

Course	COMPARATIVE POLITICS 1			
	Type	Semester	ECTS	Code
	(M)	III	5	
Course lecturer Course assistant Course tutor				
Aim and objectives	<p>The purpose of the course is to provide students with basic knowledge and skills regarding the attitudes, practices, and behaviors of the most typical state actors from a comparative perspective. The course offers a broad approach to explaining the differences and commonalities among the world's major political systems, enabling students to develop a global perspective that distinguishes local political approaches. This course predominantly focuses on building knowledge of the political behaviors exhibited by typical political systems worldwide, within the context of the interaction between different modes of behavior and the political logic they adhere to. In this regard, the subject will concentrate on the criteria for classifying political systems into various forms of government, examining the political characteristics related to the origin and functioning of these systems, exploring their approaches to state-building and power control, and studying their forms of political identity. Special attention will be given to the reasons behind the construction of the political systems covered in this subject and the means of their legitimization both externally and internally.</p>			
Learning outcomes	<p>Upon successful completion of this course, students will be able to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Define the main concepts applied in Comparative Politics. • Explain political history, institutions, political culture, political parties, interest groups, political issues, and major political conflicts in different political systems. • Compare the main aspects of democratic and non-democratic political systems. • Debate the role and importance of the state in the consolidation of the political system and economic development. • Debate and write fluently and persuasively about key concepts and issues in the field of comparative politics. 			
Course content	Course plan			Week
	Introduction:			1
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Syllabus elaboration: course content, method, organization and course requirements. 			
	The logic of comparative analysis			2
	What and how to compare?			3
	Industrial democracies: ideals and reality 1			4
	Industrial democracies: ideals and reality 2			5
	Government and politics in Great Britain			6
	Mid-term exam			7
	Russia and the former Soviet Union			8
	Presentation of works by students			9
	Germany, the emergence of a superpower with a troubled past			10
Governance and politics in France: the end of French exceptionalism			11	
Autocracies in transition, the transition to democracy			12	

	Government and Politics in the USA			13
	Revision, class discussions and preparation for the final test			14
	Final test			15
Teaching/learning methods	Activity			Weight (%)
	1. Lectures			50%
	2. Seminars (research project)			20%
	3. exercise			25%
	4. Consultations			5%
	5. Study visits			n.a.
Assessment methods	Assessment activities	Number	Week	Weight (%)
	1. Analysis and class	1	2-15	70%
	2. Final Exam	1	15	20%
	3. Lectures	1	1-15	5%
	4. Activity	1	1-15	5%
Course resources and means of materializations	Means			Number
	1. Class (e.g)			1
	2. Laboratory (e.g)			n/a
	3. Moodle			1
	4. Software MATLAB/SPSS/SIMULINK			n/a
	5. Projector			1
ECTS workload	Activity type		Weekly hours	Total workload
	1. Lectures		2	30
	2. Exercises		1	15
	3. Consultations		1	15
	4. Research project		n.a.	5
	5. Independent study		2	58
	6. Exams		2	2
Literature/References	Core literature:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> O'Neil, Patrick H., and Karl Fields. <i>Cases in comparative politics</i>. WW Norton & Company, 2015. Mayer, Lawrence C. et al. <i>Politikat Krahasuese</i>. Shtëpia Botuese Ora. 2003. Materiale të shpërndara në klasë 		
	Additional literature:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Fukuyama, Francis, <i>Fillesat e Rendit Politik</i>. Instituti i Studimeve Ndërkombëtare (AIIS). Tiranë. 2012. Kesselman, Mark, Joel Krieger, and William A. Joseph. <i>Introduction to comparative politics: political challenges and changing agendas</i>. Cengage Learning, 2018. Goodin, Robert E. <i>The Oxford handbook of comparative politics</i>. Vol. 4. Oxford Handbooks of Political, 2007. 		
	Contact			