

## UMBC UGC Instructions for New Course Request Form (revised 4/2016)

**Course number & title:** Enter the number and title of the course at the top of the page. Contact the Registrar's Office to confirm that the desired course number is available.

**Date submitted:** The date that the form will be submitted to the UGC.

**Effective date:** The semester the new course is in effect, if approved.

**Contact information:** Provide the contact information of the Chair or UPD of the department or program housing the course. If the course is not housed in a department or program, then provide the same information for the head of the appropriate academic unit. (See UGC Procedures) If another faculty member should also be contacted for questions about the request and be notified about UGC actions on the request, include that person's contact information on the second line.

**Course number:** For cross-listed courses, provide all the numbers for the new course.

**Transcript title:** Limited to 30 characters, including spaces.

**Recommended Course Preparation:** *Please note that all 300 and 400 level courses should have either recommended course preparation(s) or prerequisite(s) and that 100 or 200 level courses may have them.*

Here fill in what previous course(s) a student should have taken to succeed in the course. These recommendations will NOT be enforced by the registration system. Please explain your choices in the "rationale" (discussed below).

**Prerequisite:** *Please note that all 300 and 400 level courses should have either recommended course preparation(s) or prerequisite(s)* Here fill in course(s) students need to have taken before they enroll in this course. These prerequisites will be enforced through the registration system. Please explain your choices in the "rationale" (discussed below).

**NOTE:** Please use the words "AND" and "OR", along with parentheses as appropriate, in the lists of prerequisites and recommended preparation so that the requirements specified will be interpreted unambiguously.

**NOTE:** Unless otherwise indicated, a prerequisite is assumed to be passed with a "D" or better.

**# of credits:** To determine the appropriate number of credits to assign to a course please refer to the [UMBC Credit Hour Policy](#) which articulates the standards for assignment and application of credit hours to all courses and programs of study at UMBC regardless of degree level, teaching and learning formats, and mode of instruction.

**Maximum total credits:** This should be equal to the number of credits for courses that cannot be repeated for credit. For courses that may be repeated for credit, enter the maximum total number of credits a student can receive from this course. E.g., enter 6 credits for a 3 credit course that may be taken a second time for credit, but not for a third time. Please note that this does NOT refer to how many times a class may be retaken for a higher grade.

**Grading method(s):** Check all that apply.

**Proposed catalog description:** Provide the exact wording of the course description as it will appear in the next undergraduate catalog. Course proposals should be a) no longer than 75 words, b) stated in declarative sentences in language accessible to students, and c) avoid reference to specific details that may not always pertain (e.g., dates, events, etc.). Course descriptions should not repeat information about prerequisites (which are always listed alongside the course description)."

**Rationale:** Please explain the following:

- a) Why is there a need for this course at this time?
- b) How often is the course likely to be taught?
- c) How does this course fit into your department's curriculum?
- d) What primary student population will the course serve?
- e) Why is the course offered at the level (ie. 100, 200, 300, or 400 level) chosen?
- f) Explain the appropriateness of the recommended course preparation(s) and prerequisite(s).
- g) Explain the reasoning behind the P/F or regular grading method.
- h) Provide a justification for the repeatability of the course.

**Cross-listed courses:** Requests to create cross-listed courses must be accompanied by letters of support via email from all involved department chairs. Proposals for new courses or the addition of a cross-listing to an existing course must include as a part of the rationale the specific reason why cross-listing is appropriate. Email from all involved department chairs is also required when cross-listing is removed and when a cross-listed course is discontinued. Please note that Special Topics courses cannot be cross-listed.

**Course Outline:** Provide a syllabus with main topics and a weekly assignment schedule which includes complete citations for readings with page numbers as appropriate. Explain how students' knowledge and skills will be assessed.

*Note: the UGC form is a Microsoft Word form. You should be able to enter most of the information by tabbing through the fields. The document is protected. In the rare case that you need to unprotect the document, use the password 'ugcform'. Beware that you will lose all the data entered in the form's fields if you unlock and lock the document.*

## UMBC UGC New Course Request: POLI 361: Comparative Political Analysis

Date Submitted: 9/28/2016

Proposed Effective Date: Spring 2017

	Name	Email	Phone	Dept
Dept Chair or UPD	Cynthia Hody	hody@umbc.edu	5-2193	POLI
Other Contact	Carolyn Forestiere	forestie@umbc.edu	5-8160	POLI

### COURSE INFORMATION:

Course Number(s)	POLI 361
Formal Title	Comparative Political Analysis
Transcript Title (≤30c)	Compritive Poli Analysis
Recommended Course Preparation	POLI 260
Prerequisite <b>NOTE:</b> Unless otherwise indicated, a prerequisite is assumed to be passed with a "D" or better.	
# of Credits Must adhere to the <a href="#">UMBC Credit Hour Policy</a>	3
Repeatable?	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No (not repeatable)
Max. Total Credits	3 <small>This should be equal to the number of credits for courses that cannot be repeated for credit. For courses that may be repeated for credit, enter the maximum total number of credits a student can receive from this course. E.g., enter 6 credits for a 3 credit course that may be taken a second time for credit, but not for a third time. Please note that this does NOT refer to how many times a class may be retaken for a higher grade.</small>
Grading Method(s)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Reg (A-F) <input type="checkbox"/> Audit <input type="checkbox"/> Pass-Fail

### PROPOSED CATALOG DESCRIPTION (no longer than 75 words):

The goal of this course is to immerse students in the key theoretical frameworks and analytical methods that dominate the current field of comparative politics. The course is organized by theme, rather than by country or general geographical region. It is intended to be a continuation of POLI 260, where students attained a basic understanding of the fundamental concepts in comparative politics. This course offers the same content as [POLI 360](#); however, the two courses offer different assessment methods. Therefore, students who choose to take POLI 361 MAY NOT subsequently take POLI 360

### RATIONALE FOR NEW COURSE:

The content of this course is exactly the same as POLI 360, but with a different grading method. POLI 360 is currently a "W" course; thus the assessment method in that course involves numerous papers that are turned in during the semester, returned by the professor with comments, and then resubmitted with changes by students. POLI 361 will use the same content as POLI 360, but utilize a test-based grading method (midterm/final). There

will be a research paper that students will complete at the end of the term in POLI 361, but it will not be as much writing as a traditional “W” course.

The availability of both POLI 360 and POLI 361 will provide the instructors who teach the course the opportunity to utilize different evaluation methods in the classroom. POLI 360 will remain a “W” course while POLI 361 will be a more ‘traditional’ course. It will involve some writing, but certainly not as much as POLI 360 currently requires.

Two sections of POLI 360 (30 students each) are typically taught each spring. POLI 360 is usually full since the course can be utilized not only as upper level credit for the Political Science major but also for the International Affairs minor within the Department of Political Science. Students who major in Global Studies have also taken the course in the past. It is expected that future students who wish to take POLI 360 will enroll in POLI 361 when it is offered (because the course content is the same).

The course is meant to be a continuation of POLI 260, which is Political Science’s ‘gateway’ course in Comparative Politics. POLI 360 and POLI 361 provide more advanced material in Comparative Politics, which means that students who take POLI 360 or POLI 361 should have completed or have received credit for POLI 260 first.

The course cannot be repeated for credit. Once a student takes POLI 360, he or she cannot take POLI 361 and vice versa. In addition, students cannot repeat POLI 360 or POLI 361 for additional credit.

\*Also, please note that I will be submitting changes to the catalog’s description of POLI 360, which is out of date. It will be very similar to the description of POLI 361.

**ATTACH COURSE OUTLINE (mandatory):**

<b>Reading per week: numbers indicate the number of readings assigned per chapter each week</b>
<b>Getting set up and Chapter 1: What is Comparative Politics</b>
<b>Chapter 2: The State (5)</b>
<b>Chapter 3: Nations and Society (4)</b>
<b>Chapter 4: Political Economy (5)</b>
<b>Chapter 5: Democratic Regimes (5)</b>
<b>Chapter 6: Nondemocratic Regimes (4)</b>
<b>Midterm</b>
<b>SPRING BREAK</b>
<b>Chapter 7: Political Violence (5)</b>
<b>Chapter 8: Advanced Democracies (6)</b>
<b>Chapter 9: Communism and Post-Communism (6)</b>
<b>Chapter 10: Less-Developed / Newly Industrializing Countries (5)</b>
<b>Chapter 11: Globalization (4)</b>
<b>In class presentations</b>
<b>In class presentations</b>
<b>Final Exam</b>