

# AP<sup>®</sup> Comparative Government and Politics

## Your 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
- 4

Source Analysis
- 2

Country Comparison
- 5

Argumentation
- 3

Data Analysis

#### 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.

#### Personal Progress Check 1

Multiple-choice: ~20 questions

Free-response: 3 questions

- Concept Application
- Argument Essay (partial)
- Argument Essay (partial)

#### Personal Progress Check 2

Multiple-choice: ~20 questions

Free-response: 3 questions

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

#### Personal Progress Check 3

Multiple-choice: ~20 questions

Free-response: 3 questions

- Argument Essay (partial)
- Argument Essay
- Quantitative Analysis

#### Personal Progress Check 4

Multiple-choice: ~15 questions

Free-response: 3 questions

- Comparative Analysis
- Argument Essay
- Conceptual Analysis

#### Personal Progress Check 5

Multiple-choice: ~25 questions

Free-response: 3 questions

- Quantitative Analysis
- Argument Essay
- Conceptual Analysis

**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  
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

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

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

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

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

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