

# Comparative Politics

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Last Updated: Mon, 01/05/2026

**Course prefix:** INTA

**Course number:** 3203

**Section:** A

**CRN**

22278

**Instructor first name:** Jennifer

**Instructor last name:** Hamilton

**Semester:** Spring

**Academic year:** 2026

**Course description:**

Comparative politics is a subfield of political science examining the distribution of power, its origins, and its implications within countries of study. This subfield includes the study of formal political institutions (e.g., legislatures) and informal political institutions (e.g., social norms). It also includes exploration of political attitudes, beliefs, and behaviors among both political elites and the general citizenry.

**Academic honesty/integrity statement:**

Per the Center for Teaching and Learning, “Georgia Tech aims to cultivate a community based on trust, academic integrity, and honor. Students are expected to act according to the highest ethical standards. Any student suspected of cheating or plagiarizing on a quiz, exam, or assignment will be reported to the Office of Student Integrity, which will investigate the incident and identify the appropriate penalty for violations. For more information on the Honor Code, visit the [OSI website](#).” If you are uncertain what constitutes a violation of academic integrity, please check with the instructor prior to submitting an assignment.

**AI Usage Policy.** You cannot use generative AI tools like ChatGPT or Gemini during this course for any purpose. Among other reasons, this policy arises from the belief that she who does the thinking does the learning – a proposition that [recent research](#) on student usage of generative AI supports. Students can use editing tools built into word processors to check subject-verb agreement, punctuation, spelling, etc. However, they cannot use Grammarly or other AI tools to write or rewrite entire sentences or paragraphs. Locating, understanding, and synthesizing information, as well as writing competently, are skills you must develop.

**Peer consultation.** You are welcome to brainstorm together for both the unit reflections and individual submission for groupwork. You must draft all submitted material independently, however. You may peer-review draft work or use university writing resources to check completed drafts.

**Previous coursework.** You cannot recycle work from other courses, either past or ongoing, either in part or in full, without permission from the instructor. I will consider these requests on a case-by-case basis based on compatibility with learning objectives.

**Core IMPACTS statement(s) (if applicable):**

This is a Core IMPACTS course that is part of the Social Sciences area.

Core IMPACTS refers to the core curriculum, which provides students with essential knowledge in foundational academic areas. This course will help master course content, and support students' broad academic and career goals.

This course should direct students toward a broad Orienting Question:

- How do I understand human experiences and connections?

Completion of this course should enable students to meet the following Learning Outcome:

- Students will effectively analyze the complexity of human behavior, and how historical, economic, political, social or geographic relationships develop, persist or change.

Course content, activities and exercises in this course should help students develop the following Career-Ready Competencies:

- Intercultural Competence
- Perspective-Taking
- Persuasion