Unit 1- Introduction to Comparative Politics
Part II Reading Guide- States, Regimes, and Governments

PAU-1- Political **systems and regimes reflect the dynamic balance of power between the government and its citizens.**

a. 1A- Describe differences between regimes, states, nations, and governments.
b. 1D- Explain sources of power and authority in political systems.

LEG-1- Political legitimacy reinforces the sovereignty of the state.

a. 1A- Describe the sources of political legitimacy for different types of regimes among course countries.
b. 1B- Explain how governments maintain legitimacy.

PAU-2- Distribution of power and authority and the influence of internal and external actors affect regime stability

a. 2A- Describe federal and unitary systems, among course countries. Explain the purposes of adoption a federal or unitary system.

Directions: Complete the following guided reading questions using Chapter 2 of the *Essentials of Comparative Politics with Cases* textbook. All work **must be hand-written.**

1. What are the key characteristics and differences between the following (pg. 32-34):
    a. States
    b. Regimes
    c. Governments

2. Provide examples of (not in the text) each of three forms of legitimacy and explain how that example demonstrated that form of legitimacy (pg. 44-45):
    a. Traditional Legitimacy
    b. Charismatic Legitimacy
    c. Rational-Legal Legitimacy

3. Complete the "How do We Measure Stateness" activity on pg 58-59.
    a.
    b.
    c.

Unit 1- Introduction to Comparative Politics
Part I Reading Guide- The Practice of Comparative Politics

MPA-1: Empirical data is important in identifying and explaining political behavior of individuals and groups.

a- Explain how political scientists construct knowledge and communicate inferences and explanations about political systems, institutional interactions, and behavior.

Directions: Complete the following guided reading questions using Chapter 1 of the *Essentials of Comparative Politics with Cases* textbook. All work **must be hand-written.**

1. Explain the difference between Comparative Politics and International Relations? (pg. 5)

2. Briefly explain (why they are) each of the 7 major challenges faced in the study of comparative politics. (pg. 7-11)
    a.
    b.
    c.
    d.
    e.
    f.
    g.

3. Explain Modernization Theory. (pg. 14-15)

4. What are the significant characteristics of institutions (formal and informal)? (pg. 21)

5. Explain why the balance between freedom and equality so significant to our understanding of politics, distribution of power, and institutions within each of the "AP 6" countries? (pg.22-23)

Unit 1 Part 2 Reading Guide

★ 1. Gov runs the state and is guided by regime as its rules and long-term goals. Gov is the leadership, state is the institutions, regimes are the policies. leadership and policies come and go but the state remains

2. • Traditional Legitimacy - legitimate bc "its the way its always been"
   > respecting elders/elder authority, younger family members always respecting older ones, stems from social norms

x. King of England

   • ~~Chris~~ Charismatic Legitimacy - legitimate through the power of their ideas/beliefs/persuasion
   > Martin Luther King Jr., ~~their~~ his legitimacy stemmed from ~~the~~ his personal qualities, beliefs, and persuasion skills

ex. o Zedong, seph talin

   • Rational-Legal Legitimacy - legitimacy based on laws
   > The U.S. gov. the people governing have legitimacy based on the constitution/laws

3. • Comparatavist measure strength of state through their ability to plan & execute policy. Scope is measured through goals & functions of the state.
   • If a country has a wide scope but low strength it means the gov. has a lot of goals and things they want to do but lack the capacity/power to execute them. This would make the gov. less legitimate.
   • I think the U.S. has a wide scope and high strength, I think the scope has widened since the last election because our new president has a lot of ambition even

Unit 1 Intro to Comp Politics Reading Guide

- Comparative politics compares politics inside a country, International relations looks at the relations between 2 or more countries (ex. trade, war, foreign policy)
- 7 major challenges faced in the study of Comp. Pol.
  - difficulty controlling variables in the study bc variables are a function of real world politics and are very diverse
  - Multicausality happens when the variables interact with eachother to create particular outcomes
    - reminds us there's often no single easy answer to political problems
  - In Comp politics we're limited to the # of ~~country~~ countries limiting the # of cases used allowing outliers to distort/skew data
    - shrinks further when looking for specific data (ex. wealthy democracies)
  - The few cases we do have aren't easy to access bc data isn't always reliable (interviews) or inaccessible (gov. restrictions) or language barriers
  - area studies, when a specialist studies parts of the world where similar variables are clustered, problem is the uneven distribution of studies
  - Bias due to the fact the specialist chooses their case to study often bc it peaks their interest leads to selection bias
    - selection bias - A focus on effects rather than causes leading to inaccurate conclusions abt correlation or causation
  - The search for cause and effect bc you can't always which is the cause & which is the effect (ex. countries with high female