

UNDERGRADUATE PROGRAMME IN POLITICAL SCIENCE

				Semester:	3	Paper No:	06
Paper Title:	INTRODUCTION TO COMPARATIVE GOVERNMENT AND POLITICS						

Maximum marks-100

Total lectures Student presentations: 60

(Note: There will be a compulsory question from topic 1 with internal choice)

Course objective: this is a foundational course in comparative politics. The purpose is to familiarize students with the basic concepts and approaches to the study of comparative politics. More specifically the course will focus on examining politics in a historical framework while engaging with various themes of comparative analysis in developed and developing countries.

I. Understanding Comparative Politics (8 lectures)

- a. Nature and scope
- b. Going beyond Eurocentrism

II. Historical context of modern government (16 lectures)

- a. Capitalism: meaning and development: globalization
- b. Socialism : meaning, growth and development
- c. Colonialism and decolonisation: meaning, context, forms of colonialism; anti-colonialism struggles and process of decolonization

III. Themes for comparative analysis (24 lectures)

A comparative study of constitutional developments and political economy in the following countries: Britain, Brazil, Nigeria and China.

I. Understanding Comparative Politics

Essential Readings:

J. Kopstein, and M. Lichbach, (eds), (2005) *Comparative Politics: Interests, Identities, and Institutions in a Changing Global Order*. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, pp.1-5; 16-36; 253-290.

M. Mohanty, (1975) 'Comparative Political Theory and Third World Sensitivity', in *Teaching Politics*, Nos. 1 and 2, pp. 22-38

Additional Readings:

A. Roy, (2001) 'Comparative Method and Strategies of Comparison', in *Punjab Journal of Politics*. Vol. xxv (2), pp. 1-15.

J. Blondel, (1996) 'Then and Now: Comparative Politics', in *Political Studies*. Vol. 47 (1), pp. 152-160.

N. Chandhoke, (1996) 'Limits of Comparative Political Analysis', in *Economic and Political Weekly*, Vol. 31 (4), January 27, pp. PE 2-PE2-PE8

II Historical context of modern government

a. Capitalism

Essential Readings:

R. Suresh, (2010) *Economy & Society -Evolution of Capitalism*, New Delhi, Sage Publications, pp. 151-188; 235-268.

G. Ritzer, (2002) 'Globalization and Related Process I: Imperialism, Colonialism, Development, Westernization, Easternization', in *Globalization: A Basic Text*. London: Wiley- Blackwell, pp. 63-84.

Additional Readings:

M. Dobb, (1950) 'Capitalism', in *Studies in the Development of Capitalism*. London: Routledge and Kegan Paul Ltd, pp. 1-32.

E. Wood, (2002) 'The Agrarian origin of Capitalism', in *Origin of Capitalism: A Long View*. London: Verso, pp. 91-95; 166-181.

A. Hoogvelt, (2002) 'History of Capitalism Expansion', in *Globalization and Third World Politics*. London: Palgrave, pp. 14-28.

b. Socialism

Essential Readings:

A. Brown, (2009) 'The Idea of Communism', in *Rise and Fall of Communism*, Harpercollins (e-book), pp. 1-25; 587-601.

J. McCormick, (2007) 'Communist and Post-Communist States', in *Comparative Politics in Transition*, United Kingdom: Wadsworth, pp. 195-209

Additional Readings:

R. Meek, (1957) 'The Definition of Socialism: A Comment', *The Economic Journal*. 67 (265), pp. 135-139.

c. Colonialism, decolonization& postcolonial society

Essential Readings:

P. Duara, (2004) 'Introduction: The Decolonization of Asia and Africa in the Twentieth Century', in P. Duara, (ed), *Decolonization: Perspective From Now and Then*. London: Routledge, pp. 1-18.

J. Chiryankandath, (2008) 'Colonialism and Post-Colonial Development', in P. Burnell, et. al, *Politics in the Developing World*. New Delhi: Oxford University Press, pp. 31-52.

Additional Reading:

M. Mohanty, (1999) 'Colonialism and Discourse in India and China', Available at http://www.ignca.nic.in/ks_40033.html http, Accessed: 24.03.2011.

III. Themes for Comparative Analysis

Essential Reading:

L. Barrington et. al (2010) *Comparative Politics - Structures & Choices*, Boston, Wadsworth, pp. 212-13; 71-76; 84-89.

M. Grant, (2009) 'United Kingdom Parliamentary System' in *The UK Parliament*. Edinburgh: Edinburgh University Press, pp. 24-43

J. McCormick, (2007) *Comparative Politics in Transition*, UK: Wadsworth, pp. 260-270 (China)

M. Kesselman, J. Krieger and William (2010), *Introduction to Comparative Politics: Political Challenges and Changing Agendas*, UK: Wadsworth. pp. 47-70 (Britain); 364- 388 (Nigeria); 625-648 (China); 415-440 (Brazil).

Additional Reading:

P. Rutland, (2007) 'Britain', in J. Kopstein and M. Lichbach. (eds.) *Comparative Politics: Interest, Identities and Institutions in a Changing Global Order*. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, pp. 39-79