

NEW COURSE PROPOSAL

PROGRAM: MULTIPLE PROGRAMS (POLITICAL SCIENCE)

1. Catalog Description of the Course. *[Include the course prefix, number, full title, and units. Provide a course narrative including prerequisites and corequisites. If any of the following apply, include in the description: Repeatability (May be repeated to a maximum of ___ units); time distribution (Lecture ___ hours, laboratory ___ hours); non-traditional grading system (Graded CR/NC, ABC/NC). Follow accepted catalog format.]*

POLS 102 COMPARATIVE GOVERNMENT (3)

Three hours lecture/discussion per week

This course introduces the student to the contemporary study of comparative politics. The theme for the course will be democratization and democracy. Topics will include political institutions (constitutions, executives, legislatures, courts, and political parties), political behavior (voting, group activism, and other modes of political participation), and political ideas (political culture, socialization, status of women, and political economy).
GenEd: D

2. Mode of Instruction.

	Units	Hours per Unit	Benchmark Enrollment
Lecture	3	1	30
Seminar			
Laboratory			
Activity			

3. Justification and Learning Objectives for the Course. (Indicate whether required or elective, and whether it meets University Writing, and/or Language requirements) *[Use as much space as necessary]*

This course is required as part of the Minor in Political Science. Comparative Politics is one of the major subfields of Political Science, and it provides students with an understanding of the political systems of other countries, which in turn helps them to better understand our own system. This course is supportive of the Mission of the University which seeks to graduate “students with multicultural and international perspectives.”

Students who successfully complete this course will be able to:

- Discuss the theory and apply the methodology of comparative analysis within the discipline of political science.
- Analyze contemporary problems in the countries under consideration in light of the conceptual frameworks presented in class.
- List the differences between scholarly and popular publications in Comparative Politics.
- Use library search tools to identify scholarly articles on country-specific government institutions in a nation state other than the United States
- Use the Internet and library search tools to find sites on government, international humanitarian organizations, and newspapers originating from their topic country

- Write an analysis of the institutions, political behavior and political ideas of another country comparing these attributes to the U.S. model.

4. Is this a General Education Course Yes No
 If Yes, indicate GE category: XX

	Yes	No
A (English Language, Communication, Critical Thinking)		
B (Mathematics & Sciences)		
C (Fine Arts, Literature, Languages & Cultures)		
D (Social Perspectives)	X	
E (Human Psychological and Physiological Perspectives)	X	

5. **Course Content in Outline Form.** *[Be as brief as possible, but use as much space as necessary]*

Suggested Topics Include:

Part I: Areas for Comparative Study

Issues in Comparative Politics

Comparing Political Systems

Political Culture

Political Culture and Political Socialization

Interest Articulation

Interest Aggregation & Political Parties

Role of women and minorities in the polity

Government and Policymaking

Part II: Governmental Models and Cases

Western Democracy

The U.S. and Great Britain

Democracy and Latin America – Argentina

Communism

Transition to Democracy: Russia

Democracy in Africa: Nigeria

Politics in Mexico

6. References. [Provide 3 - 5 references on which this course is based and/or support it.]

Almond, Gabriel, G. Bingham Powell, Kaare Strom, Russell J. Dalton. Eds. 2004. *Comparative Politics: A Theoretical Framework*. (Lexington, MA: Addison Wesley Longman, Inc.)

Haus, Charles. (2003). *Comparative Politics: Domestic Responses to Global Challenges*. (St. Paul, MN: Wadsworth-Thomson Learning).

Roskin, Michael G. (2001). *Countries and Concepts: Politics, Geography, Culture*. (NY: Prentice Hall).

Søe, Christian ed., *Annual Editions: Comparative Politics* (Guilford, CT: Dushkin/McGraw-Hill, 2004).

Wiarda, Howard J. ed. (2002). *Comparative Democracy and Democratization*. (New Harcourt College Publishers).

7. List Faculty Qualified to Teach This Course.

Scott Frisch

8. Frequency.

a. Projected semesters to be offered: Fall X Spring Summer

9. New Resources Required. N/A

10. Consultation.

Attach consultation sheet from all program areas, Library, and others (if necessary)

11. If this new course will alter any degree, credential, certificate, or minor in your program, attach a program modification.

Scott A. Frisch

Proposer of Course

Date