

Subsidiary Course Agreement / Semester Syllabus

- **Course:** AP Comparative Gov/Pol **Number:** 6849
- **Subject Teacher:** Emily Jacobs **Email:** ejacobs@sandi.net
- **Student:** _____ **Grade:** _____
- **Description of Semester Course:** This is the equivalent of a college-level introductory course in political science which introduces students to fundamental concepts used by political scientists to study the processes and outcomes of politics in a variety of country settings. Six countries form the core of the AP Comparative government and Politics course: Great Britain, Russia, China, Mexico, Nigeria and Iran. Two of the CA standards to be addressed include: R1.1: Trace the etymology of significant terms used in political science and history; R 2.1: analyze public documents (e.g. policy statements, speeches, debates, platforms).
- **Directions:** Submit a monthly work packet of assignments listed on monthly cover sheet, which can be found on the teacher page at the MEA website. In order to receive attendance credit, and to receive full academic credit, the packet must be shown to the supervising teacher and submitted to the subject teacher on or before the monthly due date. Additional resources will be available on the AP Comparative Government website: <http://elearning.sandi.net/course/view.php?id=453>.
- **Semester One Content:**
 - Summer reading:** Because this is a one semester AP course, summer reading is required in order to complete all requirements. Students are to read two chapters over the summer: Introduction to Comparative Politics, and Politics in the United States. There will be quizzes on this material in September.
 - Month 1:** Intro to Comparative Politics, Politics in Great Britain; European Union
 - Month 2:** Political Institutions; Sovereignty, Authority and Power; Politics in China; start Russia
 - Month 3:** Citizens, Society and the State; Political and Economic Change; finish Russia; start Politics in Iran
 - Month 4:** Globalization; Public Policy; Civil Society; finish Politics in Iran; begin Politics in Mexico
 - Month 5:** Mexico cont.; Politics in Nigeria; International Institutions
- **Semester Two** – although this is now a one semester course, there will be an opportunity to take full-length practice tests in April in preparation for the AP Exam in May.
- **Objectives and Methods of Study:**

These expectations may be adapted to meet individual needs but you must clear it with the subject teacher in advance.

 1. Take notes on, or outline readings from Kesselman, 6th edition. Access Kesselman practice tests and flash cards on <http://elearning.sandi.net/course/view.php?id=453>.
 2. Complete Ken Wedding Teaching Tools (which will be attached to the cover sheets) that correspond to each topic assigned in the Kesselman text.
 3. Define and describe five vocabulary terms per week based on readings and handouts. Give a real-life example from one of the six AP countries for each of the terms.

4. Paraphrase and analyze current event articles related to the six AP countries studied from *The Economist* and other selected journals and essays (at least one per month).
5. Each month, write a position paper focusing on one of the AP topics to be assigned each month, usually comparing two AP countries. Paper should be 5-6 pages, size 12 font, double-spaced, plus a Sources Cited page.
6. Complete monthly exam the by the Friday semester due date.
7. Access <http://elearning.sandi.net/course/view.php?id=453> for assignment updates, resources, study guides, and forums.

• **Resources:**

Kesselman, Mark; Krieger, Joel; and Joseph, William A. *Introduction to Comparative Politics* 6th Edition, 2013 (either electronic copies or photocopies provided by instructor)
 Wedding, Kenneth C. *The AP Comparative Government and Politics Exam: What You Need to Know*, 6th edition, 2014.

Wood, Ethel. *AP Comparative Government and Politics: A Study Guide, 4th Edition*, 2009;
 SDUSD Moodle(eLearning) course website: <http://elearning.sandi.net/course/view.php?id=453>
 optional handouts; Zakaria, Fareed, *The Future of Freedom* (not provided by school)

• **Due Dates:**

See page two of Master Agreement, cover sheets, and MEA website and calendar.

- **Evaluation criteria and methods:** Attendance credit for each month and all assignments will be based on submission of monthly work by due dates listed on assignment agreement. Work submitted after the due date cannot earn full credit. Academic grades will be based on the quality and quantity of work submitted on time according to directions and expectations above. Monthly tests will be included.

"A" grade = Consistently superior work quality.

"B" grade = Above average work quality.

"C" grade = Satisfactory or average work quality.

"D" grade = Below average quality or quantity of work.

"F" grade= Failure, credit not granted.

"I" grade = Incomplete course work. Six weeks allowed for make-up.

"NC" = No credit.

We agree to complete the course as described in this subsidiary agreement.

Supervising teacher: _____ Date: _____

Subject Teacher: _____ Date: _____

• **ESLRS (Expected School-wide Learning Results):**

Communicate effectively through reading, writing, listening and speaking.

Think and solve problems independently and critically.

Demonstrate the confidence, resilience, and self-esteem to succeed in life.

Use resources, including technology, to locate needed information.

Demonstrate good citizenship and personal integrity.