Goals and Objectives

This course is designed to introduce students to the comparative study of politics and government. Rather than attempt broad comparisons at a high level of abstraction, we shall study the political systems of the First World (Western liberal democracies), the Second World (the Communist and post-Communist states), and the Third World (the developing nations). In particular, the course will examine political systems in four representative cases from the three worlds: Great Britain from the industrialized democracies, China from the communist and post-communist states, and India, and Nigeria from the developing world. The political experience in each case will be studied in the context of its own cultural and historical settings. Such an approach will allow us to see the differences within a particular type of regime. We shall inquire, for example, why Chinese communism is different from communism in the former Soviet Union; why democratic institutions have survived in India but not in most other Third World countries; why Great Britain, the mother of parliamentary democracy, has had a stable political system in modern time even though it does not have a written constitution. The answers to these questions, and many others, will invariably be found in the history, tradition, and political culture of a nation.

Our study of politics in four countries will focus on a comparison of their institutions, political parties, the role of ideology and leadership, varying developmental experience, and the performance of their governments. We shall also examine the domestic responses to global challenges in the post-9/11 era. Furthermore, the study of major approaches and theories of comparative politics, as applicable to liberal democratic, communist and post-communist, and developing Third World systems, will constitute an important part of the course. It will allow us to make the comparisons of the political institutions and processes in a systematic and more meaningful way. An understanding of theories and approaches of comparative politics will enable us to make broad generalizations about the countries to be studied and provide tools of analysis for further enquiry into other political systems.
Required Texts and Other Readings

The two texts required for this course can be purchased at the DePauw University Bookstore.


3. Other required readings--chapters from various books and articles published in scholarly journals--are available on Moodle.

4. You are expected to keep yourself informed about developments in the three worlds. I am therefore requiring that each one of you took a Monday and Friday subscription to *The New York Times*. The Times subscription will cost you $21.00, which would be added to your tuition bill. You will also benefit from the TV network or CNN Evening News programs and from NPR’s *Morning Edition* and *All Things Considered*.

Teaching Method

My expectations from each one of you are high! You are expected to come to class prepared every time, i.e. having done the assigned reading. A "free rider" tendency will be strictly discouraged. It will be a fair game for me to identify the students, in a random fashion, in each class meeting who will respond to my question(s). There will be an opportunity for everyone to participate in the class discussions. I want my students to be active learners who will develop a sense of ownership over the course and the materials covered in this class.

Course Requirements

1. **Examinations** (70%). There will be two semester exams--on February 29 and April 13--and a final exam on May 14 at 8:30 a.m. Semester exams will count 40% (20% each) and the final exam 30% toward the final grade. Exams will draw extensively on materials from lectures as well as required readings. It is not possible to neglect either and perform adequately in the course. All the exams will consist of essay questions, short-answer questions, definitions, leader identification, and current affairs questions.

2. **Group Project, Participation and Attendance** (20%) Participation in class discussion and attendance will carry 20% toward the final grade.

3. **Quizzes**, (10%). Four quizzes will be given during the semester; no make-up quizzes will be allowed.

4. Conferences: TBA

**ADA Compliance.** DePauw University is committed to providing equal access to academic programs and university administered activities with reasonable accommodations to students with disabilities, in compliance with the Americans With Disabilities Act and Amendments (ADAAA). Any student who feels she or he may need an accommodation based on the impact
of a disability or learning challenge is strongly encouraged to contact Pamela Roberts, Director of Student Disability Services and ADA Compliance for further information on how to receive accommodations and support. Contact information for Student Disability Services is: 408 S. Locust Street, Suite 200, in The Memorial Student Union Building (765-658-6267). It is the responsibility of the student to share the letter of accommodation with faculty and staff members. Accommodations will not be implemented until the faculty or staff member has received the official letter. Accommodations are not retroactive. It is the responsibility of the student to discuss implementation of accommodations with each faculty and staff member receiving the letter.

**General Rule:**

Failure to appear for an exam will result in a zero for the assignment. The only exception to this rule will be documented legitimate excuses such as family, legal, and medical emergencies.

**Attendance Policy:** You will be penalized if you miss more than two classes at the rate of 30 points for each unexcused absence.

**Grading Policy:** Grades will be given solely based on performance, not according to a "curve" or any predetermined distribution. In principle, all students can receive A's or any other grade. The grading scale is as follows:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>PERCENTAGE</th>
<th>LETTER GRADE</th>
<th>EXPLANATION</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>92-100</td>
<td>A</td>
<td>Exceptional and outstanding work.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>90-91</td>
<td>A-</td>
<td>Excellent work of an unusually strong quality.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>87-89</td>
<td>B+</td>
<td>Excellent performance.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>84-86</td>
<td>B</td>
<td>Very good work</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>80-83</td>
<td>B-</td>
<td>Good work</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>77-79</td>
<td>C+</td>
<td>Slightly better than average work.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>74-76</td>
<td>C</td>
<td>Average work</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>70-73</td>
<td>C-</td>
<td>Worse than average</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>67-69</td>
<td>D+</td>
<td>Poor work</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>64-66</td>
<td>D</td>
<td>Very poor work</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>60-63</td>
<td>D-</td>
<td>Very close to failing</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>59 or below</td>
<td>F</td>
<td>Failing</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**SCHEDULE AND ASSIGNMENTS** *(UPDATED ASSIGNMENT FOR EACH CLASS WILL BE POSTED ON MOODLE)*

February 1: Introduction

**Part I: Concepts and Theories**

February 3 and 5

1. **Comparative Politics--Why, What and How, History and Methodology**

*Howard Wiarda, Comparative Politics: Approaches and Issues, Ch. 1 and 2.  
*Mattei Dogan and Dominique Pelassy, How to Compare Nations:

2. Key Concepts and Systems Theory

*Hauss, Ch. 1

Feb. 8, 10, 12, and 15

3. Political Culture

*Wiarda, Chapter 4
*Hauss, pp. 32-33
Benjamin Barber, "Jihad versus McWorld," Art. 49 in Annual Editions.

4. Modernization and Development

Wiarda, Ch. 3

Feb. 17, 19

5. Sustainable Development. Dependency Theory

*Wiarda, pp. 79-84
*Tony Smith, "The Dependency Approach"
*Andre Gunder Frank, "The Development of Under-development"

February 22, 25 and 26

6. Democracy and Democratization

*Wiarda, Ch. 6
*Hauss, pp. 23-32.
*Sahu, "Democracy and Democratic Governments"

February 29: Semester Exam 1
Part II: Government and Politics In Great Britain

March 2 and 4

7. British Tradition and Political Culture
*Hauss, Ch. 4, pp. 69-82

March 7, 9, and 11
8. Political Institutions and Constitutional Reforms
*Hauss, pp. 82-95
Video: "Britain's Parliament at Work: Order, Order!" JN 508.063 1994

March 14, 16 and 18
9. Party Politics: Thatcherism, Blairism and Cameronism
*Hauss, pp. 95-101
*"The Thatcher Legacy," Economist, October 2, 1993
*"The Strange Tail of Tony Blair," Art. 4 in Annual Editions
Film: Will There Always Be An England?
Web sites:
http://www.britain-info.org/
This site of the British Information Service leads you to reams of material on Tony Blair and the Labor Party, the European Union, relations with Northern Ireland, and many other topics in the study of the British political system.

http://www.nationalgeographic.com/resources/ngo/maps/atlas/europe/unkingf.html
flag of the U.K.

http://www.number10.gov.uk/
The official Web site of the British prime minister. There is a wealth of information on this site

http://www.pm.gov.uk/
The UK Prime Minister's home page, providing information about the activities of the Government.
This Web site has a wealth of information about the British government.
http://www.royal.gov.uk/palaces/bp.htm
http://www.labour.org.uk/
(official Web site of the Labor Party)

http://www.ge97.co.uk/
(General election 1997 Web site. You will find party manifestos on this site.)

http://www.conservative-party.org.uk/
(official Web site of the Conservative Party)

http://www.thatcherweb.com/home/
This unofficial Margaret Thatcher Site is the net's largest and most extensive site dedicated to Margaret Thatcher, Britain's first woman Prime Minister. At this site you would be able to find out about the woman who came to power as Europe's first ever female Premier, the woman who was the first Prime Minister in over one hundred years to win three consecutive terms in office, the woman who reversed the whole British economy and drove Britain out of decline, the woman who won the Falklands War, who defeated the power of the trade unions, and yet the woman who was forced out of Office by her own party.

Week of March 21: Spring Recess

Part III: Government and Politics in China

March 28, 30 and April 1

10. Historical and Cultural Setting, the Chinese Communist Party

*Hauss, Ch. 10, pp. 265-281
Video Clip: The Two Coasts of China available at http://acad.depauw.edu/%7Esahus/150web/mao2_final.mov
Video: Mao By Mao

11. The Great Proletarian Cultural Revolution, The Party State

*Hauss, pp. 285-289
12. Economic Reform and Democracy Movement

*Hauss, pp. 289-296.
*Doug Guthrie, "China the Quiet Revolution," Art. 37 in Annual Editions
Film: China After Tiananmen

Web sites
http://www.sun.sino.uni-heidelberg.de/igcs/index.html
http://www.virtuallibrary.china
http://www.pnclassroom.com
Part of the European Internet Network, this site leads to information on China, including recent news, government, and related sites pertaining to China, Hong Kong, Macao, and Taiwan.
http://www.cnd.org
People's Daily Online site has lots of information about President Jiang Zemin--biographical information, speeches, latest news, and photographs.
www.cnt.org/china89

April 13: Semester Exam II

April 15

Part IV: Government and Politics in India

13. Historical and Cultural Setting, Religion and Politics

*Hauss, Ch. 12, pp. 3330-347.
*Sahu, "Religion and Politics in India: The Emergence of Hindu National-
ism and the Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP)," in Jelen and Wilcox Eds.),
The One and the Many: Religion and Politics in Comparative Perspective,
*P.B. Mehta, "India: The Nuclear Politics of Self-Esteem," Current
*Ramesh Thakur, "Ayodhya and the Politics of India's Secularism: A
Film: Road to India's Independence

April 18, 20 and 22

14. Political Institutions, Parties and Politics

*Hauss, 347-358.
*Craig Baxter et. al., Government and Politics in South Asia, Ch. 6.
"Sonia: And Yet So Far," Art. 39 in Annual Editions
Rajan Menon, "India's Democracy Provides Lessons," Art. 40 in Annual
Edition.
Video: Life and Death of a Dynasty

http://www.indiana.edu/~isp/cd_rom/
http://www.bjp.org/
The official Web site of the Bharatiya Janata Party which has been in
power since March 1998.
http://www.pmindia.nic.in/home.htm/
Official Web site of the Indian Prime Minister
http://www.geocities.com/WallStreet/Market/7952/sonia1.html
Web site of Sonia Gandhi, the Opposition leader in Parliament
http://www.soniagandhionline.com

April 25, 27 and 29

15. Democracy and Development in India

*Hauss, pp. 358-367
*Susanne Rudolph and Lloyd Rudolph, "New Dimensions of Indian
Politics, Art. 39.
*Shailendra D. Sharma, "India's Economic Liberalization: The Elephant
Comes of Age," Current History, December 1996.
*Rajan Menon, "India's Democracy Provodes Lessons," Art. 35 in Annual Editions

May 2, 4, 6 and 9

16. Politics in Nigeria

Hauss, pp. 429-441
Hauss, pp. 441-460
Hints of a New Chapter (Moodle)

May 14: Final Exam at 8:30 a.m.