

# COURSE DETAIL

## COMPARATIVE URBAN POLITICS

**Country**

France

**Host Institution**

University of Bordeaux

**Program(s)**

University of Bordeaux

**UCEAP Course Level**

Upper Division

**UCEAP Subject Area(s)**

Political Science

**UCEAP Course Number**

131

**UCEAP Course Suffix****UCEAP Official Title**

COMPARATIVE URBAN POLITICS

**UCEAP Transcript Title**

COMP URBAN POLITICS

**UCEAP Quarter Units**

3.50

**UCEAP Semester Units**

2.30

## Course Description

This course examines comparative politics through the prism of cities, analyzing how urban spaces both drive and reflect political and socio-economic transformations. Drawing on historical sociology, it reinterprets foundational political processes—such as the monopolization of violence and the construction of national authority—through the perspective of urbanization and state-city relations. The course explores diverse urban political traditions in Europe and around the world, comparing how historical and contemporary urban dynamics reshape political societies. Key topics include denationalization and decentralization, the rise of informality, extended urbanization, shifts in welfare provision and solidarity, the transformation of trust networks, and the political implications of environmental change. Throughout the semester, students read and are (re)introduced to the works of some of the main social scientists of the twentieth and twenty-first centuries, including Max Weber, Norbert Elias, Fernand Braudel, Saskia Sassen, Diane Davis, Charles Tilly, Shmuel Eisenstadt, and Michel Foucault.

## Language(s) of Instruction

English

## Host Institution Course Number

## Host Institution Course Title

COMPARATIVE URBAN POLITICS

## Host Institution Course Details

<https://www.sciencespobordeaux.fr/fr/international-students-and-programs/progra...>

## Host Institution Campus

Sciences Po Bordeaux

## Host Institution Faculty

## Host Institution Degree

**Host Institution Department**

**Course Last Reviewed**

2025-2026

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