Government 20: Foundations of Comparative Politics

Fall 2012

Thursday, 3 pm Emerson 318

Section Information

TF: Volha Charnysh vcharnysh@fas.harvard.edu Office Hours: Wednesdays, 10:00 -12:00 pm or by appointment in **E202** (1727 Cambridge st.)

Section Attendance: Please attend and engage in all sections. Section participation counts for **15%** of your grade. Barring an excuse *in advance*, missing a section will lower your participation grade. You may have to write a short response paper on the readings from that week to make up an *excused* absence.

Readings: You are expected to read *all* assigned materials for section every week. I may highlight the key readings, but you remain responsible for *all* assigned readings.

Papers: There are two short papers (5-7 pages) in the course. Due by email (vcharnysh@fas.harvard.edu) on **October 11** and **November 20** at **5 pm** (15 percent of grade each).

- Please come to my office hours to discuss writing strategies and paper ideas prior to
 the due date of the paper. I also encourage you to contact writing tutor Emily Clough
 for additional assistance with writing: clough@fas.harvard.edu
- While I cannot review drafts of papers, I can encourage you to come to my office hours to discuss your ideas and outlines *prior to the due date*.
- You are responsible to ensure that I received the paper.
- Late papers will be graded down one third of a letter grade (i.e. A to A-) for each 24-hour period they are late.
- I will not take any questions about paper grades until at least 24 hours after the papers have been returned.
- The papers are graded based on the strength of your *argument* and supporting *evidence*, not your ability to summarize.

Contacting Me: I hope each of you will come to my office hours at least once before the first paper is due. You do not have to have a particular question in mind. If the time of the office hours does not work for you, please schedule an appointment. I will try to respond to all emails within **48 hours**.

Laptops: You may *not* use laptops during section. If you need to have lecture notes on hand, I ask that you print them out before section time. You should feel free to take notes on paper.

Plagiarism: You are encouraged to consult with classmates regarding paper topics and share sources. However, all written work must be your own. You *must cite all* sources using standard citation practices. If you receive writing help, you must acknowledge this assistance.