

Chino Valley Unified School District

High School Course Description

A. CONTACTS	
1. School/District Information:	School/District: Chino Valley Unified School District Street Address: 5130 Riverside Dr., Chino, CA 91710 Phone: (909) 628-1201 Web Site: chino.k12.ca.us
2. Course Contact:	Teacher Contact: Office of Secondary Curriculum Position/Title: Director of Secondary Curriculum Site: District Office Phone: (909) 628-1201 X1630
B. COVER PAGE - COURSE ID	
1. Course Title:	Advanced Placement Comparative Government and Politics
2. Transcript Title/Abbreviation:	AP Comp Gov
3. Transcript Course Code/Number:	5H01
4. Seeking Honors Distinction:	Yes
5. Subject Area/Category:	Meets the UC/CSU "g" General Elective requirement
6. Grade Level(s):	12
7. Unit Value:	5 credits per semester
8. Course Previously Approved by UC:	No
9. Classified as a Career Technical Education Course:	No
10. Modeled after an UC-approved course:	Yes
11. Repeatable for Credit:	No
12. Date of Board Approval:	May 3, 2018
13. Brief Course Description: The AP course in Comparative Government and Politics introduces students to fundamental concepts used by political scientists to study the processes and outcomes of politics in a variety of country settings. The course aims to illustrate the rich diversity of political life, to show available institutional alternatives, to explain differences in processes and policy outcomes, and to communicate to students the importance of global political and economic changes.	
14. Prerequisites:	None
15. Context for Course: Students will take AP Comparative Government and Politics in conjunction with the AP US Government and Politics Course. The study of various case studies will help to inform the course in AP US Government and Politics and provide a meaningful comparison and context for studying governments throughout the world.	
16. History of Course Development: This course has been developed over the 2017-2018 school year. The curriculum has been approved by College Board and meets the requirements of the AP Comparative Government and Politics Course.	
17. Textbooks:	Kesselman, M., Krieger, J., & Joseph, W. A. (2018). <i>Introduction to comparative politics: political challenges and changing agendas</i> . Cengage Learning.
18. Supplemental Instructional Materials:	Hauss, C., & Haussman, M. (2012). <i>Comparative Politics: Domestic Responses to Global Challenges</i> . Nelson Education. Powell Jr, G. B. J., Strøm, K. J., & Dalton, R. J. (2011). <i>Comparative Politics Today: A Theoretical Framework</i> . Pearson Higher Ed. Mansbach, R. W., & Rhodes, E. J. (2009). <i>Global politics in a changing world: a reader</i> . Cengage Learning. Lachmann, R. (2010). <i>States and power</i> (Vol. 5). Polity.

Chino Valley Unified School District

High School Course Description

	Throughout the course, students will be reading articles from a variety of academic journals, including, but not limited to the Economist, Foreign Policy, and others.
C. COURSE CONTENT	
1. Course Purpose: This course is designed to examine the political institutions, policies, and peoples of the following case studies: The United Kingdom, Mexico, China, Russia, Iran, and Nigeria. Students who complete this course will successfully: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Define and describe major comparative political concepts 2. Support generalizations with relevant, factual, information pertaining to the government and politics of Great Britain, Mexico, Russia, China, Iran, and Nigeria 3. Analyze typical patterns of political processes and behavior and their consequences 4. Compare and contrast political institutions and processes across countries 5. Analyze and interpret basic data relevant to comparative government and politics 	
2. Course Outline: I. Introduction to Comparative Politics <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Purpose and methods of comparison and classification • Concepts (state, nation, regime, government) • Process and policy (what is politics; purpose of government; what are political science and comparative politics; common policy challenges) II. Sovereignty, Authority, and Power <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Political culture, communication, and socialization • Nations and states C. Supranational governance (e.g., European Union) • Sources of power • Constitutions (forms, purposes, application) • Regime types • Types of economic systems • State building, legitimacy, and stability • Belief systems as sources of legitimacy • Governance and accountability III. Political Institutions <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Levels of government <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Supranational/national/regional/local ○ Unitary/federal ○ Centralization/decentralization • Executives (head of state, head of government, cabinets) • Legislatures <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Unicameral/bicameral (symmetric/asymmetric) ○ Organization ○ Membership (representation) ○ Parliamentary and presidential systems ○ Elections ○ Electoral systems ○ Political parties (organization, membership, institutionalization, ideological position) ○ Party systems ○ Leadership and elite recruitment 	

Chino Valley Unified School District

High School Course Description

- Interest groups and interest group systems
- Bureaucracies
- Military and other coercive institutions
- Judiciaries

IV. Citizens, Society, and the State

- Cleavages and politics (ethnic, racial, class, gender, religious, regional)
- Civil society and social capital
- Media roles
- Political participation (forms/modes/trends) including political violence
- E. Social movements
- Citizenship and representation

V. Political and Economic Change

- Revolution, coups, and war
- Trends and types of political change (including democratization)
- Trends and types of economic change (including privatization)
- Relationship between political and economic change
- Globalization and fragmentation: interlinked economies, global culture, reactions against globalization, regionalism
- Approaches to development

VI. Public Policy

- Common policy issues
 - Economic performance
 - Social welfare (e.g., education, health, poverty)
 - Civil liberties, rights, and freedoms
 - Environment
 - Population and migration
 - Economic development
 - Factors influencing public policymaking and implementation
 - Domestic
 - International

3. Key Assignments:

- Reading Quizzes and Discussions
 - Students will take a reading quiz on each section and then discuss the readings in partners and then in groups to ensure they have comprehended what they read
- Notecards
 - Students will create a set of notecards for each country to use to review key terms and people
- Model United Nations:
 - Students will use their knowledge of supranational organizations to further analyze global issues as if they were country members of the united nations
 - The topic that students will analyze and formulate solutions to will be failed states – using Iran and Nigeria as examples
- Organizing Government in the Case Studies Group Lessons:
 - Students will work together to present lessons to the class on the 6 different case studies, focusing on how each country organizes its government – specifically unitary, federal, and confederal

Chino Valley Unified School District

High School Course Description

- Lessons will include an overview of the political institutions in the country to further their understanding of unitary, federal, and confederal systems
- Election Simulations:
 - Students will analyze the electoral system, pressure groups, and the media in each of the case studies by participating in short election simulations for each country
 - Students will be asked to do a written analysis of the election in each case study and be able to recall and explain their difference and similarities
- Documentary Project:
 - Students will choose a revolution, coup, or war that changed the political or economic landscape in one of the case studies
 - They will create a 3-5 minute documentary about that revolution, coup, or war and present it to the class, focusing on the changes that it caused to that country
- Political Current Event Projects:
 - Students will choose a current policy issue in one of the case studies and write a news article that captures the political change that is occurring as a result
- Economic Current Event Projects:
 - Students will choose a current economic policy issue in one of the case studies and write a news article that captures the economic change that is occurring as a result
- Model European Union:
 - Students will be assigned a member country of the European Union and will complete a role-play that allows them to live in the European Union
 - Students will analyze and make decisions about what is best for their country
 - They will then complete a written analysis on how regionalism affects the politics of each member states
- Unit Exams:
 - Students will answer multiple choice and free-response questions from each unit
 - Each exam will be cumulative and include questions from previous exams
- Midterm Exam:
 - Students will take a midterm exam with cumulative questions half way through the semester
 - The exam will include both multiple choice and free-response questions
- Final Exam:
 - Students will take a Final exam with cumulative questions at the end of the semester
 - The exam will include both multiple choice and free-response questions

4. Instructional Methods and/or Strategies:

Activities:

Debates, Mock Trials, Socratic Seminars, Simulations, Discussions, Reading Secondary and Primary Sources, Research Projects, Formal and Informal Writing Assignments, Taking notes on lectures

Homework:

Students will be expected to complete textbook and supplemental readings at home, as well as various research projects, and current events.

Current Events:

Aside from class activities, reading assignments, and notes, students will need to complete current event write-up once per week. Students will also be asked to present their current events to the class orally at least once a unit. The use of

Chino Valley Unified School District

High School Course Description

consistent current event analysis will allow students to better connect the concepts learned in class to the world in which they live.

Using Graphs, Maps, and Charts:

Each unit will make use of a variety of data and stimuli, including graphs, maps, and charts that are relevant to the topic being studied. Students will also gain practice analyzing these stimuli for a variety of purposes.

5. Assessment Including Methods and/or Tools:

The evaluation of student progress and evaluation will be based on the following criteria outlined in Board Policy:

- Assessments: 60-75% of the final grade
 - Midterm/Final
 - Reading Quizzes
- Assignments and class discussions: 25-40% of the final grade
 - Projects
 - Free-Response Question Practice/Participation