

PROPOSED COURSE ADDITION OR REVISION

Deadline for Area approval: 21 October 2011

Proposer: Kiril Kolev

Date: 9/6/2011

Department/Program: Politics and IR

Area: Social Science

Check appropriate boxes:

New permanent course

Replaces existing course:

Change to existing course:

New temporary course

Make temporary course permanent

Eliminate a course

Proposal – one sentence summary:

This course provides an overview of the emergence of the state and how states vary across the world in terms of their scope, strength, political institutions, economic performance, and incidence of violence.

Proposed subject code(s) (indicate both if cross-listing): POLI

Proposed course # or level: 271

Proposed course title: Theories of Comparative Politics

Proposed course catalog copy:

This course introduces students to the foundational theories of Comparative Politics and the contending perspectives within the discipline. It focuses on the creation and breakdown of political order, the establishment of democracy and dictatorship, as well as the effect of political regimes and their institutions on economic growth, development, poverty, inequality, civil unrest and revolutions

Prerequisites/co-requisites and/or recommended prior courses, as listed in catalog copy:

How will the proposed revision affect any catalog lists of options for majors or minors?

Students will be able to either select the currently offered POLI 251 (Theories of IR) or this course to satisfy one of three foundations courses within the IR major.

Rationale for course within departmental and collegiate context and based on assessment results:

Comparative Politics is one of four major fields in Political Science. The theories of this subfield are currently not taught as a separate course. Familiarization with them could serve well for students interested in the domestic side of international politics.

Proposed general education code(s) (check all that apply):

EA HP LS NS NS-L SB VA QS W1 FL [Curriculum Committee]

CW [CW Committee] W2 [Writing Across the Curriculum Committee]

Proposed Odyssey code(s) (check all that apply):

AC GA PL SW UR SP [CEL Committee/Curriculum Committee]

For each of the checked general education or Odyssey codes, describe how the course fulfills the published criteria (see the Catalog, pages 18-23 or the Odyssey Program Guide, pages 10-16):

SB – The course introduces students to rational and non-rational choice explanations of how states come about, how citizens and politicians behave and interact throughout different historical periods, across political regimes, and within institutional frameworks.

CW – Students will be exposed to contemporary world issues, such as democratization, development and public goods provision, violence and terrorism. They are required to stay informed about real-world events and make connections with the assigned theoretical material.

Justification for cross-listing:

How often will the course be offered? Once a year

Who will teach the course? Kiril Kolev

Equipment, supply, and bibliographic requirements (items and cost):

Will the above items be covered by a present budget? Yes No

Approval Chain (type name and date of approval)

Department chair: Jay Barth (10/4/11)

Area chair: Allison K. Shutt, 10/12/11