POLI 210 Comparative Politics

Instructor Spring 2022: Dr. Michelle Bonner

Course delivery: In the Spring 2022 term, this course will be delivered on campus and face-to-face.

Course description:
Comparative politics, one of the major sub-fields of political science, offers insights into the internal political dynamics of countries around the world, including the similarities and differences in how state institutions are structured and variation in political practices. We will examine basic concepts in comparative politics such as: regime types, human rights, media, elections, political parties, and social movements. We will also explore how such key political science concepts as democracy are manifested and practiced in different countries and how to make generalizations about the concept and practice of democracy. This course provides background for further studies in comparative politics at the 300 and 400-level.

Prerequisites: None

Course outcomes/objectives:
- Explore the concepts and themes of comparative politics and understand how and why comparison is conducted
- Build critical thinking skills including the ability to analyze, synthesize, interpret and evaluate ideas, information, situations and texts
- Develop and practice academic writing skills
- Develop and practice research skills related to the discipline of political science

Topics may include:
Democracy and Democratization
States structures and opposition
Political accountability and corruption

This summary provides an overall sense of the course and is not considered an official course outline. Detailed course outlines will be available for all registered students on the first day of class.