
course time: Monday and Wednesday, 3:30-4:50pm

classroom: Winton-Scott Hall 170

e-mail: michael.strausz@tcu.edu

office hours: Mondays 10:00-11:00 am, Wednesdays 10:00-12:00 am, or by appointment

office: Scharbauer 2007F

Course Description and Objectives: Where did modern capitalism come from? Why are some countries rich while others are poor? Why do people organize political parties, and how do the rules of the electoral process influence politics? How do states and societies influence one another? This class will address these kinds of questions both theoretically and through in-depth study of issues including the birth of modern capitalism, the persistence of poverty in Africa, and the rise and fall of Japan's Liberal Democratic Party. This class aims to deepen your understanding of political systems worldwide, as well as to strengthen your ability to evaluate contemporary political issues and to talk and write about those issues in an informed and coherent manner.

Expectations and Course Policies:

1. Prepare for each class by carefully reading the assigned materials, and bring the day's assigned reading to class with you (if you read it on a laptop computer, than bring your computer).
2. Regularly (at least three times per week) read a newspaper with strong international coverage, focusing on the articles about issues related to this class (the *New York Times* and the *Wall Street Journal* are good choices, but the *Skiff* and the *Fort Worth Star Telegram* are not good choices).
3. Attendance Policy: Come to class on time, and stay for the duration. If you miss a class where an in-class activity or pop quiz was administered, you will receive a grade of zero unless the absence was an Official University Absence or unless you have a note from a medical professional or Campus Life indicating that you were ill. If you leave early on a day when you submitted work (without prior approval) you will receive a grade of zero on that work.
4. Extra Credit: If there are events at TCU or in the community that are related to this course, I may decide to grant extra credit to students who both attend and write a brief paper about the event. If I decide to make this kind of extra credit assignment, the specifics will be emailed out to all students enrolled in the class (so check your TCU email!). These extra credit papers will usually count as the equivalent of one quiz, although the specific weight of the paper will be mentioned on the assignment.
5. Turning it in: Students will turn in all papers using www.turnitin.com, unless otherwise noted. I will provide more specific information about this when the first paper assignment is distributed in class.
6. Texas Christian University complies with the Americans with Disabilities Act and Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973 regarding students with disabilities. Eligible students seeking accommodations should contact the Coordinator of Student Disabilities Services in the Center for Academic Services located in Sadler Hall, 11. Accommodations are not retroactive, therefore, students should contact the Coordinator

as soon as possible in the term for which they are seeking accommodations. Further information can be obtained from the Center for Academic Services, TCU Box 297710, Fort Worth, TX 76129, or at (817) 257-7486.

7. Academic Misconduct (See Section 3.4 from the Student Handbook): I expect that the work that you turn in will be your own. Students determined to have committed academic misconduct will face penalties including (but not limited to) a grade of zero on the related assignment. I will not hesitate to bring suspected academic misconduct to the proper authorities.

Grading: Grades in this course will be determined as follows:

Reading Quizzes (at least 8) and other in-class exercises: 25%
First Analysis Paper (Due **February 9** at the beginning of class): 10%
Second Analysis Paper (Due **February 28** at the beginning of class): 10%
Third Analysis Paper (Due **April 13** at the beginning of class): 10%
Oral presentation on supplementary article: 5%
Paper on supplementary article: 10%
Final Paper (Due **May 2** at 5:30 pm): 30%

Grades are determined on a 100-point scale as follows:

A: 93.5 and above	B: 82.5-86.4	C: 72.5-76.4	D: 62.5-66.4
A-: 89.5-93.4	B-: 79.5-82.4	C-: 69.5-72.4	D-: 59.5-62.4
B+: 86.5-89.4	C+: 76.5-79.4	D+: 66.5-69.4	F: 59.4 and below

I will use the +/- system for all students, and the TCU registrar will automatically convert the grades of students not under the +/- system to the old system.

Paper deadline extensions will not be allowed except in the cases of Official University Absences or properly documented illnesses.

If you feel that you have been graded unfairly on any course assignment, please wait 24 hours after the assignment is returned and then contact me with a typed statement about why you believe you were graded unfairly. This statement must provide substantive reasons why you believe that you were graded unfairly. The appeal process must be started one week after the exam/homework was returned.

Assignments are due at the *beginning of class*. I am strict about enforcing this rule. Late assignments will be penalized 10 points (out of 100) per date late. Once grades have been officially submitted for the course, late assignments will no longer be accepted.

Quizzes: We will have at least eight quizzes in this class. The quizzes will mostly cover assigned readings, but might also touch on current events and/or materials that we have covered in class. If you do the readings, follow current events, and pay attention in class, your quiz grade should be quite high. Quizzes will usually take place at the beginning of class, and no extra time will be granted to students arriving late. If you miss a class because of a properly documented

illness or an Official University Absence, you have one week to either visit my office hours or make an appointment with me to make up your quiz. If you wait more than one week to see me after missing a class where a quiz was given, you will receive a grade of zero for the missed quiz. Students who miss classes for reasons other than Official University Absences or properly documented illnesses will receive a grade of zero for missed quizzes.

Assignments: You are required to write three analysis papers (each 3-4 pages long) that will ask you to think critically about materials that we have covered in class. The final paper (5-7 pages long) will require you to combine analysis of class materials with some research that you will do on your own. In addition to these four papers, each student will be required to read one supplementary article from an academic journal on a topic that we are discussing in class and make a 5-10 minute oral presentation to the class summarizing and analyzing that article. Students will also be required write a 2-page paper on their article. More specific assignments for all of these papers and presentations will be distributed later in the semester.

You also have the option to write a research paper instead of writing the three analysis papers and the final paper (even in this case you will still be required to write and do a presentation on a supplementary reading). You are also permitted to revise and lengthen a research paper that you have written for another class. If you are interested in writing a research paper, you are required to see me during the first two weeks of class to discuss possible topics. If I don't hear from you by **January 24**, you will be required to write the three analysis papers and the final paper (i.e. you are not permitted to decide that you are writing a research paper only after you have failed to get your first analysis paper in on time).

Office Hours: I encourage students to take advantage of my office hours in order to ask questions about the course materials or to chat about issues related to the course or political science more generally. If you would like to get in touch with me to ask a question or schedule an appointment, I encourage you to e-mail me.

Course Materials: The following books are required. They are available at the TCU bookstore, but feel free to buy copies at other bookstores or online. Readings that aren't in these books will be available online, through the course's Pearson Learning Studio (formerly ecollege) site (log in to tcuglobal.edu, go to the "Doc Sharing" section, and then click on "Assigned Readings"):

Karl Marx and Friedrich Engels, *The Communist Manifesto*
Max Weber, *The Protestant Ethic and the Spirit of Capitalism*
Robert H. Bates, *When Things Fell Apart: State Failure in Late Century Africa*
Ellis S. Krauss and Robert J. Pekkanen, *The Rise and Fall of Japan's LDP: Political Party Organizations as Historical Institutions*

Schedule:

10-Jan *Introduction*
No assigned reading

12-Jan *Why compare? McAllen vs. El Paso*
Atul Gawande, "McAllen, Texas and the High Cost of Health Care" (online)

- 17-Jan **Class cancelled for Martin Luther King Day**
- 19-Jan *Tradition and modernity*
Marx and Engels, pp. 49-76 (Opening statement & Chapters I & II)
- 24-Jan *A Marxist reading of the birth of modernity*
Marx and Engels, pp. 77-91 (Chapters III & IV)
- 26-Jan *Religion and modernity*
Weber, Part I, Chapters 1 & 2
- 31-Jan *Weber's explanation for the birth of modernity*
Weber, Begin at Part I, Chapter 3, and read through the end of Part II, Chapter 4A
- 2-Feb *Marx v. Weber*
Finish Weber
First analysis paper assignment distributed in class
- 7-Feb *Comparative political economy*
No assigned reading
- 9-Feb *Why is Africa poor?*
Bates, pp. 3-29
First analysis paper due at the beginning of class
- 14-Feb *A Marxist explanation of postcolonial Africa*
Bates, pp. 33-53
- 16-Feb *Developmental states*
Bates, pp. 55-93
- 21-Feb *What do we make of Bates?*
Bates, pp. 97-139
Second analysis paper assignment distributed in class
- 23-Feb *Political parties and electoral systems*
No assigned reading
- 28-Feb *A brief introduction to Japan*
Krauss and Pekkanen, pp. 1-28
Second analysis paper due at the beginning of class
- 2-Mar *The LDP and historical institutionalism*
Krauss and Pekkanen, pp. 29-64
- 7-Mar *Koenkai*
Krauss and Pekkanen, pp. 65-99

- 9-Mar *Clientalism*
Krauss and Pekkanen, pp. 100-127
- 14-Mar and 16-Mar **Class cancelled for Spring Break**
- 21-Mar *The LDP's unusual factions*
Krauss and Pekkanen, pp. 128-153
- 23-Mar *Parties and public policy*
Krauss and Pekkanen, pp. 203-225
- 28-Mar *The LDP and party leadership*
Krauss and Pekkanen, pp. 226-259
- 30-Mar and 4 Apr **Class cancelled because Dr. Strausz will attend the Association for Asian Studies Annual Meeting**
- 6-Apr *What do we make of Krauss and Pekkanen?*
Krauss and Pekkanen, pp. 260-287
Third analysis paper assignment distributed at the beginning of class
- 11-Apr *States and societies*
No assigned reading
- 13-Apr *Is bowling political science?*
Robert Putnam, "Bowling Alone: America's Declining Social Capital" (online)
Third analysis paper due at the beginning of class
- 18-Apr *A critique of Putnam*
Charles H. Heying, "Civil Elites and Corporate Delocalization: An Alternative Explanation for Declining Civil Engagement" (online)
- 20-Apr *Protest and politics*
Stephen Cotgrove and Andrew Duff, "Environmentalism, Middle-Class Radicalism, and Politics" (online)
- 25-Apr *Citizenship and immigration*
Michael Strausz, "Japanese Conservatism and the Integration of Foreign Residents" (online)
- 27-Apr *Conclusion*
No assigned reading
- 2-May **Final paper due at 5:30 pm**