

Lecture 1: August 22, 2022

First Week Agenda

► Today

- Introductions
- Course topic overview
- Course policies
- Questions

► No class Wednesday

- Sign up for assignment dates
- Pre-class survey
- Reading and Discussion Post in Blackboard

Introductions

- ▶ Name
- ▶ Major/minor
- ▶ Something interesting about you - hobby, favorite movie/TV show/band/comedian/organized crime figure (politician)/fictional character

Course Topic Overview

- ▶ What is politics?
- ▶ What is political science?
 - Difference between political science and political theory (philosophy)
 - Difference between political science and economics
 - Difference between political science and sociology, social psychology
- ▶ What is the comparative method of political science?

Course Topic Overview - Subtopics

- ▶ Institutions: Electoral Systems, Party Systems, Constraints on the Executive
- ▶ Types of Governments: Democracy, Dictatorship, Hybrid Regimes
- ▶ Democratization and Democratic Backsliding
- ▶ Economic Development and Modernization
- ▶ Regional/National, Cultural Explanations
- ▶ Conflict, Trade, and Globalization
- ▶ Corruption and Repression

Course Policies