George Mason University Course Approval Form
Office of the Registrar
New__X_____ Modify_______ Delete_______

Department: Public and International Affairs          Course Abbrev/Number__GOVT 831

Prepared by:_Julianne Mahler, Dept. Public & International Affairs  Ext: 3-1414

Full Course Title: Research Seminar in Regional Political Culture and Development

Abbreviated Course Title *(Inventory will only accommodate 24 characters)*: Res Sem Reg Pol Cult

Term First *(new courses)*: F 2006      Course Level: GA
UL=Undergrad lower
UU=Undergrad upper
GF=Grad lower (500-600)
GA= Grad upper (700 + )

Credit Hours: *(Fixed)* 3 (Var.)       Catalog Format : (3:3:0)

Previous Course ID :_________________ Last Term Course will be Offered:______________

Repeatable for Credit: N
D=Yes, but not within same term (indicate max hrs) Up to:
T=Yes, within same term (indicate max hrs) *(Maximum hours)*
N=Cannot be repeated for credit

Activity Code 1: Sem
LEC=Lecture
LAB=Lab
Maximum Enrollment:
Activity Code 2:
RCT=Recitation
SEM=Seminar
STU=Studio
INT=Internship
IND=Independent Study

Prereq: GOVT 540

Approval:
Department or Program:_________________________ Date:_______________
(Signature)

College Council:_________________________ Date:_______________
(Signature- if applicable)

Graduate Council:*_________________________ Date:_______________
(Signature - Provost or Graduate Council Representative)

*All courses numbered 500 or above must be forwarded to Graduate Council once approved at the departmental or college level. OtR 11/99*
GOVT 831
Research Seminar in Regional Political Culture and Development

Course Description:

This seminar provides a graduate-level overview of the theories of political culture and economic development applied to Middle East, Latin America, Asia and Africa. The main purpose of the course is to allow students to engage in debates over economic growth and development from a broad and rigorous analytical base.

Research Paper: Students should produce a theoretically informed empirical research paper on a topic related to the course. Students present proposals to the professor for approval in the third week.

Essays: Students should produce two essays on a specific topic and may be based on discussion questions for weekly sessions.

Presentation: Presentation: Students make a 20-25 minute presentation on research papers at the end of the semester.

Participation: Students should sign up for questions in advance to lead discussion of those questions in class. Performance is based on how many times a student signs up for discussion questions (counting only one question per session) and how prepared students are for the question. In addition, performance is based on participation in discussion of questions students have not signed up for.

Grading:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Component</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Research paper (35-40 pages)</td>
<td>40%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Essays (10-12 each)</td>
<td>15% + 30%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Presentation</td>
<td>15%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Participation</td>
<td>15%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>100%</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

Required books:

This course requires eight books, which can be purchased in the University Bookstore. Reading is due before class.


**Recommended books:** I have provided some recommended literature, which would be helpful for this course or for future studies.


Reading Assignments

**Week 1: Introduction**

**Week 2: Political Culture**


**Week 3: Economic Development**


**Week 4: Regionalism**


**Weeks 5-6: Middle East**


**Weeks 7-8: Latin America**


**Weeks 9-10: East Asia**


**Weeks 11-12: Africa**


**Week 13: Presentations**

**Week 14: Presentations**