

# COURSE DETAIL

## THE AMERICAN MODEL OF CAPITALISM FROM A COMPARATIVE POLITICAL ECONOMY PERSPECTIVE

**Country**

Germany

**Host Institution**

Free University of Berlin

**Program(s)**

Free University Berlin

**UCEAP Course Level**

Upper Division

**UCEAP Subject Area(s)**

Sociology Political Science Economics American Studies

**UCEAP Course Number**

138

**UCEAP Course Suffix**

M

**UCEAP Official Title**

THE AMERICAN MODEL OF CAPITALISM FROM A COMPARATIVE POLITICAL ECONOMY PERSPECTIVE

**UCEAP Transcript Title**

AM CAPITALISM COMP

**UCEAP Quarter Units**

4.50

**UCEAP Semester Units**

3.00

**Course Description**

This course examines the unique political economy of the United States in drawing primarily—but not exclusively—on comparative political economy (CPE) scholarship to explore how the American economy functions, how it compares to its (mainly European) peers, and why it remains so. The course consists of three interconnected main parts. The first part discusses the basic logic behind the comparative analysis of capitalism and trace the ideational roots of contemporary approaches in comparative political economy, providing a foundational understanding of key debates in CPE. The second and third part of the seminar are dedicated to the dominant theoretical frameworks for the comparative analysis of capitalism in the last decades, with a particular focus on the United States. By integrating theoretical perspectives with in-depth comparative analysis, this course equips students with the tools to critically assess the evolution of the American model of capitalism, engage critically with contemporary economic challenges, and understand how national political economies mediate and respond to the global forces shaping today's capitalism.

**Language(s) of Instruction**

English

**Host Institution Course Number**

32602

**Host Institution Course Title**

E PLURIBUS UNUM? THE AMERICAN MODEL OF CAPITALISM FROM A COMPARATIVE POLITICAL ECONOMY PERSPECTIVE

**Host Institution Course Details**

<https://www.fu-berlin.de/vv/en/lv/995290?m=361395&pc=701222&sm=934771>

**Host Institution Campus**

**Host Institution Faculty**

**Host Institution Degree**

**Host Institution Department**

John-F-Kennedy-Institut für Nordamerikastudien

**Course Last Reviewed**

2025-2026

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