

PLSC 207 Comparative Politics (Fall 2018)

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Office Hours: T 9:00 – 11:00 AM & 12:30 – 14:30 PM

Course Information

Section: 001 (CRN 14506)

Credit hours: 3

Classroom: Owens G02

Class Time: MW 11:00 – 12:15 AM

COURSE DESCRIPTION AND OBJECTIVES

This course is an introduction to the study of comparative politics. In this course, we will address the questions such as: why do democracies emerge, and what explains their vibrancy (or lack thereof); why do revolutions or ethnic conflicts occur; what rules democracies use for elections and why and how they matter, and how citizens may be able to control public policies in different modern democracies and autocracies. In this course, students will be introduced to important domestic political institutions, processes, and outcomes across and within countries. Cases will be drawn from twelve countries: the United States, the United Kingdom, France, Germany, Japan, Russia, China, Mexico, Brazil, Iran, India, and Nigeria, and historical periods to give students a grounding in the method of comparative analysis.

This course participates in the **Global Learning Initiative (GLI)** by its very nature. It also contributes to the mastery of the following **university-level competencies (ULCs)**:

1. Winthrop graduates think critically and solve problems.

Winthrop University graduates reason logically, evaluate and use evidence, and solve problems. They seek out and assess relevant information from multiple viewpoints to form well-reasoned conclusions. Winthrop graduates consider the full context and consequences of their decisions and continually reexamine their own critical thinking process, including the strengths and weaknesses of their arguments.

3. Winthrop graduates understand the interconnected nature of the world and the time in which they live.

Winthrop University graduates comprehend the historical, social, and global contexts of their disciplines and their lives. They also recognize how their chosen area of study is inextricably linked to other fields. Winthrop graduates collaborate with members of diverse academic, professional, and cultural communities as informed and engaged citizens.

4. Winthrop University graduates communicate effectively.

Winthrop graduates communicate in a manner appropriate to the subject, occasion, and audience. They create texts – including but not limited to written, oral, and visual presentations – that convey content effectively. Mindful of their voice and the impact of their communication, Winthrop graduates successfully express and exchange ideas.

STUDENT LEARNING OUTCOMES (SLOs)

At the end of this course, students should be able to:

- (1) Understand the fundamental concepts of comparative politics: democratization, economic development, globalization, political and economic systems, competitive and authoritarian

party systems, the role of elections and electoral systems

- (2) understand and identify six types of *political structure* that enable government to formulate, implement and enforce policies including (a) political parties, (b) interest groups, (c) legislatures, (d) executives, (e) bureaucracies and (f) courts;
- (3) understand and identify various functions of political systems including (a) *interest articulation* that allows individuals/groups to express needs/demands, (b) *interest aggregation* that combines different demands into policy proposals, (c) *policymaking* that decides which policy proposals become authoritative rules, (d) *policy implementation* that enforces public policies, and (e) *policy adjudication* that settles disputes about policy application;
- (4) understand and identify three functions of a political system including (a) *political socialization* - families, schools, media, churches, and political structures that develop, reinforce and transform the political culture, (b) *political recruitment* - selection of people for political activity and government offices, (c) *political communication* - flow of information through society and various structures that make up the political system;
- (5) understand and identify political structures and functions of political systems for the following twelve countries: the United States, the United Kingdom, France, Germany, Japan, Russia, China, Mexico, Brazil, Iran, India, and Nigeria
- (6) compare and contrast different policymaking processes and public policies of the twelve countries.

REQUIRED TEXTS

G. Bingham Powell, Jr., Russell Dalton, and Kaare Strom. *Comparative Politics Today: A World View*, 12th ed., 2018

The required text listed above has been ordered at the university bookstore. You are expected to read each required reading before the class period in which the reading is assigned and be able to intelligently discuss the readings on that day.

RECOMMENDED TEXTS

Also, consult sources such as The Economist (economist.com), The Wall Street Journal (wsj.com), The Washington Post (washingtonpost.com), Time (time.com), The New York Times (nytimes.com), and the BBC (bbc.com) to keep up with current international political events.

COURSE REQUIREMENT

Your Grade Composition will be as follows:

Exams	40%	
• Exam 1 (20%)		October 22
• Exam 2 (20%)		December 6
Group Work - Discussion Leader	20%	
Group Work – Case Study	40%	
• 1-page Country Fact Sheet (5%)		September 12

- 1-2 page Research Proposal (5%) September 26
- Annotated Bibliography (10%) October 10
- Research Paper (20%) December 3

Attendance Attending class and being engaged in discussions is an important part of this course. It will help you to fulfill the course objectives. You are expected to come to class prepared to discuss the day's reading. You are expected to attend all classes. I allow up to *two absences* throughout the semester without any penalty. Each additional absence will cause 1 point (out of 100) deduction in the course grade.

Group Work – Discussion Leader (10%)

You will be paired up with a group consisting of 3-4 students, who will be the discussion leaders on the *political systems, political culture, political socializations* and *political structures* of the United Kingdom, France, Germany, Japan, Russia, China, Mexico, Brazil, Iran, India, and Nigeria. You are expected to read the relevant chapter, follow news and current events of your assigned country throughout the semester. Whenever the class topic indicates “Group Discussion/Presentation”, the class will discuss the class topic for all eleven countries. You and your group members are expected to lead the discussion for your country by making a brief-presentation on the given topic.

Group Work – Case Study Research Paper (40%) You will also be required to complete a four-part country study project, culminating in a research paper of 4,000 words based on a group case study of the country to which your group is assigned. You may choose any topic relevant to the study of Comparative Politics.

The country case study project will have four parts:

- (1) A 1-page Country Fact Sheet; due on September 12
- (2) A 1-2-page Proposal that includes the topic, research question, thesis statement, variables and hypotheses, a list of references of scholarly sources; due on September 26
- (3) A 10-source annotated bibliography with 150-word annotations per source; due on October 10
- (4) A research paper of approximately 4,000 words, including the analysis and interpretation; due on December 3. Note. Optional first draft is due October 31 for feedback.

Your group will present your findings on November 14, November 19, November 26, November 28, or December 3. See the Appendix for detailed instructions for each component. The presentation and audience participation will be graded and counted towards the research paper grade.

ALL written assignment must be submitted to Turnitin.com by the due date in order to be graded. The Class ID is 18787258 and the Enrollment Key is comparative.

Exams (40%) Exam 1 (20%) will take place on October 22 and Exam 2 (20%) on December 6. The exams will include questions from the reading assignments, class discussions and lectures. Anything we discuss in class could be on the exams. The exams will be a combination of multiple choice, short answer and essay.

Missed Exams - The midterm and final exam dates are firm. Missed exams may only be re-taken under the following circumstances: (1) death in the family within two weeks before the exam, (2) participation in a University-sponsored academic or sporting event, (3) unforeseen

medical emergency. In such circumstances, you must inform me within 24 hours of the exam and **Office of Student Affairs** that you will miss it. I require supporting documentation out of fairness to other students.

GRADING

A	93-100 = A 90-92 = A-	<p><i>Designates work of superior quality</i></p> <p>Class participation is voluntary, frequent, relevant, and reflects that you have both read and thought about the material. Performance on exams is consistently strong; demonstrates complete mastery of facts and concepts. Written work is clear, well-organized, thought-provoking, and free of grammatical or mechanical errors.</p>
B	87-89 = B+ 82-86 = B 80-81 = B-	<p><i>Designates work of high quality (B+)</i></p> <p>Class participation is voluntary, frequent, and reflects that you are keeping up with the assigned materials. Performance on exams is strong; demonstrates mastery of facts and concepts. Written work reflects a good understanding of the issues and concepts. Writing is clear with minimal errors.</p> <p><i>Designates work that meets the course requirements (B and B-)</i></p> <p>Class participation is voluntary but occasional, and reflects that you are keeping up with the assigned materials. Performance on exams demonstrates satisfactory mastery of facts and concepts with minor errors. Written work reflects a good understanding of the issues and concepts with minor errors. Writing is clear with minimal errors.</p>
C	77-79 = C+ 72-76 = C 70-71 = C-	<p><i>Designates work that minimally meets the course requirements</i></p> <p>Class participation is occasional and/or rarely voluntary, with comments that reveal only a superficial grasp of issues and concepts. Performance on exams demonstrates an acceptable degree of mastery of facts and concepts. Written work may contain arguments that are confusing, with minimal evidence of organization. Writing is marred by errors.</p>
D	67-69 = D+ 62-66 = D 60-61 = D-	<p><i>Reflects minimal clarity and comprehension</i></p> <p>Class participation is minimal, never voluntary, and reveals that you have either not read the assigned materials or did not understand the readings. Performance on exams demonstrates minimal mastery of facts and concepts. Written work is confusing, contradictory, repetitive, and/or not supported by either your own ideas or your sources. Writing is marred by errors.</p>
F	0-59 = F	<p><i>Unsatisfactory performance along most (or all) measures.</i></p>

The “N” Grade

This semester, the deadline to withdraw from a course with an automatic grade of “N” is Friday, October 19. Students may not withdraw from the course after this date without documented extenuating circumstances.

COURSE SCHEDULE

Note. The need may arise to make changes to this schedule depending upon the development of the class. All changes will be communicated to the class. It is the responsibility of each student to be aware of such changes.

Date	Topic	Assignments Due
August 22	<p>COURSE INTRODUCTION: WHAT IS COMPARATIVE POLITICS?</p> <p>Discussion of Course Description and Requirements</p>	
August 27	<p>Topic 1. FUNDAMENTAL CONCEPTS OF COMPARATIVE POLITICS: DEMOCRATIZATION, ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT, GLOBALIZATION AND GOVERNMENT</p> <p><u>Required Reading:</u> PDK Chapter 1; Chapter 19</p>	
August 29	<p>Topic 2. WHY AND HOW WE COMPARE?</p> <p><u>Required Reading:</u> PDK Chapter 2, pp.23-27; Chapter 19</p>	
September 3	<p>Labor Day: No Class</p>	
September 5	<p>Topic 3. COMPARING POLITICAL SYSTEMS: WHAT ARE POLITICAL SYSTEMS?</p> <p><u>Required Reading:</u> PDK Chapter 2, pp.27-32; Chapter 19</p>	
September 10	<p>Topic 4. AN ILLUSTRATIVE COMPARISON: REGIME CHANGE IN RUSSIA</p> <p><u>Required Reading:</u> PDK Chapter 2, pp. 33-36; Chapter 11</p>	
September 12	<p>Group Discussion/Presentation #1: Country Fact Sheet</p>	<p><i>Country Fact Sheet Due</i></p>

September 17	<p>Topic 5. POLITICAL CULTURE: WHAT IS POLITICAL CULTURE AND WHY IT MATTERS</p> <p><u>Required Reading:</u> PDK Chapter 3, pp.39-46</p>	
September 19	<p>Topic 6. POLITICAL SOCIALIZATION: AGENTS OF POLITICAL SOCIALIZATION</p> <p><u>Required Reading:</u> PDK Chapter 3, pp.47-51; Ch. 19</p>	
September 24	<p>Group Discussion/Presentation #2: POLITICAL CULTURE, AGENTS OF POLITICAL SOCIALIZATION, FACTORS AFFECTING POLITICAL CULTURE IN YOUR COUNTRY</p>	
September 26	<p>Topic 7. INTEREST ARTICULATION: CITIZEN ACTION AND CITIZEN PARTICIPATION IN DIFFERENT COUNTRIES</p> <p><u>Required Reading:</u> PDK Chapter 4, pp.55-59; Ch. 19; Relevant chapter for Group Case Study</p>	<i>Proposal Due</i>
October 1	<p>Topic 8. INTEREST ARTICULATION: INTEREST GROUPS, CIVIL SOCIETY, AND INTEREST GROUP SYSTEMS</p> <p><u>Required Reading:</u> PDK Chapter 4, pp.59-68; Ch. 19; Relevant chapter for Group Case Study</p>	
October 3	<p>Topic 9. PARTY SYSTEMS, TYPES OF ELECTORAL SYSTEMS, PATTERNS OF ELECTORAL COMPETITION</p> <p><u>Required Reading:</u> PDK Chapter 4, pp.69-73; Ch. 19; Relevant chapter for Group Case Study</p>	<i>Interim Grade Due on October 4th</i>

October 8	CLASSROOM EXPERIMENT #1: VOTING AND ELECTIONS	
October 10	<p>Topic 10. REVIEW OF EXPERIMENT, ELECTORAL SYSTEMS, PATTERNS OF ELECTORAL COMPETITION, AND COMPETITIVE PARTY SYSTEMS</p> <p><u>Required Reading:</u> PDK Chapter 4, pp.74-78; Ch. 19; Relevant chapter for Group Case Study</p>	<i>Annotated Bibliography</i>
October 15	Fall Break-No Class	
October 17	<p>Topic 11. COMPETITIVE PARTY SYSTEMS VS. AUTHORITARIAN PARTY SYSTEMS</p> <p><u>Required Reading:</u> PDK Chapter 4, pp.78-82; Ch. 19; Relevant chapter for Group Case Study</p> <p>Group Discussion/Presentation #3: INTEREST REPRESENTATION, INTEREST GROUPS, POLITICAL PARTIES, PARTY SYSTEMS, ELECTORAL SYSTEMS AND ELECTION</p>	<i>Course Withdrawal Deadline: October 19</i>
October 22	EXAM 1	Chapters 1 through 4
October 24	<p>Topic 12. GOVERNMENT AND POLICYMAKING: CONSTITUTIONS, POLICYMAKING IN DEMOCRACY AND AUTHORITARIANISM, AND SEPARATION OF GOVERNMENT POWERS</p> <p><u>Required Reading:</u> PDK Chapter 5, pp.86-91; Ch. 19; Relevant chapter for Group Case Study</p>	
October 29	<p>Topic 13. GOVERNMENT AND POLICYMAKING: GEOGRAPHIC DISTRIBUTION OF GOV'T POWER, LIMITATIONS ON GOVERNMENT POWER</p> <p><u>Required Reading:</u> PDK Chapter 5, pp.91-94; Ch. 19; Relevant chapter for Group Case Study</p> <p>Group Discussion/Presentation #4: CONSTITUTIONS, SEPARATION OF GOVERNMENT POWERS, GEOGRAPHIC DISTRIBUTION OF GOV'T</p>	

	POWER AND LIMITATIONS ON GOVERNMENT POWER	
October 31	Topic 14. GOVERNMENT AND POLICYMAKING: ASSEMBLIES, POLITICAL EXECUTIVES, AND THE BUREAUCRACY <u>Required Reading:</u> PDK Chapter 5, pp.94-105; Ch. 19; Relevant chapter for Group Case Study	Research Paper 1 st Draft Due (Optional)
November 5	Group Discussion/Presentation #5: ASSEMBLIES, POLITICAL EXECUTIVES, AND THE BUREAUCRACY	
November 7	Topic 15. PUBLIC POLICY <u>Required Reading:</u> PDK Chapter 6; Ch. 19	
November 12	Group Discussion/Presentation #6: PUBLIC POLICY OF DIFFERENT COUNTRIES	
November 14	CLASSROOM EXPERIMENT #2: PARTY STRATEGY	
November 19	Topic 16. POLITICS OF BRITAIN, FRANCE AND GERMANY <u>Required Reading:</u> SKIM or re-read PDK Chapters 7-9	
November 21	Thanksgiving Break – No Class	
November 26	Topic 17. POLITICS OF JAPAN, RUSSIA AND CHINA <u>Required Reading:</u> SKIM or re-read PDK Chapters 10-12	
November 28	Topic 18. POLITICS OF MEXICO AND BRAZIL <u>Required Reading:</u> SKIM or re-read PDK Chapter 13-14	
December 3	Topic 19. POLITICS OF IRAN, INDIA AND NIGERIA <u>Required Reading:</u> SKIM or re-read PDK Chapter 15-17	GADGET DAY Research Paper Due
December 6	EXAM 2	Chapters 5 through 7; Chapter 19;

		The Relevant Chapter for One's Case Study
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UNIVERSITY LEVEL CLASS POLICIES AND RESOURCES

Attendance, Class Participation, and Taking Notes: Regular class attendance is required. Excessive absences will lower your grade in two ways: (1) loss of note-taking from class lecture and discussion; (2) loss of class participation credit. Class participation will raise or lower your grade. If prolonged illness or other problems cause you to be absent for an extended period of time, please let me know. In addition, every student is expected to arrive on time. Arriving late or leaving early disrupts the class and is not acceptable.

Class Listserv Participation: Class cancellations, changes in schedule, relevant global cultural events, guest speakers, etc., will be announced via the class listserv to which you will be automatically subscribed through your winthrop.edu e-mail address if you are registered for the class by the time the listserv population is generated. The email address for this list is: PLSC207001@class.winthrop.edu. If you register later and need to subscribe to the class listserv, go to:

<http://www.winthrop.edu/technology/default.aspx?id=7081>. The class number is **PLSC207001**. Check your WU e-mail frequently. You may use the listserv for discussion or to share information with classmates, review for exams, or ask questions about course material. *Note that anything you post to the listserv will be seen by everyone in the class.*

Technology: You are welcome to use a computer to take notes in class. However, using the computer to check Facebook or engage in other non-course related activities is prohibited. This class follows the College of Arts and Sciences policy on use of technology in the classroom. Please turn off all cell phones and other electronic devices during class meetings. If you need to leave your phone on during a particular class for emergency reasons, please place it on vibrate. *The use of any kind of electronic device, including a phone, iPod or Internet access, during an exam constitutes academic dishonesty.*

<http://www.winthrop.edu/uploadedFiles/artscience/AppropriateUseOfHandHeldWirelessTechnologyApprovedPolicyMar2010.pdf>

Office of Accessibility (OA): Winthrop University is dedicated to providing access to education. If you have a disability and require specific accommodations to complete this course, contact the Office of Accessibility (OA) at 323-3290 or accessibility@winthrop.edu. Once you have your official notice of accommodations from the Office of Accessibility, please inform me as early as possible in the semester.

Winthrop's Academic Success Center is a free resource for all undergraduate students seeking to perform their best academically. The ASC offers a variety of personalized and structured resources that help students achieve academic excellence, such as tutoring, academic skill development (test taking strategies, time management counseling, and study techniques), group and individual study spaces, and academic coaching. The ASC is located on the first floor of Dinkins, Suite 106. Please contact the ASC at 803-323-3929 or success@winthrop.edu or www.winthrop.edu/success.

Winthrop University's Office of Nationally Competitive Awards (ONCA) identifies and assists highly motivated and talented students to apply for nationally and internationally competitive awards, scholarships, fellowships, and unique opportunities both at home and abroad. ONCA gathers and disseminates award information and deadlines across the campus community, and serves as a resource for students, faculty, and staff throughout the nationally competitive award nomination and application process. ONCA is located in Dinkins 222B. Please fill out an online information form at the bottom of the ONCA webpage www.winthrop.edu/onca and email onca@winthrop.edu for more information.

Plagiarism Using the words or ideas of others as one's own is plagiarism. Quoting or paraphrasing material from books or articles without properly citing the source is also plagiarism. All sources used must be properly cited in your papers. Consult your Writing 101/HMXP Writing Manual for proper citation techniques.

POLITICAL SCIENCE DEPARTMENT STATEMENT ON PLAGIARISM AND ACADEMIC MISCONDUCT

The Winthrop University Political Science department abhors all forms of academic misconduct, and faculty members aggressively investigate all incidents of suspected cheating. This includes, but is not limited to, using turnitin.com. Plagiarism, whether intentional or unintentional, is by far the most common form of academic misconduct in the department. Plagiarism includes, but is not limited to:

- Using the words or ideas of others as one's own;
- Reproducing, in whole or in part, principal ideas from a fellow student's work;
- Granting a fellow student permission to copy one's paper, or to reproduce some or all of its principal ideas;
- Quoting or paraphrasing material from sources without any citation;
- Quoting or paraphrasing material without sufficient and/or proper citation;
- Omitting some or all sources used in a paper; and
- Submitting a paper written for one course -- whether in Political Science or another discipline -- to meet a course requirement in a second course, *without the express permission of all instructors involved*. This is the case even though many paper topics may be relevant to several different courses.

All incidents of suspected academic misconduct are investigated with equal vigor. When a faculty member suspects that a student engaged in academic misconduct, the faculty member will follow the appropriate procedures outlined in the *Student Handbook*. The faculty member will apply whatever sanctions s/he deems appropriate. Possible sanctions include, but are not limited to:

- Failing the assignment;
- Requiring a student to repeat an assignment for reduced credit;
- Requiring a student to repeat an assignment for no credit; or
- Failing the course.

Academic misconduct applies equally to required assignments and extra credit assignments.

All incidents of academic misconduct will be reported to the Department Chair, the Dean of Students, the Dean of Arts and Sciences and the student's academic advisor. The University may

impose its own sanctions in addition to sanctions imposed by the faculty member or the department. The University may impose sanctions even after a student has graduated, and may include revoking a student's diploma.

In addition, students who engage in more than one incident of academic misconduct may be declared ineligible for departmental awards, ineligible for employment in the department or its affiliated programs, and ineligible to volunteer as a peer advisor.

Adopted August 14, 2007.

APPENDIX

1. Country Fact Sheet Due September 12

You may use the most recent UNDP Human Development Report, published annually and available online or World Bank's World Development Indicators.

To access to Human Development Report, type into the Google Search Engine: HUMAN DEVELOPMENT REPORT. Then, look for and Click on the link for HUMAN DEVELOPMENT INDICATORS or GET DATA or GET STATISTICS. You should be able to SEARCH BY COUNTRY.

To access World Bank's World Development Indicators,

go to:

<http://databank.worldbank.org/data/reports.aspx?source=world-development-indicators#>

then, click the country of your interest under "Country," information you want to retrieve under "Series," and the time periods you want to look at under "Time."

Information to include on Page 1 clearly labeled in sentence/paragraph form:

- Country Name
- Type of Government
- Year(s) of Constitution(s)
- Key Moments in Political History
 - Indigenous, Colonial, Independence Periods if applicable
- Economy: Per Capita GDP (PPP\$), Basic imports and exports, agricultural, industrial, service sector labor
- Culture: Language/Ethnicity/Religion

2. 1-2 Page Research Proposal (Due September 26)

- **Topic (1 sentence)**
- **Research question (1 sentence)**
- **Thesis statement (1 sentence)**
- **Variables:**

Include the list of variables that you will include in your analysis.

You may, but not are limited to, choose your variables from the following sources:

1. UNDP Human Development Report

2. World Bank's World Development Indicators

<http://databank.worldbank.org/data/reports.aspx?source=world-development-indicators#>

3. World Bank's Database of Political Institutions 2015 (DPI2015)

(1) Go to:

(2) http://www.iadb.org/en/research-and-data/publication-details,3169.html?pub_id=IDB-DB-121

(3) Click on “Download Dataset in English”

4. Center for Systemic Peace’s Polity IV database

(1) Go to:

(1) <http://www.systemicpeace.org/inscrdata.html>

(2) Find the User’s Manual and the dataset (either in excel or SPSS format) for “Polity IV Annual Time-Series, 1800-2016”

- **Time Period (1 sentence):** Specify the period during which your analysis will be based and briefly comment on why you choose the specific period of time. Pay attention to the availability of information for the time period in the database for your selected country.
- **Hypotheses (1 to 2 sentences):** Briefly state the relationships between the variables you expect to find to support your thesis statement.
- **List of References (10 scholarly sources)**

3. Annotated bibliography (Due October 10)

An annotated bibliography is a listing of sources that you have read for your research paper which briefly summarizes the relevant content from those sources for the purposes of the research being done. You may use approximately 150 words summarizing each source. If your reading has caused you to change your paper topic, the topic and research question should be clearly articulated at this point in the assignment. You must use at least ten different scholarly sources of research, including books, journal articles, and other international or country reports. Internet sources such as Wikipedia and Dictionary.com cannot be your references in a scholarly research paper. You can read this for background information but you should not cite this in a scholarly research paper.

You may use either MLA, APA, or Chicago style, but be consistent throughout your bibliography. A template can be found at the Purdue University Online Writing Lab:

<https://owl.english.purdue.edu/owl/resource/614/03/>

4. Research Paper (Due December 3)

The paper should be 4,000 words (excluding the references) and include a minimum of 10 outside sources other than the data used in the paper. Students will use either MLA, APA or Chicago style.

- Title page
 - Title
 - Student’s affiliation
 - Abstract
 - Keywords
- Introduction
 - Research question, including justification of importance of the research question
 - Thesis/Main argument
 - Brief justification of case selection (your country)

- Brief preview of findings (optional)
- Literature review
 - Clear description of main schools of thought relevant to your research question, including the current debate (if there is any)
 - Clear description of how your paper is connected to the existing literature
- Hypothesis
 - Briefly discuss the relationships between the variable you expect to observe from your data, if your data supports your thesis statement.
- Research Design
 - Description of your data (both qualitative or quantitative), including data sources and variables, how you plan to present your data or information
- Findings
 - Present your findings and provide your interpretation of the evidence that supports your thesis statement.
- Conclusion

Note. An optional first draft is due October 31. This will not be graded while I will give you detailed feedback on your draft.