

**Course: IS403N**

**Title: “Comparative Political Analysis”**

**Course Instructor: Ravi Rameshchandra Shukla**

**Credits: 4**

**Method of Instruction:**

- Lectures
- Guided reading of selected texts in the class
- Seminar leadership (presents readings and facilitates discussions)
- Two Response Papers (2000 words each) (for students Pursuing MA by research as per NEP 2020)
- Research Paper (5000 words) (for students Pursuing MA by research as per NEP 2020)

**Contact Hours: 4 (2 Sessions) per week**

**Course Statement:**

This course examines the central issues in comparative political institutions across a range of jurisdictions and from a variety of perspectives. The course introduces core political institutions and discusses various approaches to their study. It deals with key concepts and institutional arrangements in an evolutionary and comparative perspective. The point of the seminar preparations, discussions, presentations, data collection and analysis exercise is not to compare for the sake of comparing, but to equip you (as a researcher and analyst) with the conceptual tools to undertake insightful, critical, and original comparative work of your own in your final assessment. The overall aim of the course is to develop students' understanding and use of many general theoretical explanations surrounding debates in political institutions and to develop students' critical/analytical approach to many of the questions facing practitioners and scholars.

**Course Objectives:**

The learning objectives of this course are to:

- a) Better understand why countries choose different mechanisms and institutions for governing and why these choices are important;
- b) Be better equipped to use the major theories, concepts, and tools of comparative political analysis in a careful and responsible manner;
- c) Better understand the relationships among political, social, and economic phenomena within countries and in the international environment;
- d) Better understand the political consequences of differing practices and historical paths across countries; and
- e) Better appreciate the concept of democracy and how it is sustained.

**Programme outcomes:**

Upon successful completion, students will have the knowledge and skills to:

- a) Identify the concepts that influence the dynamics of political institutions;
- b) Understand the sources of these concepts and their historical development;
- c) Use these concepts in order to critically research, analyse, and evaluate major issues in political institutions; and
- d) Develop skills for research, argument, and analysis in order to effectively communicate their own perspectives on key concepts and issues in political institutions.

**Learning Outcomes:**

<b>Knowledge gained:</b>	About Moves to scientific tradition, methods and under currents in comparative political analysis and its limitation.
<b>Skill gained:</b>	Contextual Analysis, Conceptual applications and how to structure political argument.
<b>Competency gained:</b>	Ability to use different types and tools of analysis. Ability to understand the actors, factors and dynamics of development.
<b>Evaluation Methods:</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>➤ <b>Two mid-term assessments and final end term examination:</b><ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>● Mid-term Examinations (2) (50% of the total marks)</li><li>● Term End Examination (50% of the total marks)</li></ul></li><li>➤ <b>Participatory Learning: (optional)</b><ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>● Seminar leadership (presents readings and facilitates discussions)</li><li>● Two Response Papers (1000 words each)</li><li>● Research Paper (3000 words)</li></ul></li></ul>

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I	<b>Introduction to Comparative Politics</b>	Sessions 8
a.	Nature and Characteristic	
b.	Traditional Approaches (Philosophical, Institutional, Legal-Rational)	
c.	Modern Approaches (Behavioural, Post – Behavioural)	
II	<b>Theories of Functions and Change</b>	Sessions 8
a.	System Analysis and Structural Functional Analysis	
b.	Marxist theory	
c.	Modernisation Theory	
III	<b>State in Comparative Perspective</b>	Sessions 8
a.	Characteristics and changing nature of the State	
b.	State in developed and developing societies	
c.	Globalisation and the State	
IV	<b>Theories of Global South</b>	Sessions 8
a.	Dependency	
b.	Integral Humanism	
c.	Sarvodaya	
V	<b>Nationalism</b>	Sessions 8
a.	European: Political Territorial	
b.	Indic: Cultural - Spiritual	
c.	Internationalism	
VI	<b>Contemporary Global Concerns</b>	Sessions 8
a.	Democratisation: democratic transition and consolidation.	
b.	Environmental Concerns	
c.	Gender	
VII	<b>Role of Non – State Actors</b>	Sessions 8
a.	Corporatism	
b.	Soft Power	
c.	Global Terrorism	
	<b>Curriculum intense professional development</b>	
	<b><i>Application of Learning’s</i></b>	Full Term
a.	Role Play / Enacting the concepts/ ideas	
b.	Reading, Writing and Publication Skills/ Meeting the mentors	
c.	Training / Internship	

## Course Readings

### I. Introduction to Comparative Politics

#### *Suggested readings: Nature and major approaches*

##### **Essential Readings:**

Macridis, R.C. (1955): *The Study of Comparative Government*, Doubleday short studies in political science

Lijphart, Arend (1971): 'Comparative Politics and the Comparative Method.' *American Political Science Review* 65(3): 682-693.

Coppedge, Michael (1999): 'Thickening Thin Concepts and Theories: Combining Large and Small in Comparative Politics.' *Comparative Politics* 31(4): 465-476.

Chandhoke, N. (1996). *Limits of Comparative Political Analysis*. *Economic and Political Weekly*, 31(4), PE2-PE8. <http://www.jstor.org/stable/4403712>

##### **Optional Readings:**

Pierson, Paul (2000): 'Increasing Returns, Path Dependence, and the Study of Politics'. *American Political Science Review* 94(2): 251-267

Benjamin, Roger (1982): 'Historical Nature of Social-Scientific Knowledge: The Case of Comparative Political Theory' in Elinor Ostrom (ed.) *Strategies of Political Inquiry*, Sage, pp. 69-98

Lim, Timothy (2006): 'Doing Comparative Politics: Introduction to Approaches and Issues', Lynn Rienner

Lim, Timothy: 'Thinking Theoretically in Comparative Politics', Chapter 3, pp. 65-93

Fukuyama, Francis (2016): 'Governance: What Do We Know, and How Do We Know It?' *Annual Review of Political Science* 19: 89-105.

#### **Behavioural and Post Behavioural Approach**

##### **Essential Readings:**

Lowndes, V., Marsh, D., & Stoker, G. (Eds.). (2017). *Theory and methods in political science* (4th ed). Red Globe Press. Chapter – 1, pp. 23 – 39, Chapter – 7, pp. 136 -155

Dahl, R. A. (1961). The Behavioral Approach in Political Science: Epitaph for a Monument to a Successful Protest. *The American Political Science Review*, 55(4), 763-772.

<https://doi.org/10.2307/1952525>

SINGH, B. P. (1986). THE PROBLEM OF VALUE IN THE POST-BEHAVIOURAL ERA. *The Indian Journal of Political Science*, 47(3), 353-365. <http://www.jstor.org/stable/41855251>

## **II. Theories of Analysis**

### **a. System Analysis & Structural Functional Analysis: Easton and Almond**

#### *Essential Readings:*

Wiarda, H. J., & Skelley, E. M. (2007). Comparative politics: Approaches and issues. Rowman & Littlefield. Chapter – I, pp. 1 to 46, Chapter – 9, pp. 120 – 143.

Potts, R., Vella, K., Dale, A., & Sipe, N. (2016). Exploring the usefulness of structural–functional approaches to analyse governance of planning systems. *Planning Theory*, 15(2), 162–189.  
<https://www.jstor.org/stable/26098740>

Skocpol, Theda (1976): ‘France, Russia, China: A Structural Analysis of Social Revolutions.’ *Comparative Studies in Society and History* 18(2): 175-210

#### **Optional Readings:**

Almond’s Model: Structural Functionalism

[https://niu.edu.in/sla/online-classes/PSM-202-Almond%27s-Model\\_Structural-Functionalism.pdf](https://niu.edu.in/sla/online-classes/PSM-202-Almond%27s-Model_Structural-Functionalism.pdf)

Green, L. (1985). Support for the System. *British Journal of Political Science*, 15(2), 127–142.  
<http://www.jstor.org/stable/193797>

### **b. Marxist Theory**

#### *Essential Readings:*

Lowndes, V., Marsh, D., & Stoker, G. (Eds.). (2017). *Theory and methods in political science* (4th ed.). Red Globe Press. Chapter – 7, pp. 136 -155

A. K. Saran (1963) The Marxian theory of social change\* , *Inquiry*, 6:1-4, 70-128, DOI: [10.1080/00201746308601368](https://doi.org/10.1080/00201746308601368)

### **c. Modernization Theory: Suggested Readings**

#### *Essential Readings:*

Chilcote, R.H. (1994). *Theories of Comparative Politics: The Search for a Paradigm Reconsidered*, Second Edition (2nd ed.). Rutledge. <https://doi.org/10.4324/9780429492686>. Chapter: 7, pp. 215- 226

Tipps, D. C. (1973). Modernization Theory and the Comparative Study of Societies: A Critical Perspective. *Comparative Studies in Society and History*, 15(2), 199–226.  
<http://www.jstor.org/stable/178351>

Huntington, S. P. (1965). Political Development and Political Decay. *World Politics*, 17(3), 386–430.  
<https://doi.org/10.2307/2009286>

Tilly, Charles (1973): ‘Does Modernization Breed Revolution?’ *Comparative Politics* 5(3):425-47.

### **III. State in Comparative Perspective**

#### ***a. Characteristics and changing nature of the State***

##### **Essential Readings**

Tanzi, Vito (1997). The Changing Role of State and Economy, IMF working Paper, available at: <https://www.imf.org/external/pubs/ft/wp/wp97114.pdf>

Krasner, S. D. (1984). Approaches to the State: Alternative Conceptions and Historical Dynamics [Review of On the Autonomy of the Democratic State; Negara: The Theatre State in Nineteenth Century Bali; Building a New American State: The Expansion of National Administrative Capacities; The Formation of National States in Western Europe; Crises of Political Development in Europe and the United States; Revolution from Above: Military Bureaucrats and Development in Japan, Turkey, Egypt, and Peru, by E. Nordlinger, C. Geertz, S. Skowronek, C. Tilly, R. Grew, & E. K. Trimberger]. *Comparative Politics*, 16(2), 223–246. <https://doi.org/10.2307/421608>

Holsti, K. J. (2000). THE CHANGING NATURE OF INTERNATIONAL INSTITUTIONS: THE CASE OF TERRITORIALITY. *Studia Diplomatica*, 53(5), 41–66. <http://www.jstor.org/stable/44838186>

#### ***b. State in developed and developing societies.***

##### **Essential Readings:**

Fine, B., & Stoneman, C. (1996). Introduction: State and Development. *Journal of Southern African Studies*, 22(1), 5–26. <http://www.jstor.org/stable/2637002>

SINGH, D. (1986). ROLE OF THE STATE IN DEVELOPING SOCIETIES WITH SPECIAL REFERENCE TO INDIA. *The Indian Journal of Political Science*, 47(2), 200–213. <http://www.jstor.org/stable/41855845>

Vaidyanathan, A. (1990). State's Role in Development. *Economic and Political Weekly*, 25(26), 1389–1392. <http://www.jstor.org/stable/4396432>

#### ***c. Globalisation and the State***

##### **Essential Readings:**

Held, David and Anthony McGraw (2000): 'The Great Globalization Debate: An Introduction' *The Global Transformations Reader*, Polity Press, pp. 1-45.

Lim, Chapter 9: Globalization and the Study of Comparative Politics, pp. 265-289.

Ostrom, Vincent (2006): "Citizen-Sovereigns: The Source of Contestability, the Rule of Law, and the Conduct of Public Entrepreneurship," *PS: Political Science and Politics*, 39(1), pp. 13-17.

## **IV. Theories of Global South**

### **a. Dependency**

#### **Essential Readings**

Lim, Chapter 5: Why is East Asia Rich? pp. 125-156.

Cueva, A., Villamil, J., & Fortin, C. (1976). A Summary of “Problems and Perspectives of Dependency Theory.” *Latin American Perspectives*, 3(4), 12–16. <http://www.jstor.org/stable/2633311>

Santana , Frutuoso and Others (2017). Dialogue on Development: On Dependency, ISSN: 2472 – 6966. <https://www.ineteconomics.org/uploads/downloads/Dependency-theory-e-book-online.pdf>

Duvall, R. D. (1978). Dependence and Dependencia Theory: Notes Toward Precision of Concept and Argument. *International Organization*, 32(1), 51–78. <http://www.jstor.org/stable/2706195>

### **b. Integral Humanism**

#### **Essential Readings:**

Lecture Delivered by Pt. Deen Dayal Upadhyay in Mumbai, Available on:

<https://deendayalupadhyay.org/speeches.html>

Umadevi, S. (2015). HUMANISM IN INDIAN PHILOSOPHY – CONTRIBUTIONS OF SWAMI VIVEKANANDA AND DEENDAYAL UPADHYAYA- AN ANALYSIS. *The Indian Journal of Political Science*, 76(3), 271–276. <https://www.jstor.org/stable/26534828>

Maritain, J. (1939). Integral Humanism and the Crisis of Modern Times. *The Review of Politics*, 1(1), 1–17. <http://www.jstor.org/stable/1403915>

#### **Optional Readings:**

Sharma, Maheshchandra (2023 ). Nation-Philosophy of Pandit Deendayal Upadhyay, Ankur Prakashan, New Delhi, ISBN: 9789381507414

Nain, Ansuiya & Sharma, Sanjeev (2018). Integral Humanism of Deen Dayal Upadhyaya and its Contemporary Relevance. Vol. LXXIX, No. 1. 13 20.

[https://www.researchgate.net/publication/342305382\\_Integral\\_Humanism\\_of\\_Deen\\_Dayal\\_Upadhyaya\\_and\\_its\\_Contemporary\\_Relevance](https://www.researchgate.net/publication/342305382_Integral_Humanism_of_Deen_Dayal_Upadhyaya_and_its_Contemporary_Relevance)

Pt. Deen Dayal Upadhyay (2014): ‘Political Diary’ Paperback, Suruchi Prakashan, January 2014

### **c. Sarvodaya**

Shriman Narayan, eds. (1968). ‘M. K. Gandhi The Voice of Truth’, Printed & Published by: Navajivan Publishing House Ahmedabad 380 014 (INDIA), Available at:

<https://www.mkgandhi.org/ebks/the-voice-of-truth.pdf>

LEELA, R. H. (1958). SIGNIFICANCE OF SARVODAYA. *The Indian Journal of Political Science*, 19(4), 365–367. <http://www.jstor.org/stable/42753638>

Prasad, G. (1960). SARVODAYA—A CRITICAL STUDY. The Indian Journal of Political Science, 21(1), 38–61. <http://www.jstor.org/stable/41852090>

## V. Contemporary Global Concerns

### a. *Democratisation: democratic transition and consolidation.*

#### **Essential Readings:**

Ostrom, Vincent (1997): The Meaning of Democracy and the Vulnerability of Democracies: A Response to Tocqueville's Challenge, The University of Michigan Press.

Chapter 1: Are Democratic Societies Viable

Chapter 2: Conceptions of Democracy and the Language of Political Inquiry, 33-60

Lijphart, Arend (1999): 'Patterns of Democracy', Yale University Press.

Chapter 1: Introduction, pp. 1-8

Chapter 2: The Westminster Model of Democracy, pp. 9-30.

Chapter 3: Consensus Model of Democracy, 31-47.

#### **Optional Readings:**

Schmitter, PC and TL Karl (1991): 'What Democracy Is... and Is Not.' Journal of Democracy.

Sen, Amartya. (1999): "Poverty as Capability Deprivation," Chapter 4 in 'Development as Freedom'. World Bank, Knowledge for Development, World Development Report 1998/99. p. 1-25.  
url:<http://www.worldbank.org/wdr/wdr98/contents.htm>

Ross, Michael. 2006. "Is Democracy Good for the Poor?" American Journal of Political Science 50(4): 860-874

Stepan, Alfred and Cindy Skach. 1993. "Constitutional Frameworks and Democratic Consolidation: Parliamentarism versus Presidentialism." World Politics 46: 1-22

### b. *Environmental Concerns*

#### **Essential Readings:**

Westley, Frances, Steven R. Carpenter, William A. Brock, S. S. Holling, and Lance Gunderson (eds) (2002): "Why systems of people and Nature Are Not Just Social and Ecological Systems," Panarchy: Understanding Transformation in Human and Natural Systems, Island Press, pp. 103-119

Folke, C., L. Pritchard, F. Berkes, J. Colding, and U. Svedin(2007): 'The problem of fit between ecosystems and institutions: ten years later.' Ecology and Society, 2007 12(1)  
30.<http://www.ecologyandsociety.org/vol12/iss1/art30/>

Ostrom, Elinor (2007): 'Sustainable Social-Ecological Systems: An Impossibility?' Available at SSRN: <http://ssrn.com/abstract=997834>



**b. Gender**

**Essential Readings:**

1. Bjarnegård, E., & Kenny, M. (2016). Comparing Candidate Selection: A Feminist Institutional Approach. *Government and Opposition*, 51(3), 370–392. <https://www.jstor.org/stable/26349811>
  2. Bjarnegård, Elin. (2013). Gender, Informal Institutions and Political Recruitment. Explaining Male Dominance in Parliamentary Representation. [https://www.researchgate.net/publication/262103358\\_Gender\\_Informal\\_Institutions\\_and\\_Political\\_Recruitment\\_Explaining\\_Male\\_Dominance\\_in\\_Parliamentary\\_Representation](https://www.researchgate.net/publication/262103358_Gender_Informal_Institutions_and_Political_Recruitment_Explaining_Male_Dominance_in_Parliamentary_Representation)  
10.1057/9781137296740.
- Devins, N. (1988). Gender Justice and Its Critics [Review of *Gender Justice*, by D. L. Kirp, M. G. Yudof, & M. S. Franks]. *California Law Review*, 76(6), 1377–1406. <https://doi.org/10.2307/3480677>
- Jaggar, A. M. (2009). The Philosophical Challenges of Global Gender Justice. *Philosophical Topics*, 37(2), 1–15. <http://www.jstor.org/stable/43154553>

**VI. Nationalism**

**Essential Readings:**

**a. European: Political Territorial**

- Anderson, B. (2016). *Imagined communities*, Verso Books. Pp. 1 to 47
- Gellner, Ernest (1964). *Thought and change*, University of Chicago Press.
- Kohn, Hans (1962). *The age of Nationalism*, New York: Harper. 1962

**b. Indic: Cultural – Spiritual**

**Essential Readings:**

- Gokhale, B. G. (1964). Swami Vivekananda and Indian Nationalism. *Journal of Bible and Religion*, 32(1), 35–42. <http://www.jstor.org/stable/1460427>
- Rag, P. (1995). Indian Nationalism 1885-1905: An Overview. *Social Scientist*, 23(4/6), 69–97. <https://doi.org/10.2307/3520216>
- BHATTACHARYA, S. (2016). Antinomies of Nationalism and Rabindranath Tagore. *Economic and Political Weekly*, 51(6), 39–45. <http://www.jstor.org/stable/44004353>
- Prasad, B. (1964). INDIAN NATIONALISM : AN INTERPRETATION. *Proceedings of the Indian History Congress*, 26, 232–239. <http://www.jstor.org/stable/44140369>
- Dash, S. C. (1958). NATURE AND SIGNIFICANCE OF INDIAN NATIONALISM. *The Indian Journal of Political Science*, 19(1), 63–72. <http://www.jstor.org/stable/42748895>

### **Optional Readings**

Sharma, Ram Sharan, 1920- & Sharma, Ram Sharan, 1920-. *Ancient India*. (2005). India's ancient past / R.S. Sharma. New Delhi : Oxford University Press

Bhatt, C. (2001). *Hindu Nationalism: Origins, Ideologies and Modern Myths* (1st ed.). Routledge.  
<https://doi.org/10.4324/9781003085553>

Purohit, B.R. (1965). *Hindu Revivalism and Indian Nationalism*, Sathi Prakashan,  
<https://books.google.co.in/books?id=117XAAAAMAAJ>

Pal, Bipin Chandra (1973). *An edition of Memories of my life and times (1932)*, Bipin Chandra Pal Institute., 2d rev. ed.

Rai, Manoj Kumar, Eds. (2023). *Bharatiyata Ki Pahchan*, Prabhat Publication, New Delhi.

### **c. Internationalism**

#### **VII. Role of Non- State Actors**

##### **a. Corporatism**

Shusterman, R. (1997). Internationalism in philosophy: models, motives and problems. *Metaphilosophy*, 28(4), 289–301. <http://www.jstor.org/stable/24438985>

Apeldoorn, B., & Graaff, N. (2017). The Corporation in Political Science. In G. Baars & A. Spicer (Eds.), *The Corporation: A Critical, Multi-Disciplinary Handbook* (pp. 134-159). Cambridge: Cambridge University Press. doi:10.1017/9781139681025.007

Schrempf-Stirling, J. (2018). State Power: Rethinking the Role of the State in Political Corporate Social Responsibility. *Journal of Business Ethics*, 150(1), 1–14.  
<http://www.jstor.org/stable/45022548>

Matten, D., & Crane, A. (2005). Corporate Citizenship: Toward an Extended Theoretical Conceptualization. *The Academy of Management Review*, 30(1), 166–179.  
<http://www.jstor.org/stable/20159101>

##### **b. Soft Power**

Nye, J. S. (1990). Soft Power. *Foreign Policy*, 80, 153–171. <https://doi.org/10.2307/1148580>

Nye, J. S. (2004). Soft Power and American Foreign Policy. *Political Science Quarterly*, 119(2), 255–270. <https://doi.org/10.2307/20202345>

Nye, J. S. (2008). Public Diplomacy and Soft Power. *The Annals of the American Academy of Political and Social Science*, 616, 94–109. <http://www.jstor.org/stable/25097996>

MUKHERJEE, R. (2014). THE FALSE PROMISE OF INDIA'S SOFT POWER. *Geopolitics, History, and International Relations*, 6(1), 46–62. <https://www.jstor.org/stable/26804932>

Dhruva Jaishankar: India Rising: Soft Power and the World's largest democracy  
<https://www.brookings.edu/articles/india-rising-soft-power-and-the-worlds-largest-democracy/>

**c. Global Terrorism**

Mary Ellen O'Connell (2005). Enhancing the Status of Non-State Actors through a Global War on Terror, Notre Dame Law School, [maryellenoconnell@nd.edu](mailto:maryellenoconnell@nd.edu)

Introduction to International Terrorism (2005). UNIVERSITY MODULE SERIES  
[https://www.unodc.org/documents/e4j/18-04932\\_CT\\_Mod\\_01\\_ebook\\_FINALpdf.pdf](https://www.unodc.org/documents/e4j/18-04932_CT_Mod_01_ebook_FINALpdf.pdf)

Wijninga, P., Oosterveld, W. T., Galdiga, J. H., Marten, P., Chivot, E., Gehem, M., Knowles, E., Maas, M., Schellekens, M., Silveira, J., Yang, M. Y., Zelinska, O., de Jong, S., Kogut, P., & van Luit, E. (2014). STATE AND NON-STATE ACTORS: BEYOND THE DICHOTOMY. In J. van Esch, F. Bekkers, S. De Spiegeleire, & T. Sweijs (Eds.), *STRATEGIC MONITOR 2014: FOUR STRATEGIC CHALLENGES* (pp. 139–162). Hague Centre for Strategic Studies.  
<http://www.jstor.org/stable/resrep12608.8>

**7. Application of Learning's (Throughout the Term)**

a. Role Play / Enacting the concepts/ ideas

The learners will play the character of thinkers/ philosophers or moot on topics in class.

**b. Reading, Writing and Publication Skills/ Meeting the mentors**

Experts and practitioners will be invited to impart essential skills of how to read the text, context and undercurrent ideas in various topics. They will also be trained about how to write a research paper, news editorials and procedures of publication.

**c. Training / Internship**

It is an optional activity for the learners to choose. They may associate with professional, administrative organisations and NGO working on governance or specialised in the areas as per the syllabus.

*(the course is revised in view of upcoming changes as per NEP)*

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