

“The 21st century has taught us that we cannot ignore the world around us. Happenings around the globe now directly impact our lives, and social studies teachers and students around the country face the challenge of interpreting complex, puzzling events. The AP comparative course focuses on government and politics in other countries and provides a theoretical framework to compare political systems around the world.” – Ethel Wood

Course Description: This is a one year course designed to give students an analytical perspective on global politics. Students will focus on the governments of the United States as well as the diverse political structures of the **United Kingdom, Russia, China, Mexico, Nigeria, and Iran**. Comparisons will be made in terms of power structures, political institutions, citizen participation, political and economic change, and public policy. Students will be exposed to different theoretical and practical frameworks that are the foundations for a variety of political systems.

### **Summer Reading Opportunities:**

During the summer pay close attention to events in the **United Kingdom, Russia, China, Mexico, Nigeria, and Iran**. The articles should provide you with information about the political, economic, and/or foreign policy issues confronting each nation. Articles may come from newspapers, periodicals, magazines, and/or the Internet.

Possible sources include but are not limited to:

New York Times – <http://www.nytimes.com/>

BBC – [www.news.bbc.co.uk](http://www.news.bbc.co.uk)

The Economist- <http://www.economist.com/>

Foreign Affairs Magazine <https://www.foreignaffairs.com>

The Wall Street Journal <http://www.wsj.com/>

The Guardian- <http://www.theguardian.com/international>

Freedom House - <https://freedomhouse.org/>

Transparency International - <https://www.transparency.org/en/>

You may also enjoy the following titles, recommended from your Comparative Government teachers. They are all OPTIONAL.

Americanah by Chimamanda Ngozi Adichie

Mexico: American Dirt by Jeanine Cummins

Iran: Persepolis by Marjane Satrapi; Reading Lolita in Tehran by Azar Nafisi

UK: Say Nothing by Patrick Radden Keefe

Russia: Red Notice by Bill Browder

China: Red China Blues by Jan Wong

General: The Dictator's Learning Curve by William Dobson