

COMPARATIVE POLITICS FIELD SEMINAR

PSC350/550

Fall 2007

Wednesdays 12:30-15:15 (Harkness 112)

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OVERVIEW

PSC 350/550 is the required field seminar for the comparative politics field of the Ph.D. program. Comparative politics seeks to develop and test theories that can be used to explain political events and patterns across political systems, largely, but not exclusively, nation-states. In American political science this has largely come to mean description and explanation of politics in countries outside the United States. This course is designed to introduce students to classic and contemporary works across a range of subfields of comparative politics, including: democracy, dictatorship, and development, revolutions and violence, culture and social movements, parties and electoral systems, representation and accountability, institutions of governance, and political economy. It will also introduce various methodological approaches and issues in the comparative field, including research design and measurement of concepts.

While it is designed specifically to help prepare graduate students for the comparative politics comprehensive examination, it assumes no particular background and may be of interest to students interested in finding out more about comparative politics. Undergraduates will be permitted to enroll only with consent of the instructors.

REQUIREMENTS

This class is a discussion seminar, not a lecture course. It is essential that students be prepared to discuss all of the readings each and every class. Many of the works that we will read are a blend of theory, methods, and substantive empirical analysis, which are aimed at uncovering systematic patterns or solving puzzles. Class participants should thus be prepared to describe and compare the week's required readings from two points of view:

- (1) What are the principal **substantive** arguments being made? What phenomena are the targets of explanation? Are they clearly identified and defined? Are they defined at the level of individuals, groups, institutions, states, or whatever? What variables are proposed to explain them? At what level are these variables? What causal mechanisms are proposed as linkages?
- (2) What **methodological** approach is taken to enhance the credibility of those arguments and how well does it succeed? What kinds of empirical implications of the theory are examined? For example, over-time changes or corresponding cross-national levels of variables at a single point in time? Evidence of behavioral connections? How are the important variables

measured--quantitative/qualitative approaches? What care is taken to specify relationships between multiple variables? How are cases selected?

Student responsibilities include leading discussion of one of the readings in **each** seminar, drawing the class into describing and comparing the readings substantively and methodologically. (There will be some flexibility about this depending on the size of the class and the readings for the week.) A one-two page handout of notes should be provided. Grades will be based on these presentations and general class discussion (33%); the take-home "midterm," (33%); and a take-home "final" (33%), covering the 2nd half of the course.

REQUIRED READINGS

The works listed with a star (*) are available for purchase in the bookstore; they are all paperbacks. As many of these are somewhat older works, you may well be able to get them less expensively through half.com or Amazon or other internet sites. Most articles are available through the Voyager electronic journals. Other works will be available on-line through course reserves or in a box in the Political Science Lounge, Harkness 314. Please be sure to return these quickly, so that others can read them

WEEKLY SCHEDULE

September 5 **Democracy, Dictatorship and Development I**

Dahl, Robert. *Polyarchy*, 1971, 1-16, 33-47

Lipset, Seymour Martin. *APSR*, March, 1959 or *Political Man*, Doubleday 1960, Ch.2.

*Przeworski, Adam, et al. *Development and Democracy*, Cambridge 2000, Ch. 1- 2.

Geddes, Barbara. "What Do We Know About Democratization," *AR* 2, 129-148.

Selected Recommended Readings:

Huntington, Samuel. *The Third Wave* 1991.

Huntington, Samuel. *Political Order in Changing Society*, 1968, 1-92, 192-411 (344-461)

Lerner, Daniel. *Passing of Traditional Society*, 1958, ch. 1

September 12 **Development, Dictatorship and Democratization II**

*Acemoglu & Robinson, *Economic Origins Dictatorship & Democracy* 2006, 1-3, (4,5) 6,8.

Reuschmeyer, Dietrich, et al. *Capitalist Development & Democracy*, Chicago 1992, 75-99.

Schedler "The Menu of Manipulation." *Journal of Democracy* April 2002: 36-50.

Magaloni *Voting for Autocracy*. 2006, Ch. 1, 8.

Selected Recommended Readings:

Boix, Carles and Susan Stokes "Endogenous Democratization," *World Politics*, July 2003

Diamond, Larry, et al., "Elections Without Democracy." Journal of Democracy, April 2002.

O'Donnell, Guillermo and Phillippe Schmitter, Transitions from Authoritarian Rule. 1986
Przeworski, Adam. Democracy and the Market. 1991
Collier, Ruth. Paths Toward Democracy: The Working Class and Elites in Western Europe and South America. 1999.
Geddes, Barbara. "How the Cases You Choose Affect the Answers You Get,"
Political Analysis, 1990

September 19 **Revolutions, Conflict, and Order**

- *Moore, Barrington. *Social Origins of Dictatorship & Dem.* Beacon 1968, Ch. 1, 7, 9.
- Skocpol, Theda. *States and Social Revolutions*. 1979, at least 3-42, 161-171.
- North, Douglass and Barry Weingast, "Constitutions and Commitment: The Evolution of Institutions Governing Public Choice in 17th Century England," *Journal of Economic History* (49).
- *Acemoglu & Robinson, *Economic Origins of Dictatorship & Democracy* 2006, Ch.7,9-11.

Selected Recommended Readings:

Goldstone, Jack A. "Toward a 4th Generation of Revolutionary Theory" *AR*, vol 4, 2001.
Keddie, Nikki. Ed. Debating Revolution. 1995, 3-23, 39-61, 155-174, 175-196.
Przeworski, et al. Development and Democracy, 2000, Ch. 4.
Pierson, Paul "Increasing Returns, Path Dependence and the Study of Politics, *American Political Science Review*, 94 (2):251-268 (June 2000.)

September 26 **Violence and Ethnicity**

- *Kalyvaas, Stathis. *The Logic of Violence in Civil War*. Cambridge 2006.
- Fearon, James and David Laitin, D. "Ethnicity, Insurgency and Civil War," *APSR* (97) Feb 2003, 75-90.
- *Wilkinson, Stephen. *Votes and Violence*. 2004.

Selected Recommended Readings:

Bates, Robert. " " in Rothchild and Ororunsola, eds., State Versus Ethnic Claims. Westview 1983.
Bates, Robert, *et al.*, Analytic Narratives, 1998, Ch. 1.
Birbir, Johanna. *Ethnicity and Electoral Politics*. 2007
Chandra, Kanchan. "What is Ethnic Identity?" *AR* 2006.
Elster, Jon "Rational Choice History: A Case of Excessive Ambition," *American Political Science Review*, 94(3): 685-95 (September 2000).
Bates, et al, "The Analytic Narratives Project," *American Political Science Review*, 94(3): 696-702 (September 2000).
Gellner, Ernst. Nations and Nationalism, Cornell 1983.
Horowitz, Ethnic Groups in Conflict, Univ. of California 2000 ed.
Fearon, James and David Laitin, "Explaining Interethnic Cooperation," *APSR* (90)

1996, 715-736.

Laitin, David. Hegemony and Culture, Chicago 1986.

Fearon, James. "Counterfactuals and Hypothesis Testing", World Politics, 1991 (2:127-145)

October 3 **Culture and Social Movements**

* Laitin, David, *Hegemony and Culture* Chicago, 1986, esp. 1,4,6-8, Appendix.

*Putnam, Robert. *Making Democracy Work: Civic Traditions in Modern Italy*, Princeton, 1993. (Skip Ch. 2.)

Tarrow, Sidney. *Power in Movement*, Cambridge 1994, Ch. 1,2,7,9

Selected Recommended Readings:

Anderson, Benedict. *Imagined Communities* (2nd ed) Verso: 1991.

Gill, Anthony. "Religion & Comparative Politics" *AR* 2001. , 4:117-138.

Varshney, Ashutosh. "Postmodernism, Civic Engagement and Ethnic Conflict," *CP* (30), Oct. 1997, 1-20.

Chandra, Kanchan, et al. "Cumulative Findings in the Study of Ethnic Politics." *APSA-CP*, Vol. 12, (1), Winter 2001.

Inglehart, Ronald. Culture Shift, Princeton, 1990, Intro, Ch. 1,2

Ross, Marc. "Culture and Identity," in Lichbach and Zuckerman, Comparative Politics, Ch. 3

Almond, Gabriel and Sidney Verba, Civic Culture, Princeton 1963, Ch. 1,6,7,15.

Nelson, Joan. "Political Participation." In Weiner & Huntington, Understanding Political Development. Little, Brown 1987, pp. 103-159.

Scott, James. Weapons of the Weak, Yale 1985 or Domination and the Arts of Resistance, Yale 1990.

Verba, Sidney, Norman Nie and Jae-on Kim. Participation and Political Equality, Cambridge 1978 (esp. Ch. 4, 5).

Geertz, Clifford. "Thick Description." In Interpretation of Cultures. 1973.

(Midterm and Fall Break, October 10th)

October 17 **Parties, Strategies and Party Systems**

Sartori, Giovanni, "A Typology of Party Systems," in Peter Mair (Ed), *The West European Party System*, Oxford Press, 1990, 316-49.

Downs, Anthony. *Economic Theory of Democracy*, 1957, Ch. 7-8.

Kitschelt, Herbert. Transformation of European Social Democracy, 1994, Ch. 1-2, 4

Bonnie Meguid, "Competition Among Unequals: The Role of Mainstream Party Strategy in Niche Party Success," *APSR*, August 2005

Selected Recommended Readings:

Kalyvas, Stathis. "Decay and Breakdown," *Annual Reviews* (2), 1999.

Katz, Richard W. and Peter Mair. "Changing Models of Party Organization

and Party Democracy,” *Party Politics* (1), 1995
Koole, Ruude. “Cadre, Catch-all, or Cartel?” *Party Politics*, 1996, 507-523.
Mainwaring and Scully, *Building Democratic Institutions* (in LA)
Przeworski, Adam and John Sprague, *Paper Stones*, Chicago 1988.
Schofield and Sened *Multiparty Democracy* 2006.
Stokes, Susan. “Political Parties & Democracy,” *Annual Reviews* (2), 1999

October 24 **Elections and Election Rules**

Boix, Carles. “Setting the Rules...” *APSR*, Sept 1999
*Cox, Gary. *Making Votes Count*, Cambridge 1997, Ch. 1-4, 7-8, 10,11, 12.
Lipset, S.M. and Stein Rokkan, *Party Systems and Voter Alignments: Cross-National Perspectives*, Free Press, 1967, pgs 1-64

Selected Recommended Readings:

Bawn, Kathleen. "The Logic of Institutional Preferences: German Electoral law as a Social Choice Outcome," *AJPS*, 1993, vol 37 (4)
Carey, John. “Parchment, Equilibria and Institutions,” *CPS*, 33, Aug/Sept. 2000
Lijphart, Arend. *Electoral Systems and Party Systems*, Oxford 1994.
Rae, Douglas. *Political Consequences of Election Rules*. 1967.
Taagepera, Rein and Matthew Shugart, *Seats and Votes*, Yale 1989.

October 31 **Voters and Citizen Behavior**

Chandra, Kanchan. *Why Ethnic Parties Succeed?* 2004. Ch. TBA
Converse, Philip and Roy Pierce. *Political Representation in France*, Harvard, 1986, Ch. 3
Duch and Stevenson *Voting in Context* 2007 Ch. 1-2, 11. (on web)
Posner “Political Salience of Cultural Difference” *APSR* Nov. 2004: 529-546.
Magaloni *Voting for Autocracy*. 2006. Ch. 7.

Selected Recommended Readings:

Birnir, Johanna. *Ethnicity and Electoral Politics*. 2007.
Dalton, Russell. *Democratic Challenges, Democratic Choices*. 2004.
Kedar, Orit. “When Moderate Voters Prefer Extreme Parties.” *APSR* May 2005 185-200.
Verba, Sidney, Norman Nie and Jae-on Kim. *Participation and Political Equality*, Cambridge 1978.

November 7 **Executives and Legislatures**

Laver, Michael & Norman Schofield, *Multiparty Government*., 1990, Ch. 2, 4,5
*Shugart, Matthew & John Carey, *Presidents & Assemblies*, 1991, Ch. 1-3,7,8,12, 13
Tsebelis, George, “Decision-Making in Political Systems: Veto Players in Presidentialism, Parliamentarism, Multicameralism, and Multipartism” in *BJPS* 1997: 289-325

Selected Recommended Readings:

- Lijphart, Arend. *Patterns of Democracy*, Ch. 1-3, 9-14.
Linz, Juan. "The Perils of Presidentialism," *Journal of Democracy* 1990, vol. 1(1)
Cox, Gary and Morgenstern, "Epilogue: Latin America's Reactive Assemblies and Proactive Presidents," *Legislative Politics in Latin America*. 2002. (or *CP* Jan 2001.)
Cox, *Making Votes Count* 1997, Ch. 12-15.
Huber, "Vote of Confidence," *APSR* 1996
Laver Government Termination *AR* 2003
Mainwaring and Shugart, *Presidentialism and Democracy in Latin America*, 1997.
Mainwaring, "Presidentialism, Multipartyism, and Democracy: The Difficult Combination," *Comparative Political Studies*, vol 26, no 2 July 1993
Martin & Stevenson "Gov. Formation" *AJPS* 2001
O'Donnell "Delegative Democracy," *Journal of Democracy*, (January) 1994.
Stepan and Skatch, "Constitutional Frameworks and Democratic Consolidation: Parliamentarism versus Presidentialism," *World Politics*, 1993, 46(1)
Tsebelis, George. 2002. *Veto Players: How Political Institutions Work*. New York: Russell Sage Foundation.

November 14 **Representation and Accountability**

- *Powell, *Elections as Instruments of Democracy*, Yale 2000, esp. Ch. 1-3, 6-7, 9-10.
*Stokes, *Mandates and Democracy*, Cambridge 2001.
Riker, *Liberalism Against Populism*, 1982, Ch. 1,5, 8, 10.

Selected Recommended Readings:

- Diamond, Schedler, Plattner, *The Self-Restraining State: Power and Accountability in New Democracies*. 1993
McDonald and Budge. *Elections, Parties and Democracy*. Oxford 2005.
Powell, "Democratic Representation: Two Research Programs...." *AR* 2004.
Przeworski, Stokes and Manin, *Democracy, Accountability, and Representation*, Ch.1,

November 21 THANKSGIVING WEEK - NO WEDNESDAY CLASS

November 28 **Political Economy I**

- *Bates, Robert. *Markets & States in Tropical Africa*, U of California 1981.
* Przeworski, et al. *Democracy and Development*, 2000, Ch. 3-5.
Rogowski, Ronald. *Commerce & Coalitions*, 1989, Ch.1 (or 1987 *APSR* article)

December 5 **Political Economy II**

- *Alesina, Cohen & Roubini, *Political Cycles and the Macroeconomy*. 1997, Ch. 2, 3, 6 or 7.
- Persson and Tabellini, *Economic Effects of Constitutions*, 2003, Ch. 2, 9.
- Acemoglu and Robinson, “The Colonial Origins of Comparative Development: An Empirical Investigation” *AER* 2001
- Iverson, Torben and David Soskice. “Electoral Institutions and Politics of Coalitions.” *APSR* 2006 165-182. 2004.

Selected Recommended Readings:

- Katzenstein, Peter. Small States in World Markets. Cornell 1985. Ch. 1, 3, 4.
- Boix, Carles. Political Parties, Growth and Equality, Cambridge 1998.
- Franzese, Robert. Macroeconomic Policies of Developed Democracies. Cambridge 2002.
- Hall, Peter. Governing the Economy. Oxford 1986.
- Molina and Rhodes. “Corporatism” *AR* 2002.

December 12 **Comparative Politics at Rochester**

A selection of previous U of R dissertations (e.g. Flamend, Gabel, Guo, Han, Huber, Kam, Makkinen, Martin, McGilivray, McElvoy, Popov, Vanberg)

TAKE-HOME “FINAL” covering 2nd half of course. (Details to be negotiated)