
course time: Monday and Wednesday, 2:00-3:20pm

classroom: Reed 223

e-mail: michael.strausz@tcu.edu

office hours: Mondays 10:00 am-12:00 pm, Wednesdays 1:00-1:50 pm, 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, the strange story of Japan's Liberal Democratic Party, and the fate of league bowling in America.¹ 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. *Assigned readings:* Prepare for each class by carefully reading the assigned materials, and bring the day's assigned reading to class with you.
2. *Current events:* Regularly (at least three times per week) read a newspaper with strong international coverage (the *New York Times*, the *Wall Street Journal*, and the *Times of London* are all 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 it was due to properly documented illnesses or properly documented personal/family emergencies. 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. *Technology Policy:* Students wishing to use computers, smartphones, recording devices, or other electronic devices in class are required to come to my office hours to discuss acceptable classroom use of technology and to sign a contract indicating that you will use those devices responsibly. Students using technology without permission or in violation of their contract will be asked to leave class on that day, and will receive a grade of zero for any quizzes or in-class activities that were scheduled for that day.
5. *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!).
6. *Deadlines:* Deadlines for assignments are strictly enforced. A paper submitted after the deadline will lose 10 points (out of 100) if it is submitted within 24 hours after the

¹ We really will read a bit about league bowling. Of course, the famous essay that we will read to begin this unit, Robert Putnam's "Bowling Alone: America's Declining Social Capital," is about much more than bowling.

deadline, 20 points (out of 100) if it is submitted between 24 and 48 hours after the deadline, 30 points (out of 100) if it is submitted between 48 and 72 hours after the deadline, etc. So, for example, if a paper deadline is 10am on Monday and you submit your paper at 11am, you will automatically lose 10 points. Once grades have been officially submitted for the course, late assignments will no longer be accepted.

7. *Student Disability Services*: 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.
8. *Academic Misconduct*: 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. For more information on TCU's academic misconduct policy, see Section 3.4 from the Student Handbook.

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 13** at 2:00 pm): 15%
Second Analysis Paper (Due **March 20** at 2:00 pm): 15%
Third Analysis Paper (Due **April 15** at 2:00 pm): 15%
Final Paper (Due **May 6** at 2:00 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 |

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

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.

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 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 an Official University Absence, a properly documented illness, or a properly documented family/medical emergency, 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, properly documented illness, or properly documented family/medical emergency will receive a grade of zero for missed quizzes.

Papers: Students 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. More specific assignments for each of these papers will be distributed later in the semester.

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. No appointment is necessary to come by my office hours – just come on by! However, if you have classes or other obligations during my office hours and like to meet with me, I encourage you to email me to make an appointment.

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:

14-Jan *Introduction*
 No assigned reading

16-Jan *Why compare? McAllen v. El Paso*
 Gawande, Atul. 2009. "McAllen, Texas and the High Cost of Health Care." *The New Yorker*, June 1. [LearningStudio]

Unit 1: Theories of Comparative Politics

21-Jan Martin Luther King Jr. Day

23-Jan *Tradition and modernity*
 Marx and Engels, pp. 49-76 (Opening statement & Chapters I & II)

- 28-Jan *Marx's explanation*
Marx and Engels, pp. 77-91 (Chapters III & IV)
- 30-Jan *Religion and modernity*
Weber, pp. 67-98 (Part I, Chapters 1 & 2)
- 4-Feb *Weber's explanation*
Weber, pp. 99-138 (Begin at Part I, Chapter 3, and end after Part II, Chapter 4A)
- 6-Feb *Marx vs. Weber*
Weber, pp. 138-179 (Finish Weber)

Unit 2: Comparative Political Economy

- 11-Feb *An introduction to comparative political economy*
No assigned reading
- 13-Feb *Culture and development*
Berger, Peter L. 1988. "An East Asian Development Model?" In *In Search of an East Asian Development Model*, ed. P. L. Berger and H.-h. Hsiao. New Brunswick, N.J.: Transaction Books. [LearningStudio]
First analysis paper due at 2:00pm
- 18-Feb *Why is Africa poor?*
Bates, pp. 3-29
- 20-Feb *A Marxist explanation of postcolonial Africa*
Bates, pp. 33-53
- 25-Feb *Developmental states*
Bates, pp. 55-93
- 27-Feb *What do we make of Bates?*
Bates, pp. 97-139
- 4-Mar *Democracy and growth*
Lindert, Peter H. 2003. "Voice and Growth: Was Churchill Right?" *The Journal of Economic History* 63 (2):315-50. [LearningStudio]

Unit 3: Political Parties and Electoral Systems

- 6-Mar *Political parties*
No assigned reading
- 11-Mar Spring break
&13-Mar

- 18-Mar *Electoral systems*
Krauss and Pekkanen, pp. 1-28
- 20-Mar *The LDP and historical institutionalism*
Krauss and Pekkanen, pp. 29-64
Second analysis paper due at 2:00pm
- 25-Mar *Koenkai*
Krauss and Pekkanen, pp. 65-99
- 27-Mar *Parties and Elections in Non-Democracies*
Krauss and Pekkanen, pp. 203-225
- 1-Apr *The LDP and party leadership*
Krauss and Pekkanen, pp. 226-259
- 3-Apr *What do we make of Krauss and Pekkanen?*
Krauss and Pekkanen, pp. 260-287

Unit 4: State and Society

- 8-Apr *An introduction to state and society*
No assigned reading
- 10-Apr *Is bowling political science?*
Putnam, Robert D. 1995. "Bowling Alone: America's Declining Social Capital."
Journal of Democracy 6 (1):65-78. [LearningStudio]
- 15-Apr *A critique of Putnam*
Dalton, Russell J. 2008. "Citizenship Norms and the Expansion of Political
Participation " *Political Studies* 56:76-98. [LearningStudio]
Third analysis paper due at 2:00pm
- 17-Apr *Where does religion fit in?*
Wald, Kenneth D., Adam L. Silverman, and Kevin S. Fridy. 2005. "Making Sense of
Religion in Political Life." *Annual Review of Political Science* 8:121-43.
[LearningStudio]
- 22-Apr *Protest and politics*
El-Ghobashy, Mona. 2012. "The Praxis of the Egyptian Revolution." In *The Journey
to Tahrir: Revolution, Protest, and Social Change in Egypt*, eds. J. L. Sowers
and C. J. Toensing. London: Verso. [LearningStudio]
- 24-Apr *Nations and states*
Smith, Rogers M. 2003. *Stories of Peoplehood: The Politics and Morals of Political
Membership*. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, pp. 1-16.
[LearningStudio]

- 29-Apr *Citizenship and immigration*
Strausz, Michael. 2010. "Japanese Conservatism and the Integration of Foreign Residents." *Japanese Journal of Political Science* 11 (2):245-64.
[LearningStudio]
- 1-May *Conclusion*
No assigned reading
- 6-May **Final paper due at 2:00 pm**