I. Course Title: Topics in Comparative Government

II. Course Number: GOVT 379

III. Credit Hours: 3

IV. Prerequisites: N/A

V. Catalog Description: Offered periodically to meet student special interests in the field.

VI. Curricular Relationships: This course is one of the Comparative Government components for students seeking a Government emphasis. Although there is no prerequisite, the course serves as a logical continuation for students who have completed GOVT 307: Introduction to World Governments.

VII. Course Objectives: Students will:

- Recognize and critically assess contending perspectives on the topics presented throughout the semester;
- Analyze the theoretical assumptions and report on the real effects of the topics presented throughout the semester;
- Demonstrate in-depth research and compose individual scholarship on one of the topics presented throughout the semester.

VIII. Content Outline:
I. Theory and Application
II. Dynamics of major issues of Comparative Politics

An example of topics that might be offered include:
I. Theory and Application
   A. Political Culture
   B. Interpretations of Marx – Leninism, Maoism, and Social Democracy
II. Dynamics of major issues of Comparative Politics
A. Islam and Politics
Dynamics of Torture and Genocide

IX. Course Procedures: Students will:
- Read and prepare discussion questions for all of the assigned readings;
- Attend each class meeting prepared to engage in class discussion;
- Write short analytical essays about each topic;
- Conduct in-depth research and write a 10-12 page paper about one of the course topics.

Grading Scale:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Component</th>
<th>Points</th>
<th>Grade</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Short Essays</td>
<td>40 points (4 at 10 points each)</td>
<td>A = 100 - 90</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Discussion Questions</td>
<td>25 points (5 at 5 points each)</td>
<td>B = 89 - 80</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Paper Draft</td>
<td>10 points</td>
<td>C = 79 - 70</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Final Paper</td>
<td>20 points</td>
<td>D = 69 – 60</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Final Presentation</td>
<td>5 points</td>
<td>F = 59 – 50</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>100 points</td>
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</tbody>
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A  Well organized and developed; demonstrates time and effort; free or mostly free of grammatical and spelling errors; all sources cited correctly (when appropriate).

B  Above average but in need of better organization and/or development; some grammatical/spelling errors; sources cited correctly.

C  Comprehensible but lacking logical organization/development; considerable grammatical/spelling errors; sources cited incorrectly.

D  Demonstrates some semblance of an argument, but quite disorganized; gross grammatical/spelling errors; sources cited incorrectly.

E  Lacks any argument; demonstrates little to no effort; gross grammatical/spelling errors; failure to cite and/or contains plagiarized work.

X. Required/Recommended Readings:
I. Theory and Application
   A. Political Culture
      a. Chilton, Stephen (1987) "Defining Political Culture"
http://www.d.umn.edu/%7Eschilton/Articles/GPD6.html


http://www.codesria.org/Links/Publications/asr6_1full/melber.pdf


B. Interpretations of Marx – Leninism, Maoism, and Social Democracy

http://www.marxists.org/archive/marx/works/1848/communist-manifesto/index.htm

b. Lenin, Vladimir Ilich. 1902. “What is to be Done?”

http://www.marxists.org/reference/archive/mao/selected-works/volume-1/mswv1_1.htm

http://www.tompaine.com/articles/social_democracy_anyone.php

e. Bernstein, Edouard. 1900. “Evolutionary Socialism”
http://www.fordham.edu/halsall/mod/bernstein-revsoc.html

http://www.sussex.ac.uk/Users/hafa3/socdem.htm

II. Dynamics of major issues of Comparative Politics

C. Islam and Politics


http://www.witness-pioneer.org/vil/Articles/politics/political_framework_of_islam.htm

d. Dynamics of Torture and Genocide


XI Any Issues Unique to this Course: None

XII Additional Issues of the Department's Choosing: --