Instructor: Dr. Harry M. Mokeba
Office: 209 Stubbs Hall
Phone: 578-2143

Office Hours: MWF 9:30-10:30
MWF 11:30-12:30
MW 3:00-5:00

Objective: The course is designed to provide students with the tools necessary for examining politics across the countries of the world. In particular, we will provide a foundation for understanding the concepts on which political systems operate, the forces that account for change and continuity and the basis for comparing political performance in the first, second and third worlds.

It is expected that by the end of the semester, students must have developed the analytical skills for explaining the differences and similarities existing in the select countries discussed in class. POLI 2053 is a general education course designed to improve broad knowledge, stimulate life-long learning and develop critical understanding of the political phenomena.

Books: There is one major text required for this course.

Kesselman, Krieger & Joseph: *Introduction to Comparative Politics*
Boston: Wadsworth, 2010

You are also required to read assigned articles from the New York Times for the multiple choice tests and the two-country paper.

Student Responsibility: You are required to attend all class sessions and keep up with reading assignments in order to enhance your ability to participate in class discussions. There is a grade for class participation.

Examinations, Paper, and Grades: There will be an early take home exam, an in-class midterm exam, a brief comparative survey of recent events in TWO countries (not discussed in lectures) of your choice and a take-home final. Details of these assignments will be determined according to this formula.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Class Participation</th>
<th>10 pts.</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Early Exam (take home)</td>
<td>10 pts. (Feb. 10)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Midterm Exam (in class)</td>
<td>20 pts. (Feb. 10)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Two Country paper</td>
<td>10 pts. (April 21)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>NYT Multiple Choice Tests</td>
<td>10 pts. (March 10 &amp; May 5)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Final (take home)</td>
<td>40 pts. (May 7: By NOON, 209 Stubbs Hall)</td>
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<td>100 pts.</td>
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A: 100-88  B: 87.9-78;  C: 77.9-68;  D: 67.9-60;  F: Below 60
Lecture Outline and Reading Assignments

Jan. 20  
**Course Intro:** The Study of Politics  
The Value of Comparative Politics  
Comparative Methods and Problems; KKJ: Part 1

Jan. 27  
**Characteristics of Political Systems:**  
Defined by their Context  
Driven By Constitutions and Ideologies  
Sustained by their Economies; KKJ: Part 1

Feb. 3  
**Return Take Home**  
**Institutional Approach**  
Legislature, Executive, Judiciary  
Interest Groups, Political Parties and Individuals  
KKJ: Part 1

Feb. 10- March 3  
**Politics in Capitalist Democracies:**  
Their Historical Basis and Contemporary Attributes  
Great Britain - Chapter 7  
France - Chapter 3  
Germany – Chapter 4  
Japan - Chapter 5

March 10  
**Midterm Exam** (In Class)  
Also **first** NYT multiple choice test  
**Overview of Communism and the Third World**

March 17-31  
**Transition from Communism: Historical Basis and Contemporary Attributes**  
Russia: Chapter 11  
China: Chapter 13

March 14-28  
**Developing countries: Historical Basis and Contemporary Attribute**  
India: Chapter 6  
Mexico: Chapter 10  
Iran/Nigeria: Chapter 12 & 8

April 21  
**Two-Country Survey of Recent Events Due!**  
**Give Out Take Home Final**

May 5  
**Course Evaluation/Final NYT Multiple Choice Test**  
**Review Session**  
**Return Papers and Pre-Final Grades**

May 7  
**Return Take Home Final By NOON (209 Stubbs Hall)**