



THE UNIVERSITY OF ARIZONA
COLLEGE OF SOCIAL & BEHAVIORAL SCIENCES

Center for Middle Eastern Studies

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AMERICAN GOVERNMENT PROBLEM BASED LEARNING CREATE A GOVERNMENT FOR IRAQ

Introduction

Saddam has been defeated and the United States has promised the Iraqi people that we will help them create a viable government to replace the dictatorship of Saddam Hussein. The United States thinks that Turkey's government might serve as a possible model for a future Iraqi government. You have been asked to submit a recommendation to the Ruling Council of Iraq as to the feasibility of creating a government for Iraq that would be based on Turkey's government and constitution. You must create a plan that will bring peace and prosperity to the troubled land of Iraq.

The Task

Your job is to win the plan that will become the government of Iraq. To be awarded the contract to create the government you must complete the required form listed below. The council wants to make sure you don't waste their time so you must fill out the OFFICIAL APPLICATION FORM to show you are a qualified political scientist. You will then make a formal presentation about your plan for a new Iraq.

OFFICIAL APPLICATION FORM PART 1 BACKGROUND INFORMATION

Identify the terms listed below. Each answer must be "typed or legibly written in ink. Each answer must be in a complete sentence and explained in YOUR words NOT copied from a book or the internet. The goal is learning not an exercise in copying! (5 points each for 15 possible points)

- | | | |
|-------------------|--------------------------|--------------------|
| 1. Federal System | 2. Unitary System | 3. State |
| 4. Nation | 5. Nation-state | 6. Sovereignty |
| 7. In World | 8. 3rd World | 9. Theocracy |
| 10. Democracy | 11. Constitution | |
| 12. Dictatorship | 13. Monarchy | 14. Economics |
| 15. Capitalism | 16. Socialism | 17. Mixed Economy |
| 18. Secularism | 19. Parliamentary system | 20. Prime minister |
| 21. Kurds | 22. Shia | 23. Sunni |

PART 2 QUESTIONS TO ANSWER

Now that you have some more knowledge about government, you will use the knowledge that you learned above in answering the questions below. Each answer should be at least 60-100 words. Answers must be professional in content and appearance. (20 points each for 200 possible points)

1. Explain the differences between a nation, a state, and a nation-state. Which of these is Turkey? Which one do the Kurds hope to be? Which is the United States? Which one does the US want for Iraq? What are the Kurds today? Explain why you answered as you did.
2. Explain the difference between the 1st World and the 3rd World. What world does the U.S. belong to? Explain why. What world does Turkey belong to? Explain why. Some would say that Iraq was a 1st world country and now is a 3rd world country but hopes to be a 1st world country again. Explain how that could be possible.
3. Osama Bin Laden might say that in his view it is the 3rd World against the 1st World. He says the Muslims of the 3rd World should rise up against the Western powers of the 1st World. Explain what Bin Laden is talking about. Why would people who hear him think he is a hero? Why might they agree with his message?
4. Explain the difference between a federal system and a unitary system. What system was Iraq under Saddam? What system is the U.S.? Explain the basis of your answers. The Kurds and Shiites of Iraq want a federal system and the Sunni want a unitary system, try and explain why?
5. Compare the demographics of the United States, Iraq, and Turkey. Make a chart that includes the following: the GDP per capita of each, Population, Languages spoken, Religions, Percentages of major ethnic groups.
6. In Iraq the US says the Kurds are our allies and are freedom fighters. In Turkey the Kurds are considered enemies and terrorists. How do you explain this?
7. Describe how the United States selects its President. Describe how Turkey elects its President. Which may be best for Iraq? Include reasons for your answer.
8. In the United States we believe in freedom of speech. In Turkey, their constitution forbids speech that may harm the country. Should Iraq allow freedom of speech like in the US or like Turkey? Explain your answer.
9. The US and Turkey are secular states. Explain what that means. Some in Iraq want to create a theocracy. Explain what that would be like. Which do you think would be best for Iraq? Explain why.
10. The United States says it is a capitalist country. Explain what that means? Some would say that Turkey is a mixed economy. Explain what that means. Should the oil of Iraq be owned by the state or should it be privately owned? Explain your thinking.

Part 3 The Final Visual Product

After completing parts 1 and 2 you should have a good grasp of some of the issues facing the creation of a government in Iraq. In this section you will put your ideas and thoughts into a plan of governance for Iraq. You will create a visual product that summarizes your conclusions to some of the questions asked. You will be grade on professional appearance and quality of thought. (100 points)Your visual final product should include the following information:

1. A chart showing how power should be distributed in Iraq. Some things to include are:
 - Will there be a federal system or unitary system or something else?
 - How many branches of government will there be?
 - How will the leaders be chosen?
 - Will there be a Congress or Parliament? Will representatives be selected or elected?

2. A list of the basic rights the people of Iraq should have.
 - What will be the limits if any on freedom of speech?
 - What right will minorities have? Will the Kurds be allowed to form a separate state?
 - What role will religion have? Will Iraq be a theocracy or a secular state?
 - What rights will women have?

Part 4 The Presentation

Now you make your presentation to the class. In this part you explain your visual product.

-You explain why your plan will work.

-You explain why your plan is the best.

The class will create a rubric on which the presentations will be graded. Your presentation should be about 10 minutes in length. You must prepare note cards that indicate preparedness. You must use the note cards in your presentation. The winning presentation will receive an extra 100 points. (50 points)

Resources

You should use your textbook, the internet class notes, and various handouts to complete this assignment.

Grading

This project is worth a total of 465 points. I have broken it down into various sections to help you succeed. For each section you will be graded on following directions and quality and appearance of your work. This is a real world simulation. I expect high quality effort and results.

Conclusion Questions

Answer these questions after completing the project. (10 points each)

1. What did you learn from doing this activity?
2. Evaluate the project. What did you like? What would make it better?