General Objective

The course will offer a comparative view of public administration in developed and developing countries. The course will place special emphasis on the roles and functions of government, markets and society in the development process. The course will cover different geographical regions such as North America, Europe, Latin America, Asia, and Africa. Finally, the students will explore the fundamental question of what would be the “right” balance between markets, government and social agents to serve better the public interest.

Specific Objectives

- To get acquainted with comparative analysis and methodologies
- To identify the issues that are key to PA across nations and cultures
- To define what is the role of PA in public policy and development
- To be able to evaluate PA performance regarding outcomes across nations

Required Books

The following books are required and can be purchased at the UTEP bookstore. In addition to the required books, there is a list of articles and book chapters selected by the professor to complement the readings for the course. There will be a reader available at Copy Miner located in the UTEP library with additional readings


Class format

The class will be conducted as a seminar and it is expected that the student will come prepared to class with the readings previously assigned. The professor’s role will be to introduce the topic with a brief lecture and identify key questions or topics that will guide the discussion. It is also expected that the student will submit questions to the professor and his/her fellow students prior to our class time; the questions should be as broad as possible such that they would open discussion or generate debate rather than be specific in nature.

For each class, a student will be assigned the role of finding an “interesting” reading and discussing it to complement the class discussion; the reading must be related to the subject matter of that particular class. There are different websites where the student can access a variety of journal articles. A list of websites appears below:

http://www.jstor.org/
http://www.ingenta.com/isis/authentication/Start/ingenta;jsessionid=1wxfyt6vf6jar.crescent
http://libraryweb.utep.edu/db/index.cfm

Grading

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Component</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
<th>Due Date</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Midterm take-home exam</td>
<td>25%</td>
<td>March 8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Literature Review*</td>
<td>20%</td>
<td>March 29</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Final Paper **</td>
<td>25%</td>
<td>April 19</td>
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<tr>
<td>Final exam (in class)</td>
<td>25%</td>
<td>May 3, 2005 (7:00-9:45 PM)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Class participation</td>
<td>5%</td>
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<td><strong>TOTAL</strong></td>
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< or = 60%   F
61% to 69%   D
70% to 79%   C
80% to 89%   B
≥ 90%        A

* Literature review on a topic that the student will select to conduct research. Guidelines will be provided during the assignment.

** Final paper will be empirical in nature. The student will gather data and test empirically a theory, hypothesis or research question identified during the semester. Instruction will be provided in advance.
Plagiarism (Read this disclaimer and avoid trouble!!!)

An unpleasant topic that we need to discuss is plagiarism. Briefly, plagiarism entails the use of other people’s words, songs, or images without their consent or without documentation. For the papers in this class, students must provide footnotes or endnotes for passages in the text that are borrowed or inspired by other person’s works. It is not hard to avoid plagiarizing -- if you use a quote from someone, acknowledge it in a footnote; if you paraphrase or summarize an argument, cite the source from where you got the idea. I recommend looking into a style manual such as the Style Manual for Political Science.

Special Circumstances

The University of Texas, El Paso encourages qualified persons with disabilities to participate in its programs and activities. If you anticipate needing any type of accommodation in this course or have questions about physical access, please tell the instructor as soon as possible. I will do my best to make special arrangements for students with any required special needs or conflicts as far as course lectures or test-taking circumstances. However, if you anticipate a particular requirement, let me know as soon as possible and preferably with a formal form from UTEP’s Disabled Student Services. I will always try to accommodate legitimate needs, but I am unlikely to accommodate last minute requests. Special circumstances include disabilities and any scheduled activities that you have that conflict with this class. If you do not notify me of conflicts early on, I am under no obligation to allow you a make-up exam or assignment extension.

Class schedule topics and readings:

Class Introduction (January 11)

What is comparative PA? (January 18 & 25)

JJ (Chapter 1)

HF (Chapter 1)


**Bureaucracies (Feb 1 & 8)**

(February 1)

JJ (Chapter 2)
HF (Chapters 8-10)


North, D. “An Introduction to Institutions and Institutional Change” *Institutions, Institutional Change and Economic Performance*. Cambridge University Press; Political Economy of Institutions and Decisions. (pp. 3-10)


(February 8)
HF (Chapter 2)


**Comparative Research Methods (Feb. 15 & 22)**

Theory (Feb. 15)

JJ (Chapter 3)


Neuman, W. L. 2003. “Historical-Comparative Research” *Social Research Methods: Qualitative and Quantitative Approaches*. Allyn & Bacon; Boston, MA. (pp. 402-437)

(Feb. 22)
Keehley, P; Medlin, S. & MacBride, S. “Preparing for Benchmarking” *Benchmarking for Best Practice in the Public Sector*. Jossey-Bass Publishers; San Francisco, CA (pp.17-92)

**Comparative Public Policy (March 1 & 8)**
March 1 (Midterm take-home exam is assigned)
JJ (Chapter 4)
HF (Chapter 3)

March 8  
(Midterm Exam is due)


**Administration of Developing Countries & Developed Systems (March 15)**
NOTE: Proposal for final paper is due
JJ (Chapter 5 & 6)
HF (Chapter 5, 6 & 7)

**Privatization (March 29 & April 5)**
March 29

April 5
SN (Part I plus Introduction)

**Decentralization (April 12)**
SN (Part III)

**Democratization (April 19)**
SN (Part II)

**Globalization and Comparative PA (April 26)**