

University of New Mexico
Department of Political Science
POLS 520: Pro-seminar in Comparative Politics
Fall Semester 2017

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Office hours: W 9:30 – 11:30

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Why do some countries turn into stable democracies while others suffer from civil war, military coups, and violent insurgencies? What explains why the modern state first developed in Europe? How can we account for the varied development and performance of the state, political parties, and other institutions across different countries and regions? This course, an advanced survey of the subfield of comparative politics, tackles these questions and many others. The course is split into four sections in which we take an extended look at some of the major themes of comparative politics—statebuilding, democratization, institutions, and political economy. The course is designed to train PhD students preparing for qualifying exams in comparative politics and involves extensive reading.

Course requirements

1. Each student is expected to complete the reading assignments for each week and contribute actively to class discussion. Seminar discussions are a crucial part of the learning and evaluation process. Disengage at your own peril.

2. Each student will be expected to write four response papers to the weekly readings. The papers should be 3-4 pages long, 12 point font, double-spaced, with one-inch margins.

Papers are due in class the day the readings are to be discussed. Students must turn in a **hard copy** and an **electronic copy**. There will be no extensions. Students must write one paper for each of the four topics (statebuilding, democratization, institutions, and political economy), but may choose which week they will write about. For instance for the statebuilding paper, students can choose week 2, 3, 5, or 6. A sign-up sheet will circulate in the first class meeting.

The objective of the papers is to quickly identify the central issues raised in the assigned reading for the week, to locate the various authors' position on those issues, and to comment critically on the debate and the value of each contribution to it.

When writing your paper, you can choose to address one or more of the following questions: What are the central theoretical and methodological issues at stake? How do the authors' principal arguments compare to each other? How does each author's contribution relate to larger debates in the field of comparative politics? What are the main strengths or weaknesses of each

work? How valuable, original, and viable is the theory or argument proposed? Is there enough evidence to support the argument? How well has the debate or controversy been resolved, and if unresolved, what kind of new evidence or analyses are necessary to resolve it?

The paper should not be a mere summary of the readings but a critical commentary on the issues and arguments that arise in the works. The best papers are those that reflect original thought and propose a clear interpretation of the week's readings.

Papers will be evaluated according to their insight, clarity, accuracy, and economy of language.

3. Each student will complete a final project. There are two options. Students can either (1) write a short 10-15 page research paper that extends one of the topics of the class to an empirical examination, or (2) write a comprehensive exam-style paper in which students will be sent four questions and will have 24 hours to answer two (at a suggested length of 10-15 pages).

Grading

Class participation	20 %
Response papers	15 % (each)
Final project	20 %

Books you should purchase or borrow:

Charles Tilly, *Coercion, Capital and European States, AD 990 – 1992* (Wiley-Blackwell, 1992)

Barrington Moore, *Social Origins of Dictatorship and Democracy: Lord and Peasant in the Making of the Modern World* (Beacon Press, 1966)

Arend Lijphart *Patterns of Democracy* (Yale University Press, 1999) **NB: this is available as an eBook**

Frank Dobbin, *Forging Industrial Policy: The United States, Britain, and France in the Railway Age* (Cambridge 1997)

Kathleen Thelen *How Institutions Evolve: The Political Economy of Skills in Germany, Britain, the United States, and Japan* (Cambridge 2004)

Paul Pierson *Dismantling the Welfare State*, (Cambridge 1994)

In the syllabus, required readings are marked as follows:

^ indicates that the reading is available on the course website.

\$ indicates this is a book for purchase.

* indicates that the reading is available online using your UNM netID

@ indicates an eBook

Course Schedule

August 21 (week 1): Introduction

- ^ Gerardo Munck, "Past and Present in Comparative Politics," in Gerardo Munck and Richard Snyder, *Passion, Craft, and Method in Comparative Politics*
- ^ David Collier, "The Comparative Method," in Katznelson and Milner, eds. *Political Science as a Discipline*

SECTION I: STATEBUILDING

August 28 (week 2): The State as Variable

- ^ Samuel P. Huntington, *Political Order in Changing Societies* (Yale University Press, 1968), pp. 1-92
- ^ Peter Evans, Dietrich Rueschemeyer, and Theda Skocpol, *Bringing the State Back In* (Cambridge University Press, 1985), pp. 3-43
- * Stephen Krasner (1984). "Approaches to the State: Alternative Conceptions and Historical Dynamics," *Comparative Politics* Vol 16, No 2, pp. 223-246
- * J. P. Nettl (1968). "The State as a Conceptual Variable," *World Politics* Vol 20, No 4, pp. 559-592
- ^ Max Weber, "Politics as a Vocation" in Gerth and Mills, eds. *From Max Weber* (Oxford 1946): 77-128

September 4 (week 3): NO CLASS

September 11 (week 4): Seminal Works

- \$ Charles Tilly, *Coercion, Capital and European States, AD 990 – 1992* (Wiley-Blackwell, 1992)
- ^ Otto Hintze, "Military Organization and the Organization of the State," in *Historical Essays of Otto Hintze* (Oxford University Press, 1975), pp. 178-215

September 18 (week 5): Responses to Tilly (Europe)

- ^ Thomas Ertman, *Birth of the Leviathan: Building States and Regimes in Medieval and Early Modern Europe*, (Cambridge, 1997), pp. 1-34, and 156-223
- ^ Hendrik Spruyt, *The Sovereign State and its Competitors*, (Princeton University Press, 1994), pp. 61-76, and 109-129
- @ Perry Anderson, *Lineages of the Absolutist State*, “The Absolutist State in the West” and the Absolutist State in the East” pp. 15-42, and 195-220
- ^ Brian Downing, *Military Revolution and Political Change: Origins of Democracy and Autocracy in Early Modern Europe*, 1-80

September 25 (week 6): Outside of Europe and State Breakdown

- ^ Karen Barkey, *Bandits and Bureaucrats: The Ottoman Route to State Centralization* (Cornell University Press, 1994) pp. 1-23 and 189-228
- @ Jeffrey Herbst, *States and Power in Africa: Comparative Lessons in Authority and Control* (Princeton University Press, 2000), pp. 11-32.
- ^ Robert Jackson, *Quasi-States: Sovereignty, International Relations, and the Third World* (Cambridge, 1990), pp. 13-49
- * Vadim Volkov, “Between Economy and the State: Private Security and Rule Enforcement in Russia,” *Politics & Society*, Vol 28, No 4 (December 2000), pp. 483-501
- ^ James Scott, *Seeing Like a State: How Certain Schemes to Improve the Human Condition Have Failed* (Yale University Press, 1998), pp. 11-83
- ^ Achilles Batalas, “Send a Thief to Catch a Thief: State-building and the Employment of Irregular Military Formations in Mid-19th Century Greece” in Davis and Pereira, eds. *Irregular Armed Forces and their Role in Politics and State Formation* (Cambridge 2003), pp. 149-177

SECTION II: DEMOCRACY

October 2 (week 7): Classic Works

- \$ Barrington Moore, *Social Origins of Dictatorship and Democracy: Lord and Peasant in the Making of the Modern World* (Beacon Press, 1966), pp. 3-39, 162-313, 413-483

^ Seymour Martin Lipset, *Political Man: The Social Bases of Politics* (1960), Chapter 2.

October 9 (week 8): Definition and Measurement

^ Robert Dahl, *Polyarchy: Participation and Opposition* (Yale University Press, 1971), pp. 1-16, and 33-47

^ Joseph Schumpeter, *Capitalism, Socialism, and Democracy* (Harper 1942), pp. 232-268

* Teri Caraway, (2004) "Inclusion and Democratization: Class, Gender, Race, and the Extension of Suffrage" *Comparative Politics*, Vol 36, No 4, pp. 443-460

* Gerardo Munck and Jay Verkuilen (2002) "Conceptualizing and Measuring Democracy: Evaluating Alternative Indices" *Comparative Political Studies*, Vol 35, No 1, pp. 5-34

* Philippe C. Schmitter and Terry Lynn Karl (1991) "What Democracy is...and is Not" *Journal of Democracy*, Vol 2, No 3, pp. 75-88

* Ariel Armony and Hector Schamis (2005) "Babel in Democratization Studies" *Journal of Democracy*, Vol 13, No 4, pp. 113-128

* David Collier and Steven Levitsky (1997), "Democracy with Adjectives: Conceptual Innovation in Comparative Research," *World Politics*, Vol 49, No 3, pp. 430-451

October 16 (week 9): Transitions and Consolidation

^ Samuel Huntington, *The Third Wave: Democratization in the Twentieth Century* (University of Oklahoma Press, 1993) pp. 3-108

* Dankwart Rustow (1970), "Transitions to Democracy: Toward a Dynamic Model" *Comparative Politics*, Vol 2, No 3, pp. 337-363

^ Linz and Stepan, *Problems of Democratic Transition and Consolidation* (Johns Hopkins 1996), pp. 3-15 and 87-115

* Nancy Bermeo (1997), "Myths of Moderation: Confrontation and Conflict during Democratic Transitions" *Comparative Politics* Vol 29, No 3, pp. 305-322

^ Michael Bratton and Nicolas Van de Walle, *Democratic Experiments in Africa: regime transitions in comparative perspective* (Cambridge 1997) pp. 19-96

* Elisabeth Jean Wood (2001) "An Insurgent Path to Democracy: Popular Mobilization, Economic Interests, and Regime Transition in El Salvador and South Africa." *Comparative Political Studies* Vol 34, No 8, pp. 862-888

October 23 (week 10): Democracy and Development

- ^ Dietrich Rueschemeyer, Evelyn Huber Stephens, and John Stephens, *Capitalist Development and Democracy* (University of Chicago Press, 1992), pp. 12-78
- ^ Daron Acemoglu and James Robinson, *Economic Origins of Dictatorship and Democracy* (Cambridge 2009), pp. 1-47
- * Adam Przeworski and Fernando Limongi (1997) "Modernization: Theory vs Facts" *World Politics*, Vol 49, No 2, pp. 155-183
- * Carles Boix and Susan Stokes (2003) "Endogenous Democratization" *World Politics*, Vol 55, No 4, pp. 517-549
- * Marcus Kurz (2004) "The Dilemmas of Democracy in the Open Economy: Lessons from Latin America" *World Politics* Vol 56, No 2, pp. 262-302
- ^ Susan Stokes *Mandates and Democracy: Neoliberalism by Surprise in Latin America* (Cambridge 2001), pp. 25-101

SECTION III: INSTITUTIONS

October 30 (week 11): Comparative Institutions

- @ Arend Lijphart *Patterns of Democracy* (Yale University Press, 1999), pp. 1-47, 62-89, and 116-170
- ^ G. Bingham Powell *Elections as Instruments of Democracy* (Yale University 2000), pp. 1-19
- * George Tsebelis (1999) "Veto Players and Law Production in Parliamentary Democracies: An Empirical Analysis" *APSR* Vol 93, No 3, 591-608.s
- ^ Donald Horowitz. 1991. *A Democratic South Africa? Constitutional Engineering in a Divided Society*, (University of California Press) pp. 1-41 and 204-213
- ^ Seymour Lipset and Stein Rokkan, "Cleavage Structures, Party Systems, and Voter Alignments: An Introduction," in Lipset and Rokkan, eds., *Party Systems and Voter Alignments: Cross-National Perspectives* (The Free Press, 1967), pp. 1-64.
- ^ Giovanni Sartori, "A typology of party systems," in Peter Mair, ed., *The West European Party System* (Oxford University Press, 1990), pp. 316-349.

November 6 (week 12): Rational Choice Institutionalism

- ^ North, Douglass C., *Institutions, Institutional Change, and Economic Performance*. (Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, 1990), pp. 3-10, 107-117.
- * Avner Greif and David Laitin (2004) “A Theory of Endogenous Institutional Change” *APSR* Vol 98 No 4, pp. 633-652
- ^ Barry Weingast, “Rational Choice Institutionalism,” in *Political Science: The State of the Discipline*, 660-692
- * Barry Weingast (1997) “The Political Foundations of Democracy and the Rule of Law” *APSR* Vol 91, No 2, pp. 245-263
- * Bruce L. Benson (1989) “The Spontaneous Evolution of Commercial Law” *Southern Economic Journal* Vol 55, No 3, pp. 644-661
- ^ Avner Greif “Self-enforcing Political Systems and Economic Growth” in Robert Bates, Avner Greif, Margaret Levi, Jean-Laurent Rosenthal, and Barry Weingast eds. *Analytic Narratives* (Princeton 1998) pp. 23-63
- * Avner Greif (1993) “Contract Enforceability and Economic Institutions in Early Trade: The Maghribi Traders’ Coalition” *American Economic Review*, Vol 83, No 3, pp. 525-548
- ^ Margaret Levi, *Of Rule and Revenue*, (UC Press, 1988), pp. 10-40 and 71-94

November 13 (week 13): New Sociological Institutionalism

- * Meyer and Rowan (1977) “Institutionalized Organizations: Formal Structure as Myth and Ceremony” *American Journal of Sociology* Vol 83, No 2, pp. 340-363
- \$ Frank Dobbin, *Forging Industrial Policy: The United States, Britain, and France in the Railway Age*

November 20 (week 14): Historical Institutionalism

- ^ Paul Pierson and Theda Skocpol “Historical Institutionalism in Contemporary Political Science” in *Political Science: The State of the Discipline* pp. 693-721
- \$ Kathleen Thelen *How Institutions Evolve: The Political Economy of Skills in Germany, Britain, the United States, and Japan*

SECTION IV: POLITICAL ECONOMY OF INDUSTRIALIZED DEMOCRACIES

November 27 (week 15): National Economies and Globalization

- ^ Peter Hall and David Soskice, *Varieties of Capitalism* (Oxford University Press, 2001), Introduction, pp. 1-68
- * Torben Iversen and Anne Wren (1998) “Equality, Employment, and Budgetary Restraint: The Trilemma of the Service Economy,” in *World Politics* Vol 50, No 4, pp. 507-546
- * Ronald Rogowski (1987) “Political Cleavages and Changing Exposure to Trade” *APSR*, Vol 81, No 4, pp. 1121-1137
- ^ Wolfgang Streeck and Kathleen Thelen, “Introduction: Institutional Change in Advanced Political Economies,” in Thelen and Streeck, eds. *Beyond Continuity: Institutional Change in Advanced Industrial Economies* (Cambridge University Press, 2005), pp. 1-39
- * Masahiko Aoki (1990) “Toward an Economic Model of the Japanese Firm” *Journal of Economic Literature* Vol 28, No 1, pp. 1-27
- * Georg Menz “Re-regulating the Single Market: National Varieties of Capitalism and their Responses to Europeanization” *Journal of European Economic Policy* Vol 10, No 4, pp. 532-555
- @ Karl Polanyi, *The Great Transformation: The Political and Economic Origins of our Time* (Beacon Press, 1944), pp. 1-89

December 4 (week 16): Welfare States

- ^ Esping-Andersen, G. “Comparative Welfare-Regimes re-examined” in *Social Foundations of Postindustrial Economies*, (Oxford 1999), pp. 73-94
- * Korpi, Walter, (2006) “Power Resources and Employer-Centered Approaches in Explanations of Welfare States and Varieties of Capitalism: Protagonists, Consenters, and Antagonists” *World Politics* Vol 58, No 2, pp. 167-206
- \$ Paul Pierson *Dismantling the Welfare State*, (Cambridge 1994)

December 11: FINALS WEEK

Students that select option (1) should turn in their assignment (hard and electronic copies) on Friday December 15 by 5pm.

Students that select option (2) will receive the exam questions Thursday December 14 at 5pm. The exam is due back Friday December 15 by 5pm.