



AP Comparative Government and Politics (semester 1)

AP US Government and Politics (semester 2)

2023-2024

Mr. Bhatt – Room H105

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FIRST: WELCOME TO AP COMPARATIVE GOVERNMENT & POLITICS / AP US GOVERNMENT & POLITICS! I am looking forward to a fantastic school year. Our year-long class will provide you with the ability to analyze, study, discuss and interact with content from within our ever-changing GLOBAL economic, social, and political landscape. We will learn how to become political scientists and examine past, current and future implications with the largest of lenses. Please review the critical information below about our class.

**Modes of Instruction**

- In addition to in-person instruction, assignments will be posted on Google Classroom. Assignments on Google Classroom should be turned in through that platform unless otherwise stated.
- The easiest way to access the tools you will need is through Class Link, as it saves all your logins. The login for Class Link, your Office 365 school e-mail, and Google Classroom is the same.

**AP Classroom**

- Go to College Board’s website and login: <https://myap.collegeboard.org/>
- Select AP Students
- Select Yellow Button to Add a Class
- Enter the Class code for our class period (will be provided in class)

**Course Sequence and Overview**

FALL – AP COMPARATIVE GOVERNMENT & POLITICS	SPRING - AP U.S. GOVERNMENT & POLITICS
<p><b>Units &amp; Standards</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 5 Big Ideas within each unit:               <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Power &amp; Authority</li> <li>○ Legitimacy and Stability</li> <li>○ Democratization</li> <li>○ Internal/External Forces</li> <li>○ Methods of Political Analysis</li> </ul> </li> <li>• Political Systems, Regimes, and Government</li> <li>• The following units will be studied by looking at the following 6 Case Study Countries:               <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ The United Kingdom, Mexico, Nigeria, Russia, China, Iran</li> <li>○ Case studies include: political institutions, political culture and participation, party and electoral systems, citizen organizations, political and economic developments</li> </ul> </li> </ul>	<p><b>Units &amp; Standards</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 5 Big Ideas within each unit:               <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Constitutionalism</li> <li>○ Liberty and Order</li> <li>○ Civic participation in a Representative Democracy</li> <li>○ Competing Policy-making Interests</li> <li>○ Methods of Political Analysis</li> </ul> </li> <li>• Foundations of American Democracy</li> <li>• Interactions Among Branches of Government</li> <li>• Civil Liberties and Civil Rights</li> <li>• American Political Ideologies and Beliefs</li> <li>• Political Participation</li> <li>• Concepts and Case Studies from 1<sup>st</sup> Semester Comparative Government will be used to enhance 2<sup>nd</sup> semester units and standards.</li> </ul>

\*NOTE: Please be advised that this course has cross integration with content material. While the majority of instruction during our Fall Semester will be Comparative Government, there will be some integration of US Government standards and content. The opposite is true for Spring semester as well. This will be mostly visible when there are important current events occurring. Assignments and assessments calendar will be accessible through Google Classroom.

## Online Textbooks

- Course keys will be provided in class
- Cengage – Introduction to Comparative Politics: Political Challenges and Changing Agendas – Kesselman, Krieger and Joseph
  - Student Digital Access: <https://nglsync.cengage.com/register/>
- American Government: Stories of Nation for the AP Course – Abernathy and Waples
  - Student Digital Access: <https://www.highschool.bfwpub.com/launchpad/amgov1e/17842614>

## Required Materials

1. Chromebook + Charger: this should be brought with you to school, fully charged, daily. Be prepared with pen and paper in case of technical issues
2. Comparative Government Textbook (1<sup>st</sup> Semester) / US Government Textbook (2<sup>nd</sup> Semester): Online access is available, physical textbook may be left at home
3. US Government Court Cases and Foundational Documents Reader (2<sup>nd</sup> Semester): Online access is available, physical book may be left at home

## Class Procedures

- Entering and Exiting the Classroom:
  - Upon entering, you will take your assigned seat respectfully. Sanitizing wipes will be readily available if you wish to wipe down your desk
  - Be mindful and respectful of students and classrooms surrounding ours, as you enter our classroom
  - Upon exiting the classroom, throw away any trash on or below your desk
- During Direct Instruction:
  - Class will normally begin with a bellringer – when the bell rings, you are expected to begin
  - If the instructor is presenting new information (in the form of a structured lesson or lecture) you will not be released unless there is an emergency.
  - Do not hesitate to ask any and all questions. Be sure to raise your hand and be respectful of the person who is speaking (instructor or fellow students)
  - Side conversations and other distracting or disrespectful behavior will not be tolerated
- During Individual or Group Work:
  - If you are working on your computer, you will be expected to work on the task assigned
  - You should not be on another tab, on any inappropriate websites or apps, or working on assignments from another class
  - If you have finished your work early, you will be expected to work on homework/reading first
  - During collaborative work, be respectful of your group members and be sure to contribute equitably. Group members who do not collaborate and/or contribute, will be marked down accordingly

## Grading Policies

Classwork – 20% of Grade	Formative Assessment – 20% of Grade	Summative Assessment – 60% of Grade
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Bellringers</li><li>• Participation/Notes</li><li>• Quick-Writes</li><li>• Polls/Exit tickets</li><li>• Discussions</li><li>• Exam Practice</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Video Quizzes</li><li>• Reading Quizzes</li><li>• Practice Multiple Choice</li><li>• Practice Free Response</li><li>• Document Based Assessments</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Unit Exams</li><li>• Mid-Terms</li><li>• Projects</li><li>• Final Exam</li></ul>

## **Class Expectations**

- **Attendance & Make-Up Work Policy:**
  - Attendance to our class is expected. Remember, this is a college-level course. Each day's activities, discussions, and elements are geared to best prepare our class for BOTH AP EXAMS
  - Attending class late will lead to being marked LATE. Repeated tardy marks will negatively impact your grade (bellringers will be incomplete, amongst other critical information discussed at the beginning of class). Repeated tardiness will lead to parent contact and possible administrative intervention.
  - For any EXCUSED Absence, you will have the same number of days absent to make up the work you missed
  - For any UNEXCUSED absence, the instructor will allow for make ups on a case-by-case basis and only if the student has reached out first
  - Late work is not accepted unless a student has received an extension PRIOR to the Due Date.
  - If an assignment is submitted as make-up, you MUST e-mail the instructor to inform them it has been submitted
- **Academic Honesty:**
  - Plagiarism and cheating of any kind will NOT be tolerated
  - This includes, but is not limited to:
    - copying a classmates' notes, assignments, etc. and using it as your own
    - using prohibited devices on quizzes and exams; looking at other classmates' answers with the purpose of using or reshaping answers as your own. Cell phones must be turned off and placed in backpack during assessments. Any use of an electronic device without express permission during an exam will result in an automatic 0 score
    - any student who has been shown to have plagiarized an assignment or cheated in any way, will be given an automatic zero on that assignment. Parent contact and administrative intervention will also be pursued
- **Controversial Issues:**
  - We will discuss controversial issues in this class constantly
  - This is a Government and Politics course, and you will be exposed to various beliefs and viewpoints that may not necessarily match your own
  - You will be expected to be respectful and civil towards your classmates and instructor, regardless of how you may feel about a particular topic; POSITIVITY only, no bullying, intimidation, putting others down, or judgements for differences in opinions
  - Inform me IMMEDIATELY if a specific topic makes you feel uncomfortable, and arrangements will be made for an alternate assignment

## **THE AP EXAMS**

- You will be prepared to take TWO AP EXAMS
  - AP Comparative Government and Politics: Week 2 of AP testing (register on MY AP in November)
  - AP US Government and Politics: Week 1 of AP testing (register on MY AP in November)

\*Students are NOT required to take the exam to take this course and they will not be penalized in any way if they choose to not take the exam

**View the following links for information regarding the AP Course Exam and Description (CED) – Scoring Details Included:**

- AP Comparative Government and Politics: <https://apcentral.collegeboard.org/media/pdf/ap-comparative-government-and-politics-course-and-exam-description.pdf>

- **AP US Government and Politics:** <https://apcentral.collegeboard.org/media/pdf/ap-us-government-and-politics-course-and-exam-description.pdf>

### **Modes of Contact**

- **E-mail: sameer\_bhatt@chino.k12.ca.us**
  - **Emails will be responded to within 24 hours.** This is the most efficient mode of contact, as I will attempt to return your e-mail as immediately as possible.

### **2022-2023 AP GOVERNMENT COURSE AGREEMENT**

Once you have reviewed the syllabus above with a parent/guardian, be sure to read the following 2022-2023 AP Government Course Agreement Information below. Your Course Agreement signature will be submitted via GOOGLE CLASSROOM, on a Google Form assignment by 11:59pm on Sunday, August 14, 2022.

**COURSE AGREEMENT:** I have read and understand the 2022-2023 AP Government Syllabus. I agree to follow the rules and stipulations outlined in the course syllabus and recognize that the teacher may be presenting some controversial issues in this course. I will contact the teacher and be responsible for making alternate assignment arrangements if I am uncomfortable discussing any of these controversial issues in class. I also recognize that the teacher will be using the following supplemental materials and the teacher will consider this signed document permission to present these supplemental materials in class unless otherwise noted.

**Supplemental Materials List:** This list is not exhaustive, but covers the majority of supplemental materials used in class:

- “Comparative Politics Today” by Powell, Dalton, and Strom
- “Comparative Politics: Domestic Responses to Global Challenges” by Hauss
- “Essential of Comparative Politics: With Cases” by O’Neil
- Relevant Articles from the Economist
- Relevant Articles from the New Yorker
- Relevant Articles from the Harvard Law Review
- Relevant Articles from other Academic Journals
- Polls and Research from Online Sources like: Freedom House, Pew Research, CIA World Factbook and others
- News Clips from CNN Student News
- News from all major News Networks
- Relevant court cases and other legal documents
- Constitutions of the UK, Iran, Nigeria, Mexico, Russia, and China
- YouTube Series – Crash Course US Government and Politics
- National Geographic Video Clips
- PBS Documentary Video Clips
- Clips from other relevant documentaries or docuseries
- History Channel Video Clips
- Clips from relevant movies, shows, or YouTube that give an accurate and appropriate example of government and politics in any of the case studies
- Relevant Informative YouTube clips – only relating to the News or Government specifically