin (2006): Chap. 11	Exam	100
8	Dickovick & Eastwood (2019) Chap. 8 Dickovick & Eastwood (2017) Chap. 8	Final Research Paper or Presentation	150
TOTAL			1010

DB = Discussion Board

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