

Course at a Glance

Plan

The Course at a Glance provides a useful visual organization of the AP Comparative Government and Politics curricular components, including:

- Sequence of units, along with approximate weighting and suggested pacing. Please note, pacing options are provided for teaching the course for a full year and for a single semester.
- Progression of topics within each unit.
- Spiraling of the big ideas and practices across units.

Teach

DISCIPLINARY PRACTICES

Disciplinary practices spiral across units.

1 Concept Application	3 Data Analysis
2 Country Comparison	4 Source Analysis
	5 Argumentation

BIG IDEAS

Big ideas spiral across units.

PAU Power and Authority	IEF Internal/External Forces
LEG Legitimacy and Stability	MPA Methods of Political Analysis
DEM Democratization	

Assess

Assign the Personal Progress Checks—either as homework or in class—for each unit. Each Personal Progress Check contains formative multiple-choice and free-response questions. The feedback from the Personal Progress Checks shows students the areas where they need to focus.

UNIT
1

Political Systems, Regimes, and Governments

~22/~11 Class Periods

18–27% AP Exam Weighting

MPA 3	1.1 The Practice of Political Scientists
PAU 1	1.2 Defining Political Organizations
PAU 2	1.3 Democracy vs. Authoritarianism
PAU 1	1.4 Democratization
PAU 2	1.5 Sources of Power and Authority
PAU 4	1.6 Change in Power and Authority
PAU 4	1.7 Federal and Unitary Systems
LEG 3	1.8 Political Legitimacy
LEG 1	1.9 Sustaining Legitimacy
LEG 3	1.10 Political Stability

Personal Progress Check 1

Multiple-choice: ~30 questions

Free-response: 3 questions

- Conceptual Analysis
- Quantitative Analysis (partial)
- Comparative Analysis (partial)

UNIT
2

Political Institutions

~32/~16 Class Periods

22–33% AP Exam Weighting

PAU 1	2.1 Parliamentary, Presidential, and Semi-Presidential Systems
PAU 2	2.2 Comparing Parliamentary, Presidential, and Semi-Presidential Systems
PAU 1	2.3 Executive Systems
PAU 5	2.4 Executive Term Limits
PAU 4	2.5 Removal of Executives
PAU 2	2.6 Legislative Systems
PAU 4	2.7 Independent Legislatures
PAU 1	2.8 Judicial Systems
PAU 5	2.9 Independent Judiciaries

Personal Progress Check 2

Multiple-choice: ~20 questions

Free-response: 3 questions

- Argument Essay (partial)
- Comparative Analysis
- Argument Essay (partial)

NOTE: Partial versions of the free-response questions are provided to prepare students for more complex, full questions that they will encounter on the AP Exam.

UNIT 3

Political Culture and Participation

~28/~14 Class Periods | **11–18%** AP Exam Weighting

IEF 1	3.1 Civil Society
IEF 2	3.2 Political Culture
IEF 1	3.3 Political Ideologies
IEF 3	3.4 Political Values and Beliefs
DEM 3	3.5 Nature and Role of Political Participation
DEM 5	3.6 Forces that Impact Political Participation
DEM 4	3.7 Civil Rights and Civil Liberties
LEG 2	3.8 Political and Social Cleavages
LEG 5	3.9 Challenges from Political and Social Cleavages

Personal Progress Check 3

- Multiple-choice: ~20 questions**
Free-response: 3 questions
- Argument Essay (partial)
 - Argument Essay
 - Quantitative Analysis

UNIT 4

Party and Electoral Systems and Citizen Organizations

~18/~9 Class Periods | **13–18%** AP Exam Weighting

DEM 2	4.1 Electoral Systems and Rules
DEM 4	4.2 Objectives of Election Rules
PAU 3	4.3 Political Party Systems
PAU 2	4.4 Role of Political Party Systems
IEF 5	4.5 Impact of Social Movements and Interest Groups
IEF 4	4.6 Pluralist and Corporatist Interests

Personal Progress Check 4

- Multiple-choice: ~15 questions**
Free-response: 3 questions
- Comparative Analysis
 - Argument Essay
 - Conceptual Analysis

UNIT 5

Political and Economic Changes and Development

~20/~10 Class Periods | **16–24%** AP Exam Weighting

IEF 3	5.1 Impact of Global Economic and Technological Forces
IEF 2	5.2 Political Responses to Global Market Forces
IEF 1	5.3 Challenges from Globalization
IEF 3	5.4 Policies and Economic Liberalization
LEG 4	5.5 International and Supranational Organizations
LEG 2	5.6 Adaptation of Social Policies
LEG 5	5.7 Impact of Industrialization and Economic Development
LEG 3	5.8 Causes and Effects of Demographic Change
LEG 4	5.9 Impact of Natural Resources

Personal Progress Check 5

- Multiple-choice: ~25 questions**
Free-response: 3 questions
- Quantitative Analysis
 - Argument Essay
 - Conceptual Analysis