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.

The University strives toward Learning Competency and the fulfillment of the following objectives:
- Ability to think, describe, interpret and analyze the world
- Facility to make sense of the world that impact on our own local system
- The need to gain critical perspectives of the governments and institutions across various political systems

TEXTBOOK: There is one major text required for this course:

Charles Hauss: Comparative Politics: Domestic Responses to Global Challenges
Stamford, CT: Cengage Learning, 2015

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

EXAMS and PAPERS: As part of the general education requirement (all students of 2053) will do standard multiple choice questions during the mid-term and final exams. A major essay question will also be administered to all sections of 2053. Much of the content of the mid-term and final exam (essays and definitions) come from the lectures. You will do a brief comparative survey of recent political developments in any two countries of your choice. For this 3-5 page paper, do not select any of the ten countries covered in the lectures.

GRADES:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Class Participation</th>
<th>10 pts</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Early Take-Home Exam</td>
<td>10 pts (Due Fri. Sept. 12)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mid-Term Exam (In-Class)</td>
<td>20 pts (Fri. Oct. 17)</td>
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</table>
NYT Multiple Choice Test(2)  10 pts (Oct. 17/Dec. 1)
Two Country Paper  10 pts (Fri. Nov. 21)
Final Exam (In-Class)  40 pts (Wed. Dec. 10)
                             100 pts

A: 100-88  B: 87.9-78  C: 77.9-68  D: 67.9-60  F: Below 60

LECTURE OUTLINE AND READING ASSIGNMENTS

Aug. 25-29  Course Introduction: The Study of Politics
The Value of Comparative Politics
Comparative Methods and Problems
Hauss, Chapters 1, 2

Sept. 3-10  Characteristics of Political Systems:
Defined by their Context
Driven by Constitutions and Ideologies
Sustained by their Economics
Hauss, Chapter 3

Sept. 12-17  Institutional Approach
Legislature, Executive, Judiciary
Interest Groups, Political Parties and Individuals
Hauss, Chapters 2, 3

Sept. 12  Return Take-Home Exam (Due)

Sept. 19-26  Politics in Capitalist Democracies: Historical Basis and Contemporary Attributes
Great Britain
Hauss, Chapter 4

Sept 29 - Oct. 8  Politics in Capitalist Democracies: Historical Basis and Contemporary Attributes
France
Hauss, Chapter 5

Oct. 10 - Oct. 15  Politics in Capitalist Democracies: Historical Basis and Contemporary Attributes
Germany and Japan
Hauss, Chapter 6
Oct. 17  Mid-Term Exam (In-Class) and NYT Multiple Choice Test (1)

Oct. 20  Overview of Communism and the third World
         Hauss, Chapters 8 & 11

Oct. 22-27  Transition from Communism: Historical Basis and Contemporary Attributes
             Russia
             Hauss, Chapter 9

Oct. 29 - Nov. 5  Transition from Communism: Historical Basis and Contemporary Attributes
                  China
                  Hauss, Chapter 10

Nov. 7-12  Developing Countries: Historical Basis and Contemporary Attributes
           India
           Hauss, Chapter 12

Nov. 12-17  Developing Countries: Historical Basis and Contemporary Attributes
            Mexico
            Hauss, Chapter 15

Nov. 19-24  Developing Countries: Historical Basis and Contemporary Attributes
            Iran/Nigeria
            Hauss, Chapters 13, 14

Nov. 21  Two-Country Survey/Paper of Recent Events Due

Dec. 1-6  NYT Multiple Choice Test (2)/Review Session/Return Papers & Pre-Final
         Grades/Course Evaluation

Dec. 10  Final Exam (Wed. 7:30am)