Advanced Placement Comparative Government and Politics

Mrs. Stafstrom

Units of Study

1. **Introduction to Comparative Politics** (2 weeks)
   1. Core Concepts/ideas: How/why we compare (methodology), normative v. empirical, nation, state, subnationals, government, legitimacy, NGOs, regime, globalization, democratization, demography, causation v. corrlelation
   2. Readings: Hauss Chapter 1, *Jihad v. McWorld*, AP Briefing Paper on Globalization
   3. Activities: Pre-test for Comparative Politics, types of comparison, introduction to the six countries
   4. Quest
2. **Industrialized Democracies** (3 weeks) Great Britain, European Union
   1. Core Concepts/ideas: dual executives, parliamentary system, unitary, devolution, supranational governance, proportional representation, referendum, democratic deficit, regional government, political cleavages, corporatism, two party system.
   2. Readings: Hauss Chapter 2, Industrialized Democracies, Chapter 4 Great Britain, Soe, Studlar, *A Constitutional Revolution on the United Kingdom.*
   3. Activities: Prime Minister’s Question Hour, introduction to FR
   4. TEST (Units I and II)
3. **Current and Former Communist Countries** ( 3 weeks) Russia, China
   1. Core Concepts/ideas: communism, Marxism, totalitarianism, democratic centralism, Leninism, socialism, legitimacy, rule of law, illiberal democracy, oligarchy, political change, economic change, privatization, mixed presidential/parliamentary, foreign direct investment (FID), parastatl, , civil society, multiparty system, one party system.
   2. Readings: Hauss Chapter 8, Current and Former Communist Countries, Hauss Chapter 9, Russia, Hauss Chapter 10, China, AP Briefing Papers on Democratization and Revolution
   3. Activities: Debate: Are Vladimir Putin’s Changes Positive or Negative for Russia, FR activities
   4. TEST (Unit III)
4. **Third World Countries** (6 weeks) Iran, Nigeria and Mexico
   1. Core Concepts/ideas: development, gini index, income distribution, patron client politics, corruption, structural adjustment, import substitution, debt, IMF/World Bank, microcredit, nongovernmental organizations, rentier state, camarilla, coup d”etat, military rule, theocracy, bonyad, fundamentalism, sharia, OPEC, transparency, one party dominant system, gender issues
   2. Readings: Hauss, Chapter 11, The Third World, Chapter 13, Iran, Chapter 15, Nigeria, Chapter 16, Mexico, AP Briefing Papers on Iran, Nigeria and Mexico, revisit *Jihad v. Mcworld*
   3. Activities: Using data to study development
   4. TEST (Unit IV)
5. **Reviews for AP United States and Comparative Tests** (2 weeks)
6. **Post Test** UN simulation, movie and visitors (?) (2 weeks)