

AP Comparative Politics Summer Assignment 2018

AP Comparative Government and Politics offer students an exciting entrée into understanding a little bit more about the possibilities of, as well as the barriers to, individual opportunity and community development for people who live thousands of miles away, speak a different language, and exist in a very different culture. Students will be introduced to conceptual and analytical frameworks so that they can begin to generalize and compare. If we want to know why democracies thrive in some societies but not in others; if we want students to start to grasp the conditions that must exist for the creation of effective civil society; if we want to move beyond Superficialities about the “McDonaldization” of the globe to the more enduring impacts of globalization, then our ask is clear. Students will master knowledge about the particulars of countries and nations, but also develop the analytical skills to make comparisons and generalize from these discrete sets of facts and observations students will learn to think like political scientists, in the context of a comparative government and politics course.

AP Comparative Government and Politics introduces students to the rich diversity of political life outside the United States. The course uses a comparative approach to examine the political structures; policies; and the political, economic, and social challenges among six selected countries: Great Britain, Mexico, Russia, Iran, China, and Nigeria. Additionally, students examine how different governments solve similar problems by comparing the effectiveness of approaches to many global issues.

Students successfully completing this course will be able to:

- Define and describe major comparative concepts
- Support generalizations with relevant factual information pertaining to the governments and politics of China, Great Britain, Iran, Mexico, Nigeria and Russia
- Analyze typical patterns of political processes and behavior and their consequences
- Compare and contrast political institutions and processes across countries
- Analyze and interpret basic data relevant to comparative government and politics

Using the seven core countries - Great Britain, Mexico, Russia, United States, Iran, China, and Nigeria - as case studies, the AP teacher can help students move from an abstract definition of concepts to concrete examples and applications.

The course will include the following six topics:

- Introduction to Comparative Politics
- Sovereignty, Authority, and Power

- Political Institutions
- Citizens, Society, and the State
- Political and Economic Change
- Public Policy

Remember you have chosen to take this college level course and will be expected to do college level work.

Assignment Part 1

Read *What Democracy is and is not* By Philippe C. Schmitter and Terry Lynn Karl, Create a chart that illustrates what a democracy is and what it is not based off of examples from the text.

<http://www.bu.edu/washington/files/2015/01/Schmitter-and-Lynn-What-Democracy-Is-and-Is-Not.pdf>

Assignment Part 2

Read *Democratization Briefing Paper*-**outline and pull out all key bolded terms in this important paper and define.**

http://apcentral.collegeboard.com/apc/public/repository/ap05_comp_govpol_demo_42252.pdf

Assignment Part 3

Read *Globalization Briefing Paper*- **outline and pull out all key bolded terms in this important paper and define.**

http://apcentral.collegeboard.com/apc/public/repository/ap05_comp_govpol_glob_42253.pdf

Assignment Part 4

Define Key Terms

1. Authoritarianism
2. Bicameral
3. Bureaucracy
4. Checks and Balances
5. Civil Liberties
6. Civil Rights
7. Civil Society
8. Cleavage
9. Communism
10. Confederation
11. Democratization
12. Devolution
13. Direct Democracy
14. Executive Branch
15. Fascism
16. Federalism
17. Government
18. Head of Government
19. Head of State
20. Illiberal Democracy
21. Imperialism
22. Indirect Democracy
23. Judiciary
24. Judicial Review
25. Legislative Branch
26. Military Junta
27. Cout d'etat
28. Liberal Democracy
29. Nation
30. Nation-state
31. Nationalization
32. Parliamentary System

**33. Patron-Client System 32. Political Culture 33. Political Efficacy 34. Politics
35. Power 36. Presidential System 37. Privatization 38. Proportional Representation 39.
Referendum 40. Regime 41. Republic 42. Rule of Law 43. Socialism 44. Separation of
Powers 45. Sovereignty 46. State 47. Theocracy 48. Totalitarianism 49. Unicameral
50. Unitary System**

This assignment is due on the first full day of classes, Monday September 10. It will count as your first quiz grade of the quarter. There will be no exceptions to this due date, nor will extensions be granted.

Please complete the assignment via Google docs attached to your St. Anthony's email account. When schedules are given out, the assignment can be shared with the appropriate AP Comparative Politics teacher. Paper copies are not sufficient for submission and will not be accepted. Please be sure to allow edits and comments when sharing with the appropriate teacher. Email any questions to slewis@stanthonyshs.org and responses will be generated in a timely manner. Thank you and enjoy your summer.