

Executing the method of Controlled Comparison

In week 1, we learned that the defining method of comparative politics is the controlled comparison. For the final project you will select two countries (10 points) and compare three features of LGBTQI politics (10 points). Your final project will be submitted in the form of a powerpoint presentation (30 points). The total project is worth 50 points.

Assignment 1: Selecting cases

For this project you must select two different countries that will allow you to execute a controlled comparison. Remember that the purpose of comparison is to explain why something is different or how something happens. You will submit a brief written assignment via Canvas to justify why you are comparing these two countries. For help, review the week 1 powerpoint.

DUE: July 29th at 11:59pm

Grade	Description
A (10)	Two countries clearly identified. Justification is 7-10 sentences. Sources are provided.
B (8.5)	Two countries clearly identified. Justification is 5-7 sentences. Sources may/may not be provided.
C (7.5)	Two countries identified. Justification is too short. Sources may/may not be provided
D (7)	Two countries identified. Justification is too short. Sources are not provided

Assignment 2: Selecting themes

Once you have selected your cases, you will need to dig into the areas that you would like to compare and use to explain your argument. Potential themes are listed below. You will submit a brief written assignment via Canvas. You need to identify the themes you want to study and explain why these themes fit your cases.

Potential Themes:

- National level LGBTQI organization
- Specific policy
 - See [ILGA World](#) for the main LGBTQI policies
- Out representatives
 - See [LGBTQ Rights and Representation Project](#)
- Legal case/court case decisions
- International network
- Backlash events/networks

Social movement repertoires of contention or policy frame

DUE: August 3rd at 11:59pm

Grade	Description
A (10)	Three themes identified. Justification is 7-10 sentences. Sources are provided.
B (8.5)	Three themes identified. Justification is 5-7 sentences. Sources may/may not be provided.
C (7.5)	Only two themes identified and/or justification is too short. Sources may/may not be provided
D (7)	Two or fewer themes identified and justification is too short. Sources are not provided

Assignment 3: Final Presentation

You will now create a powerpoint presentation (20 slides max) which presents your case justification, themes, and argument. You are encouraged to use pictures, graphs, and other visual aids in your presentation. Students will present via the online classroom OR record themselves presenting and submit that recording.

Tips on formatting powerpoint slides: <https://cft.vanderbilt.edu/guides-sub-pages/making-better-powerpoint-presentations/> ; <https://alum.mit.edu/best-practices-powerpoint-presentations>

DUE: August 12th at 5pm

Grade	Information	Visual/Format	Presentation
A (27-30)	Strong case and theme justification Strong comparative analysis. Clear argument or theory presented.	Consistent theme is used. Colors and font are readable. Visual aids are used.	The presentation is engaging, informative, and connects to course material.
B (24-26.9)	Case and theme justification present but not very strong. Comparative analysis present but not very strong. Argument or theory is not clear.	Consistent theme is used. Colors and font are used. Visual aids are missing/unclear.	The presentation is informative and connects to course material.
C (21-23.9)	Case and theme justification are insufficient. Comparative analysis is superficial. Argument and theory are not present.	Theme is inconsistent. Colors/fonts are not readable. Visual aids are missing.	The presentation is informative but doesn't connect to course material.
D (20 or lower)	None of the required pieces are identified but the student has attempted to provide information on the topic.	No formatting efforts were made. OR Formatting is too distracting.	The presentation is unclear and doesn't connect to course material.