| Group (submit separate forms if requesting more than one general education group designation) | III: Language | VII: Social Sciences | X  
| III Exception: Symbolic Systems * | | | 
| IV: Expressive Arts | VIII: Ethics & Human Values | IX: American & European | 
| V: Literary & Artistic Studies | X: Indigenous & Global | 
| VI: Historical & Cultural Studies | XI: Natural Sciences w/ lab ☐ w/out lab ☐ | 

*Courses proposed for this designation must be standing requirements of majors that qualify for exceptions to the modern and classical language requirement.

| Dept/Program | Political Science | Course # | 220 |
| Course Title | Introduction to Comparative Government | |
| Prerequisite | None | Credits | 3 |

[Signature: Christopher Muste 2/21/12]

Instructor | Christopher Muste | Phone / Email | ext. 4829 / christopher.muste@umontana.edu |
Program Chair | Paul Haber | Dean | Chris Conner |

Please type / print name | Signature | Date |
Christopher | Christopher Muste | 2/21/12 |
Paul Haber | Paul Haber | 2/22/12 |
Chris Conner | Chris Conner | 2/22/12 |

III. Repetition Rules
New | One-time Only | Renew | X | Change | Remove |
Reason for Gen Ed inclusion, change or deletion | Rolling Review |
Description of change | None |

IV. Description and Purpose of the General Education course: General Education courses must be introductory and foundational within the offering department or within the General Education Group. They must emphasize the fundamental and core concepts and related course content to satisfy the General Education requirement. [Link: http://umt.edu/facultysenate/archive/minutes/11-06/G_Examples_GP.doc]

Political concepts, themes, values, and dilemmas as they apply to the world’s diverse societies and cultures

V. Criteria: Briefly explain how this course meets the criteria for the group. See [Link: http://umt.edu/facultysenate/documents/forms/GF_Criteria5-1-08.aspx]

- Systematically analyzes political and governmental systems, social conditions, and relevant theories and concepts.

VI. Student Learning Goals: Briefly explain how this course will meet the applicable learning goals. See: [Link: http://umt.edu/facultysenate/documents/forms/GF_Criteria5-1-08.aspx]
Lectures, reviews, exams, and research papers focus on analytic concepts and theories and their application to a range of countries with varying characteristics.

NA

PSCI 220 -- INTRODUCTION TO COMPARATIVE GOVERNMENT
Fall 2011
MWF 10:10 - 11:00, Social Science Building 356

Professor Christopher Muste
Office: LA 416 (Liberal Arts Building 416)
Office Hours: Wednesday 1-4, and by appointment
Political Science Department: 350 Liberal Arts; phone 406-243-5202

Phone: 406-243-4829
e-mail: christopher.muste@umontana.edu

Teaching Assistant: Samantha Seaman
Office: 345 Corbin Hall
Office Hours: Monday 9-10, Wednesday 11-12
Weekly Review Session: Friday 11-12, in LA 106

COURSE DESCRIPTION AND OBJECTIVES:
The purpose of this course is to introduce you to the major types of political systems in different countries, and to examine the effects of different political systems on the way countries are governed and on the lives of their citizens. It will also introduce you to the main concepts and theories that political scientists use to make sense of the wide variety of political systems that exist.

The course begins by presenting and explaining the principal concepts used in comparative politics to study countries' political systems. We will next use these concepts to analyze the political systems of industrialized democracies as a group, and then more intensively analyze the similarities and differences in the political systems of three industrialized democracies – the United States, Great Britain, and France – and the emerging European Union. Next, we will examine the main characteristics of communist and post-communist countries, and the changes taking place in Russia and China. Then we will examine the large group of less developed, or “third world” nations, and focus on India, Iran, and Mexico. We will
conclude by exploring some of the problems and opportunities citizens and countries will likely face in the coming years.

In addition to addressing these questions, this course satisfies the General Education Social Sciences requirement. The goal of this requirement is to enable you to 1) describe the nature, structure, and historical development of human organizations and/or relationships, 2) comprehend the role of theory in explaining social phenomena, 3) generate and/or interpret social science data, 4) assess and evaluate the significance of social science phenomena.

**COURSE REQUIREMENTS:**
Introductory courses are intensive by nature and build on the knowledge gained in earlier parts of the course, which means that your investment in keeping up with the class will pay off in terms of how much you will learn, how interesting class will be, and how well you will do on the exams and research paper. This requires doing the readings before each class and being prepared to contribute to class discussion and ask questions - even in a large class such as this intelligent questions and discussions are critical components of learning. There will be two midterms (each worth 25% of the course grade), an exam during finals week (30% of the course grade), and one research and analysis paper (20% of the course grade) due in mid-November. Grades will be assigned according to the following percentages:

\[
\begin{align*}
A &= 93-100 \\
A- &= 90-92.9 \\
B+ &= 87-89.9 \\
B &= 83-86.9 \\
B- &= 80-82.9 \\
C+ &= 77-79.9 \\
C &= 73-76.9 \\
C- &= 70-72.9 \\
D+ &= 67-69.9 \\
D &= 63-66.9 \\
D- &= 60-62.9 \\
\text{below 60}=F
\end{align*}
\]

* Makeup exams will be permitted only if I have been notified prior to the missed exam and if I agree that the absence was necessitated by a serious, documented emergency.
* All three exams and the research & analysis paper must be completed in order to pass the course.
* Check your calendar now to make sure you do not have anything that conflicts with the exams.

**ACADEMIC HONESTY AND PLAGIARISM:**
All students must practice academic honesty. Academic misconduct is subject to an academic penalty by the course instructor and/or a disciplinary sanction by the University. All students need to be familiar with the Student Conduct Code. The Code is available for review online at [http://life.umt.edu/vpsa/student_conduct.php](http://life.umt.edu/vpsa/student_conduct.php).

The University of Montana Student Conduct Code prohibits plagiarism, which is “representing another person’s words, ideas, data, or materials as one’s own.” This is a serious academic violation that can result in penalties up to suspension or expulsion from the University. **I take academic honesty very seriously, and will do my utmost to prevent, uncover, and penalize any form of cheating in this course.** See the UM plagiarism warning at [http://www.umt.edu/catalog/acad/acadpolicy/default.html](http://www.umt.edu/catalog/acad/acadpolicy/default.html) and the Student Conduct Code at [http://life.umt.edu/vpsa/student_conduct.php](http://life.umt.edu/vpsa/student_conduct.php). Please contact me if you have any questions or concerns about academic honesty.

**CLASS COURTESY:**
In order to have a pleasant and effective learning environment in a class this size, we need to observe a few basic courtesies. This is a small campus, so it is possible to get to the classroom on time from all other campus buildings; arriving late or leaving early disrupts the class and disturbs other students and the instructor. **Please turn off all cell phones and all other electronic devices before class begins.** Please don’t read a newspaper or other non-course material, eat during class, or use text messaging, web browsers, or similar communications. You may take class notes using a computer but do not use it for other purposes. If you have a question or comment about the material, please raise your hand instead of discussing it with your neighbor. We’ll all benefit if we remember we’re in the room together to learn.

**DROP POLICY AND INCOMPLETES:**
You can drop on Cyberbear through September 19, and from September 20 to October 31 using a drop slip signed by me. Starting November 1, you must go through the more formal and difficult “late drop”
petition process. I will sign late drop petitions until October 31, and after that only under extraordinary circumstances, as stated at http://www.umt.edu/catalog/acad/acadpolicy/default.html under “Beginning the forty-sixth...” Incompletes will only be permitted when all the conditions set forth in the official University policy are met – the policy is at http://www.umt.edu/catalog/acad/acadpolicy/default.html under “Incomplete Grade Policy”

GENERAL EDUCATION SOCIAL SCIENCES REQUIREMENT:
In order for this course to satisfy your University of Montana General Education Requirement in the Social Sciences, you must take the course for a letter grade, and must earn a C- or better.

DSS STUDENTS:
Qualified students with disabilities will receive appropriate accommodations in this course. Students with disabilities requesting accommodations on exams, papers, or other course requirements should contact me as soon as possible, and must contact the DSS office in order to arrange for and provide to me with a letter of approval for accommodations. The DSS office is in Lommasson Center 154.

E-MAIL AND MOODLE:
Every registered UM student has an official UM e-mail account, and students registered for this course have a Moodle course account. I may use your official UM e-mail to send you important announcements, and the exam and research paper grades will be posted on Moodle. See http://umonline.umt.edu/ for instructions on how to access your UM e-mail and Moodle accounts.

READINGS:
The main readings for this course will be from a custom textbook, with chapters selected to save you money. The book is Charles Hauss, Comparative Politics: Domestic Responses to Global Challenges, 7th edition, available from the UM bookstore in a special edition titled Comparative Politics. The book is also available online as an e-book or for rental at www.ichapters.com but this is not as good a deal as the custom textbook.
I may also hand out or post online other articles for you to read at various times in the course.
COURSE SCHEDULE: Dates Subject to Change by the Professor

August 29 - September 7  Introduction - Chapter 1
SEPTEMBER 2, FRIDAY  NO CLASS DUE TO ACADEMIC CONFERENCE
SEPTEMBER 5, MONDAY  NO CLASS DUE TO LABOR DAY HOLIDAY
September 9 & 12  Industrialized Democracies, Chapter 2
September 14 - 19  The United States, Chapter 3
September 21 - 26  Great Britain, Chapter 4
Sept. 28 & 30  France, Chapter 5

OCTOBER 3 - MONDAY (TENTATIVE DATE)  EXAM #1 – BRING SCANTRON

October 5 - 10  The European Union, Chapter 7
October 12 - 17  Current and Former Communist Regimes, Chapter 8
October 19 & 21  Russia, Chapter 9
October 21  Research Paper Assignment - Hand Out and Discuss
October 24 - 28  China, Chapter 10

OCTOBER 31 - MONDAY (TENTATIVE DATE)  EXAM #2 – BRING SCANTRON

November 2 - 7  Less Developed Countries, Chapter 11
November 9 - 14  India, Chapter 12
November 16 -21  Iran, Chapter 13

FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 18  RESEARCH AND ANALYSIS PAPER DUE IN CLASS

NOVEMBER 23 & 25, WEDNESDAY & FRIDAY  NO CLASS - THANKSGIVING HOLIDAY

November 28 - December 5  Mexico, Chapter 16
December 7 & 9  Danger... and Opportunity, Chapter 17, and Course Review.

FINAL EXAM: THURSDAY, DECEMBER 15, 8:00 - 10:00 A.M. – BRING SCANTRON