

**POLS 2100: Comparative Politics**  
**Department of Political Science**  
**University of Guelph**  
**Winter 2026**

**Credit Weighting: 0.50**

**Pre-/Co-Requisites: 2.00 credits - Must be completed prior to taking this course.**

**Restrictions: None**

**Instructor:** Dalal Daoud, Ph.D.

**E-Mail:** ddaoud@uoguelph.ca

**Class:** Mondays, Wednesdays, and Fridays 12:30 – 1:20

**Location:** ROZH 103

**Office Hours:** -

**General Details**

This course introduces students to the field of Comparative Politics. It begins by exploring key theoretical approaches: instrumentalism, institutionalism, and ideology. Subsequently, the course delves into central themes such as the state, regimes, democracy and democratization, nationalism and ethnicity, social movements and revolutions, and political economy. Throughout the course, empirical analysis and comparisons of various case studies are regularly employed to enhance students' grasp of the discussed themes and concepts.

**Learning Objectives**

- Explain the primary approaches in comparative politics.
- Understand key themes and concepts used by comparativists.
- Appreciate the value of the comparative method as a research tool.
- Develop transferable skills, including research, writing, analytical capacity, and critical thinking.

**Method of Assessment**

- Class attendance – 10%
- Midterm – 30 %
- Research proposal – 20%
- Final Exam – 40 %

**Course Readings**

Course readings will be made available on the course learning tool.