**Shyama Prasad Mukherji College For Women**

**University of Delhi**

**Lesson Plan**

**Name of the Course: B.A. (Hons.) Political Science**

**Paper: Introduction to Comparative Government and Politics.**

**Name of the Teacher: Dr. KshetrimayumSubarta Singh**

**Number of Class per Week: 5 Lectures & 2 Tutorial Classes**

**Objective of the Course**

This course aims to familiarise students to basic concepts, methods and scope of comparative politics, different approaches their strengths and weaknesses. The objective is to provide deeper understanding of structures and functions of institutions in comparative perspective. The course will examine politics in a historical framework while engaging with various themes of comparative analysis in developed and developing countries. The historical context of modern state, constitutional development and their political economy could be understood with specific references; such as capitalism with reference to Britain, socialism with reference to China, colonialism and decolonization with reference to Brazil and Nigeria.

**Syllabus**

Unit I: Understanding Comparative Politics (8 lectures)

a. Nature and scope

b. Going beyond Eurocentrism

**Learning Objective: The objective is to learn the historical evolution of the discipline.**

Unit II: Approaches to Studying Comparative Politics (2 weeks lecture)

1. Institutional Approach, System Approach, Structural Functional Approach
2. Political Culture
3. New Institutionalism

**Learning Objective: This unit intends students to learn ways to understand how social and economic system, institutions, culture and political actors interacts/behave and shape political discourse in particular context.**

Unit II. Historical context of modern government (16 lectures)

1. Capitalism: meaning and development: globalization
2. Socialism: meaning, growth and development
3. Colonialism and decolonization: meaning, context, forms of colonialism; anti-colonialism struggles and process of decolonization

**Learning Objective: This chapter will enable students to learn states interaction with economy (political economy) as well as historical context of modern state- capitalism, socialism and colonialism with reference to Britain, USA, German, Japan, Soviet Russia, India, Australia, etc.**

Unit IV. Themes for comparative analysis (18 lectures)

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

**Learning Objective: This chapter intends to teach students the historical context of modern state, constitutional development and their political economy could be understood with specific references; such as capitalism with reference to Britain, socialism with reference to China, colonialism and decolonization with reference to Brazil and Nigeria.**

**Teaching Method**

I will use varied pedagogical techniques including class projects (in individual and group mode), Assignments and class presentations to create a participative learning environment in the classes. Flipped classroom method will be experimentally used to make teaching learning more participative learning. Lectures are organized in a manner to learn basic vocabulary and perspectives in Comparative Politics. Examples from current and contemporary issues will be selectively discussed to enable students learnt a deeper understanding of the topic. To improve teaching learning process, I use educational technologies such as ICT, MOOCs, Google classroom, etc.

After the completion of syllabus, I will review the syllabus and discuss how to prepare for examination.

**Tutorial Class**

The tutorial classes are organised in such a way to address specific needs of different students. Discussion on class assignments, doubt clarifications, writing practice, etc. will be few highlights of tutorial classes.

**Internal Assessment**

Assessment will be conducted after completion of every chapter and structured feedback will be given to the students. They are structured in such a way to asses learning outcomes of students as follows:

* **language and presentations**
* **subjective as well as objective knowledge of the topics**
* **applications**
* **evaluation of communication and analytical skills of students through regular class presentations and group discussions**

**Reading package**

Reading materials are compiled and available at the beginning of session. The reading package includes the prescribe readings list as well as other materials from various sources.

Students are referred to e-course modules such as ILLL, University of Delhi and UGC e-pathshala.

**Teaching Assessment**

After the completion of syllabi, I will request students to furnish valuable feedbacks on my teaching. This will immensely help to improve my teaching in future.

**Reading List**

I.Understanding Comparative Politics

Essential Readings:

Kopstein, J. and Lichbach, M. (eds), (2005) Comparative Politics: Interests, Identities, and Institutions in a Changing Global Order.

Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, pp.1-5; 16-36; 253-290. Mohanty, M. (1975) ‘Comparative Political Theory and Third World Sensitivity’, in *Teaching Politics, Nos. 1 and 2*, pp. 22-38.

Additional Readings:

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

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

Chandhoke, N.(1996) ‘Limits of Comparative Political Analysis ‘, in *Economic and Political Weekly, Vol. 31 (4)*, January 27, pp. 2-8.

**II. Approaches to Studying Comparative Politics:**

M. Pennington, (2009) ‘Theory, Institutional and Comparative Politics’, in J. Bara and M. Pennington (eds.) Comparative Politics: Explaining Democratic System. Sage Publications, New Delhi, pp. 13-40.

R. M. Howard, (2009) ‘Culture in Comparative Political Analysis’, in M. Lichbach and A. Zuckerman, (eds.) Comparative Political: Rationality, Culture, and Structure. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, pp. 134- 161.

G. Bingham Powell, Jr. Kaare Strom, Melanie Menion, Russell J. Dalton, “Political System:

Environment and Interdependence”, pp 27-33.

B. Rosamond, (2005) ‘Political Culture’, in B. Axford, et al. Politics, London: Routledge, pp. 57-81.

III Historical context of modern government

a. Capitalism

Essential Readings:

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

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

Additional Readings:

Dobb, M. (1950) ‘Capitalism’, in *Studies in theDevelopment of Capitalism*. London: Routledge and Kegan Paul Ltd, pp. 1-32.

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

Hoogvelt, A. (2002) ‘History of Capitalism Expansion’, in*Globalization and Third WorldPolitics.* London: Palgrave, pp. 14-28.

b.Socialism

Essential Readings:

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

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

Additional Readings:

Meek, R. (1957) ‘The Definition of Socialism: A Comment’ in *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.

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

Additional Reading:

Mohanty, M. (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:

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

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

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

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

Additional Reading:

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

**Additional Readings**

Heywood, A. (2013) Politics. London: Palgrave Macmillon, pp. 61-69; 154-164.

Hague, R. &Haroop, M. (2007).*Comparative Government and Politics: An Introduction.* Palgrave Macmillan. pp 143-161.

Fieldhouse, D.K. (1983). Colonialism 1870-1945: An Introduction. London: Macmillan. pp. 1-50.