Chapter 11 Comparing Japan and Germany

**Assignment:** Construct a *Most Similar Systems* analysis of Japan, and Germany.

Now you’re going to extend your institutional study of Japan, using the ParlGov database, <http://www.parlgov.org/> to compare its institutions with Germany.

Go to the Japan “Cases in Context” on pages 263, 494 and review the case studies for Germany on pages 265, 454. Using the case study questions and extending beyond them, and including the data (below), compare the composition of the political parties and their relationships to the parliamentary politics *between* the two countries.

**Cite your sources. Save your work**.

**Using Data:**

When you open ParlGov, take in the entire page.

The Index line contains links to "Explore", "Data", and "Documentation". Click on each of these links and study the pages.

* Notice under "Explore", that almost none of the countries you're studying are contained in this database. But three of them are; **Germany and Japan**. Note what data is available and investigate it.
* Create a new tab in your Excel workbook for ParlGov.
* Open the data sheets for Japan under "**Explore**" by clicking on "**Parties**". The other two pages are linked at the top of the page. Mouse over the index line to read what each column is. If you don't know the terms from the text, look them up in your textbook.
* Collect the lists of Parties, Cabinets and their Prime Ministers, and the elections from 2000 through 2017.

**Save your work.**