

Midterm (mock-up)

*NOTE!!! This is not the real midterm!!! You are not required to complete it and it will not be graded!!! This "mock-up" midterm exam replicates the real one, which will take place on **October 21, 2016** during your regular lecture hours. Use this exam to prepare for the October, 21 midterm.*

Multiple choice (correct answers on p.4)

5 out of 15 (0.5p. per question). Answer **ALL** ten questions in this section.

1. What was the influence of rational-choice theory on comparative politics?

** Approaches to Comp Politics*

- a. Rational choice theories ended the dominance of behavioural approaches
- b. Rational choice theories opened the door for theories of modernization.
- c. Rational choice theories were at the origin of policy analysis.
- d. Rational choice theories made the strictly individualistic approach the dominating one.

2. Which of the five "I"s is the root of comparative politics?

** Approaches to Comp Politics*

- a. Institutions
- b. Interests
- c. Ideas
- d. International environment

3. In which unitary states have there been processes of devolution?

** Regions and regional politics*

- a. UK, Spain
- b. Canada, Belgium
- c. Italy, France
- d. UK, Canada

4. What does the principle of subsidiarity postulate?

** Federal and Local Governments*

- a. Communities should be given the right to experiment with their own policies.
- b. Political symmetry should be accompanied by administrative symmetry.
- c. Central grants should be less earmarked and more general.
- d. Local policies should be decided at the appropriate level.

5. What is the main disadvantage of the institutionalist approaches?

** Approaches to Comp Politics*

- a. They are relatively weak in explaining change.
- b. They are weak in explaining policy-outcomes.
- c. They are inaccessible to triangulation.
- d. They are often blinders for new innovative research approaches.

6. Which party type is most similar to the US parties?

* *Political Parties*

- a. Catch all parties
- b. Mass parties
- c. Cadre or elite parties
- d. Cartel parties

7. In opposition to administrative regions, political regions:

* *Federal and Local governments*

- a. Have their own regional party.
- b. Have their own elected regional assemblies.
- c. Form a separate constituency.
- d. Have significant political, but no budgetary competences.

8. What is meant by global constitutionalism?

* *Constitutions & judiciaries*

- a. The increasing relevance of global human rights.
- b. The increasing importance of constitutional courts in processes of democratization.
- c. The global trend towards type 3 constitutions.
- d. The common practice of constitutional courts to cite decisions of other constitutional courts.

9. What is a Congress?

* *Legislatures*

- a. The legislature within a parliamentary system.
- b. The legislature within a fused-power system.
- c. The legislature within a presidential system.
- d. The legislature within a semi-presidential system.

10. From which cleavage did the left-right alignment emerge?

* *Political parties*

- a. From the workers-employers cleavage.
- b. From the rural-urban cleavage.
- c. From the centre-periphery cleavage.
- d. From the materialism-post-materialism cleavage.

Terminology

5 out of 15 (or 1p. per question). Answer **ALL FIVE** questions. (1-4 sentences each answer)

1. Explain the **cultural approach** to regionalism.
2. What are the **three waves of democratization** (according to S.Huntington)?
3. Explain **the unified** and **divided** government?
4. Define the **cartel** party?
5. What are **decetralist** and **centripetal** democracies?

Short essay

5 out of 15 (or 2,5 per question). Choose **ANY TWO** questions. In 2-3 paragraphs explain the chosen aspects of comparative political analysis. If possible, support your statements with empirical evidence (e.g. examples of countries in which the discussed phenomenon is prominent).

1. In your opinion, what are the most important factors of **sustainable democratic development**? What makes democratic institutions stable? Support your argument with factual evidence from different cases (your choice).
2. **Unitary** and **federal** states have more in common than it seems at first glance. What accounts for this?
3. Do political parties play the same role in **new democracies** as in the **established democracies**?
4. What are the differences between **separation-of-power** and **fused-power** systems?

Correct answers (Multiple choice)

1.a.

2.a.

3.a.

4.d.

5.a.

6.c.

7.b.

8.a.

9.c.

10.a.