**APCOGO/FALL 2013**

**Unit 2 – UK and EU**

**Study Guide/Possible FRQ’s for Unit 2: The LEAST You Need to Know!**

*In addition to the outline below and your country chart, be sure to know all of the vocabulary for this unit…whether we “covered” it or not.* ☺

**Part 1: The Making of the Modern British State**

* Explain why UK is considered an evolutionary democracy
* Define collective consensus and explain why UK is considered a welfare state
* Define neoliberalism and identify policies of Margaret Thatcher that embraced neoliberalism
* Explain Tony Blair’s “Third Way” and identify key reforms

**Part 2: Governance & Policy-Making**

* Describe similarities/differences between a parliamentary and presidential form of government
  + Be sure to know how executive powers are “checked,” or held accountable in each form
* Distinguish between unitary and federal governments
* Define devolution and provide examples of how the UK has devolved power
* Explain the concept of parliamentary sovereignty
* Define constitutional monarchy and describe the role of the monarch in the UK
* How is the PM chosen? What are the roles of the PM? Explain what is meant by the PM is “first among equals”
* Explain collective responsibility as it relates to the cabinet in a parliamentary system *(\*note this is different from collective consensus – don’t get them confused!)*
* Explain the role of the bureaucracy in the UK. What relationship does it have to the cabinet?
* Describe the main differences between the House of Commons and House of Lords
* What reforms have been made in the House of Lords?
* Explain why a vote of no confidence may be taken and what the results are of losing such a vote
* Describe the difference between Proportional and Plurality (FPTP) Elections
  + Which election system does the UK use?
  + What are some consequences of such a system?
  + What is the Alternative Vote? Why and how was it proposed and why didn’t it pass?
* Describe the basic structure of the UK Supreme Court.
  + When and why was it established?
  + Identify the roles of the Supreme Court, including in relation to the Parliament and the EU

**Part 3: Citizens, Society & the State**

* Identify major social cleavages in the UK and describe ways in which the state has acted to address these cleavages
* Identify ethnic minorities in the UK and identify the fasting growing group of minorities
* Identify agents of socialization in the UK
* Describe modes of political participation in the UK
* Differentiate between social movements and interest groups
* Describe the major linkage institutions in the UK
* Identify the major political parties and describe their key beliefs
* Describe how interest groups function in the UK, including quangos
* Which major interest group has had less of a voice/role since the Thatcher era?

**Part 4: Public Policy (see student presentation and book)**

* Describe current major public policy issues in the UK today, including its role in the EU
* How do they reflect either fragmentation or globalization?
* What impact do they have on the economic development of the UK?
* How does the UK compare to other countries in the AP6 in terms of GDP, Gini, Freedom House, CPI?
* Are there concerns with major civil liberties or political rights?

**Part 5: The European Union**

* Define supranationalism and integration
* Identify the main goal of the “Common Market” created by the Treaty of Rome
* Describe the purpose of the Maastricht Treaty and identify its key components, including the Three Pillars
* Identify the three requirements for membership
* Describe the **main** purpose of each of the following EU institutions
  + The European Commission
  + The Council of Ministers
  + The European Parliament
  + The European Court of Justice
  + The Court of Auditors
* Explain key common policy and its purpose
* Describe the major challenges facing the EU today