COURSE DESCRIPTION: This course offers an interpretive survey of world (or comparative) politics. One of the basic questions it seeks to address is how societies and governments cope with internal diversity and global change. And, as you are no doubt aware, the transformations and challenges the world has experienced—especially in the past two decades or so—are immense. We will attempt to gain a better understanding of how nations grapple with domestic and international diversity in two primary ways. First, we will focus on the politics and government of a selected group of countries which represent a number of geographic areas of the world, as well as a wide range of ethnic, linguistic, religious, political, and economic diversity. These countries should provide us with many valuable examples of the problems and issues associated with authoritarianism, democratization, state-building, globalization, etc. Second, we will focus more centrally on the influences and impacts on world politics associated with the concept (and reality) of globalization. Thus, it is not too much of an understatement to note that we will have much to consider, discuss, and do in the coming days and weeks!!

ORGANIZATION AND ADMINISTRATION: Class will meet two days a week (T/Th) from 10:00-11:15 a.m. in PLY 222. My office hours are MWF from 3:00-4:00 p.m., or by appointment. My office is Johns Hall 111B. My office phone is 294-3185; also feel free to contact me by e-mail (Cleve Fraser).

REQUIRED READINGS: Two textbooks are required for the course:


COURSE REQUIREMENTS: Your grade for this course will be determined on the basis of four exercises, dated and weighted as follows:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Exercise</th>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Weight</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Midterm exam I</td>
<td>Thursday, February 25</td>
<td>25%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Midterm exam II</td>
<td>Thursday, April 7</td>
<td>25%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Globalization presentations</td>
<td>April 14-April 26</td>
<td>20%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Final exam</td>
<td>Tuesday, May 3</td>
<td>30%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

All exams will be short-answer essay. The last two exams will be cumulative, although questions will be skewed toward material not covered on previous exams.

The Globalization presentation assignment will entail your reflections on, and critiques of, the arguments presented in Dani Rodrik’s volume on globalization. We will begin the process of scheduling presentation times and reviewing the requirements of this assignment in the near future.
Students with disabilities who need academic accommodations should contact the Coordinator of Disability Services in a timely manner prior to contacting me during my office hours. The number is 294-2322.

**ELECTRONICS IN THE CLASSROOM:** I am a technophile by nature, but a traditionalist (perhaps even a Luddite) when it comes to technology in the classroom. With respect to cell phones, I will require that they not be used/accessed during our time together. Ideally, your devices should be turned off and stowed in a purse or backpack; at the very least, your device should be muted and placed out of your line of sight during our class period. If your phone rings in class, and/or if you can’t resist the urge to text or check email during class time, *I will deduct five (5) points off the most proximate assignment.*

With respect to the use of computers for note taking, let me point you to a summary of a recent study which may assist in making an informed decision on whether or not using computers improves a student’s classroom performance. Again, my preference is for old school pen and paper notation, but I recognize that there are valid reasons for employing computers and tablets to record information in this type of setting.

**COURSE GRADE:** Your written examinations will be assigned both a numeric and alphabetic grade (out of 100 points). Here is the scale: 100-98=A+; 97-92=A; 91-90=A-; 89-88=B+; 87-82=B; 81-80=B-; 79-78=C+; 77-72=C; 71-70=C-; 69-68=D+; 67-62=D; 61-60=D-; 59 and below=F. The Response Papers will be given only letter grades.

Your final grade will be determined by (a) converting your letter grades into the following numerical scale: A+=12; A=11; A-=10; B+=9; B=8; B-=7; C+=6; C=5; C-=4; D+=3; D=2; D-=1; F=0; (b) weighting each score by the percentage that each assignment counts toward your final grade, and then (c) summing the weighted values to arrive at a final score, which ranges from 12 (A+) to 0 (F).

**COURSE OUTLINE:** It will be your responsibility to utilize the time between our sessions to insure that you read and reflect on the material before the date which it will be considered. Also note that you should familiarize yourselves with the timelines, “focus questions,” and the “key terms” that are appended to each chapter in your text. A final note: the instructor reserves the right to modify elements of the syllabus.

**January 12:** Course Introduction

**January 14:** Preliminary Questions in World (Comparative) Politics (Why?)

*Readings:* Kesselman, et al., chapter 1, section 1 (pp.2-4), section 2 (pp.5-11)

**January 19:** Preliminary Questions in World (Comparative) Politics (What?)

*Readings:* Kesselman, et al., Chapter 1, section 3 (pp. 11-20)

**January 21:** Preliminary Questions in World (Comparative) Politics (How?)

*Readings:* Kesselman, et al., Chapter 1, section 4 (pp.20-23), section 5 (pp. 23-35)

Rodrik, “Introduction”

*Huntington outline via Moodle
January 26:  UK:  An Introduction

Readings:  Kesselman, et al., Chapter 2, section 1 (pp.37-48)
*UK outline via Moodle

January 28:  UK:  Dignified and Efficient Elements

Readings:  Kesselman, et al., Chapter 2, section 3 (pp. 55-63), section 4 (pp. 63-66)
*Video:  Question Period

February 2:  UK:  Parties and Elections

Readings:  Kesselman, et al., Chapter 2, section 4 (pp. 66-73)

February 4:  UK:  Personalities and Policies

Readings:  Kesselman, et al., Chapter 2, section 2 (pp. 48-54), section 5 (pp. 73-78)

February 9:  Mexico:  An Introduction

Readings:  Kesselman, et al., Chapter 10, section 1 (pp. 403-408)

February 11:  Mexico:  Revolutionary Legacies

Readings:  Video:  The Mexican Revolution
*"Cast of Characters” (handout via Moodle)

February 16:  Mexico and Democratization, Part 1

Readings:  Kesselman, et al., Chapter 10, section 3 (pp. 423-430)
*Huntington outline (handout via Moodle)

February 18:  Mexico and Democratization, Part 2

Readings:  Kesselman, et al., Chapter 10, section 4 (pp. 430-440)

February 23:  Mexico Reconsidered/Review

Readings:  Kesselman, et al., Chapter 10, section 2 (pp. 416-423), section 5 (pp. 440-445)

February 25:  Midterm Exam 1

March 1:  People’s Republic of China:  An Introduction

Readings:  Kesselman, et al., Chapter 15, section 1 (pp. 642-653)
*China outline via Moodle
March 3: The PRC: Revolutionary Legacies

Readings: Kesselman, et al., Chapter 15, section 3 (661-669)
*Marxism/Maoism outline via Moodle

March 8: Spring Break (no class)

March 10: Spring Break (no class)

March 15: The PRC: Reformism and Change

Readings: Kesselman, et al., Chapter 15, section 2 (pp. 653-660)

March 17: The Party-State Pyramid

Readings: Kesselman, et al., Chapter 15, section 4 (pp. 669-677)

March 22: China Rising

Readings: Video: Young and Restless in China
*”Cast of Characters” handout via Moodle

March 24: China Reconsidered

Readings: Kesselman, et al., Chapter 15, section 5 (pp. 678-685)

March 29: Iran: An Introduction

Readings: Kesselman, et al., Chapter 14, section 1 (pp. 696-610)
*Iran outline via Moodle

March 31: State and Society

Readings: Kesselman, et al., Chapter 14, section 3 (pp. 564-574),
section 4 (pp. 609-615)
*Video: “Iran”

April 5: Iran Reconsidered/Review

Readings: Kesselman, et al., Chapter 14, section 2 (pp. 592-598),
section 5 (pp. 634-640)

April 7: Midterm Exam 2

April 12: Furman Engage! (no class)

April 14: Globalization Revisited

Readings: Rodrik, Chapters 1 and 2
April 19: Economic

Readings: Rodrik, Chapters 3 and 4

April 21: Social Justice/Political

Readings: Rodrik, Chapters 7 and 8

April 26: Globalization and the Future

Readings: Rodrik, Chapters 9 and 10

May 3: Final Exam (8:30-11:00 a.m.)