

Master Syllabus

1. Course Information

College: College of Liberal Arts
Department: Political Science
Course Title: Comparative Non-Western Social Systems
Course Designation and Number: CST 251
GE Area(s):
II: Cultural-Social Foundations
VI: College Component

Writing Intensive: Yes No

For WI Courses: All sections Selected Sections are WI

Method(s) of Instruction: Lecture
 Discussion
 Web-enhanced
 Web-only
 Other

Includes Lab: Yes No

Prerequisites: None

2. Objectives

GE Program Objectives:

sharpen critical thinking, problem solving and communication skills.
learn about the aesthetic, ethical, moral, social, and cultural dimensions of human experience needed for participation in the human community
increase knowledge and understanding of the past, of the world in which we live, and how both past and present have an impact on the future.

GE Area Two Objectives:

- b. describe and analyze historical-social elements of nonwestern culture
- c. describe and analyze the global interdependence of groups and of individuals

GE Area Six Objectives:

- b. understand important relationships and interdependencies between the student's major and other academic disciplines, world events or life endeavors
- c. additionally meet the objectives of Area II.

Course Objectives and GE Learning Outcomes (Area Two:

CST 251 focuses on the experience of the non-Western world. The course will describe and analyze historical-social elements of non-Western cultures by examining the precolonial and colonial histories of the regions; gender, class and ethnic relations; and the role of the military in non-Western societies, etc.

Area Two learning outcomes addressed:

Sharpens critical thinking, problem solving and communication skills.

Students will consider contending theories, sift through debates and substantiate own opinions.

They will consider policy alternatives and propose more appropriate US policies.

They will sharpen their writing and verbal skills through the research and writing of a policy paper and through class discussion.

Learn about the aesthetic, ethical, moral, social, and cultural dimensions of human experience needed for participation in the human community

Students will consider a number of moral and ethical dilemmas. The subject is the non-Western

world, and students will consider the experiences of both elites and dominant groups in these regions, as well as the experiences of a variety of groups marginalized because of gender, ethnicity, class, and/or religion.

Course Objectives and GE Learning Outcomes (Area Six):

The course draws from a variety of academic disciplines to underscore the realities of interdependence (and dependence) through an examination of the international economic system and the increasing prominence of international organizations.

Area Six learning outcomes addressed:

Sharpens critical thinking, problem solving and communication skills.

Students will be asked to analyze interdependence by considering what role the US and the international community play in promoting security and development.

Increase knowledge and understanding of the past, of the world in which we live, and how both past and present have an impact on the future.

Students will be tested on their understanding of how precolonial and colonial historical experiences vie with theories associated with other academic disciplines to explain much of the economic and political instability found in the non-Western world today.

WAC Objectives

To improve students' writing proficiency---their ability to develop ideas and transmit information for an appropriate audience in an organized, coherent fashion while writing with appropriate style and correct grammar, usage, punctuation, and spelling.

To encourage students to use writing as a learning tool to explore and structure ideas, to articulate thoughts and questions, and to discover what they know and do not know, thereby empowering students to use writing as a tool of discovery, self-discipline, and thought.

To demonstrate for students the ways in which writing is integral to all disciplines and essential to the learning and conveying of knowledge in all fields.

To meet these goals students will write short in-class assignments in which they will reflect on the material presented.

They will also each write a 10-12 page policy paper for a total of 30% of their grade. In addition to a library meeting to set them off on their research, students will submit paper proposals and initial outlines for the papers. All students will submit what they consider to be a near-final draft of the paper with an invitation to revise and resubmit for the better grade. In addition, students wishing to receive extra credit will write a 2-3 page film review, focusing on themes relevant to the course.

3. Suggested Course Materials

Text: *Comparative Politics of the Third World: Linking Concepts and Cases*, by December Green and Laura Luehrmann
Subscription to *The New York Times* recommended

4. Suggested Method of Evaluation

Two exams, the research project and term paper, as well as credit for participation is recommended.

5. Grading Policy

All GE courses are graded A-F
WI component is graded Pass/Unsatisfactory

6. Suggested Weekly Course Outline Including Typical Assignments

Wk 1: Introduction to the Non-Western World. Read ch. 1. Historical Legacies. Read. ch.s 2-4.

Wk 2: Case Study: Mexico. Read case studies on Mexico in ch.s 5, 9, 16, 19, 21.

Wk 3: The Non-Western World and the International Economic System. Read ch.s 6-8. Meet at Dunbar library for research workshop led by Karen Kimber.

Wk 4: Women in the Non-Western World. Read. ch. 10. Film and Discussion: "Asante Market Women." Paper proposals and outlines due.

Wk 5: Case Study: Nigeria. Read case studies on Nigeria in ch.s 5, 9, 16, 19, 21.

Wk 6: Midterm Exam. Film and discussion: "Rwandan Nightmare."

Wk 7: The State and Political Liberalization. Read ch.s 14, 15. Case Study: China. Read case studies on China in ch.s 5, 9,. Draft of term paper due.

Wk 8: China. Read case studies on China in ch.s 16, 19, 21. The Military. Read. ch. 12.

Wk 9: Revolution. Case Study: Iran. Read case studies on Iran in ch.s 5, 9, 16, 19, 21. Final draft of term papers due.

Wk 10: Iran. The International Arena. Read ch.s 17, 18, 20. Extra credit papers due.

7. Other

Syllabus distributed to students should employ the format approved by UCAP and must include:

- Instructor name, office hours, and contact information
- Office of Disability Services information
- Information on how grades will be determined
- Attendance policy