

Description of Course Unit

according to the ECTS User's Guide 2015

Course unit title	COMPARATIVE POLITICS
Course unit code	
Type of course unit (compulsory, optional)	
Level of course unit (according to EQF: first cycle Bachelor, second cycle Master)	
Year of study when the course unit is delivered (if applicable)	
Semester/trimester when the course unit is delivered	
Number of ECTS credits allocated	
Name of lecturer(s)	Thinh Chau Vo, PhD.
Learning outcomes of the course unit	After completing the course, students will be able to: • Gain fundamental knowledge about Comparative Politics. • Understand Comparative Politics by applying the comparative method to identify Comparative Politics from political theory and international relations • See the objects and functions of comparative politics • Understand the importance of comparative politics and know the process of formation and development of comparative politics in history • Students will be taught about the basic types of state institutions and analytical tools in comparative politics. • Learners will be introduced methods for comparing countries. • Learners will be lectured about political parties as a very important political institution in democracies • Compare different political parties, including political party systems • In the last two lectures, learners will be required to do group or individual presentation on their chosen topics in class according to the methods and principles of comparative politics
Mode of delivery (face-to-face, distance learning)	
Prerequisites and co- requisites (if applicable)	

Course content	
Recommended or required reading and other learning resources/tools	1. Academy of Politics - Ho Chi Minh National Administration, Institute of Political Science (2012), Comparative politics - from the functional structure system approach (used for higher studies in political science), National politics Publisher, Hanoi. 2. Mark Kesselman, Joel Krieger, William A. Joseph (2013), <i>Introduction to Comparative Politics: Political Challenges and Changing Agendas</i>, 6th edition, International edition, Wadsworth, Cengage Learning, USA. 3. Robert E. Goodin (general editor, 2007), <i>The Oxford Handbook of Comparative Politics</i>, Oxford University Press, Great Britain. 4. Robert Hislope and Anthony Mughan (2012), <i>Introduction to Comparative Politics – the state and its challenges</i>, Cambridge University Press, Cambridge, New York, ...
Planned learning activities and teaching methods	1st class: What is comparative politics? Distinguishing Comparative Politics from political theory and international relations 2nd class: Objects and functions of Comparative Politics. Why study Comparative Politics? 3rd class: History of formation and development of Comparative Politics 4th class: History of formation and development of Comparative Politics (continued) 5th class: Analytical tools in Comparative Politics. How to compare countries? 6th class: Basic types of state institutions 7th class: What is a political party? Compare types of political parties. 8th class: Classify political party systems 9th class: Learners's presentation about Comparative Politics 10th class: Learners's presentation about Comparative Politics
Language of instruction	

Assessment methods and criteria

- Attendance (student will not be allowed to take final exam if they absent more than 20% of course hours)
- Midterm is marked on diligence, active speaking, discussion, and presentation on a research topic in groups or individually.
- Students have to present a part of working in a group or a whole topic if they choose to do it individually.
- Presentations should be made attractively and organized scientifically.
- Learners should demonstrate presenting skills from speech to body language.
- After the completion of the course (2-3 weeks), students must submit an essay (scientific report form), with thesis structure (topic title, introduction, table of contents includes chapters and sections, a conclusion, a list of references), as academic writing.
- Essay content is the topic content presented by an individual or group in class before.

Learning activities Plan

Sessions	Specific Objectives/ learning outcomes	<i>Contents</i>	Teaching & Learning Activities		Assessment
			Face-to-face	Self-study or study via LMS	
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