

# AP Comparative Government and Politics

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## Overview

This college-level course is intended to help students better understand the diverse constitutional, ideological, and social bases of political leadership exercised by different countries. Students will study six countries: China, Great Britain, Iran, Mexico, Nigeria, and Russia. With a mentor, they will cover basic concepts such as the sources of sovereignty, public authority, and political power; national and international political institutions; the relationship between citizens, state, and society; the causes and effects of political and economic change; and various areas of public policy. Ultimately, this program aims to imbue students with a better understanding of political systems around the globe, allowing them to be informed and actively participating citizens.

## Objectives

- Understand major comparative political concepts, themes, and generalizations
- Develop knowledge of important facts pertaining to the governments and politics of China, Great Britain, Iran, Mexico, Nigeria, and Russia
- Understand typical patterns of political processes and behavior and their consequences
- Be able to compare and contrast political institutions and processes across countries and to derive generalizations
- Foster analysis and interpretation of basic data relevant to comparative government and politics

## Structure

- Reflect on current knowledge of the range of subjects that AP Comparative Government and Politics teaches and identify strengths and weaknesses
  - Develop a personalised curriculum
- Gain a deeper understanding of the political systems of various countries
- Understand how these systems differ from one another
- Use critical thinking skills in order to develop arguments based on political systems
- Investigating real-world events
  - Critical thinking and problem-solving practice
  - Develop data analysis skills
    - Question reliability and validity of data
  - Improve evaluative thinking
- Examine a variety of multi-perspective sources to promote international mindedness
- Managing time and allocating enough time to each section
- Exam practice
  - Past papers
  - Planning and structuring responses