

# ***Seminars on Political Economy***

***L32 4551 and 5551, L50 498***

***FALL 2016***

***Wednesday 4-6pm***

***Seigle Hall 170:WC Seminar room***

*Instructor: Norman Schofield ( [schofield.norman@gmail.com](mailto:schofield.norman@gmail.com) )*

## ***Syllabus***

This is a research seminar. The seminar will discuss some elements of Constitutional History, using *Architects of Political Change*(AP) and then go on to the study of elections in the US, the UK and various ex communist countries, including Poland Georgia, the Caucasus, using my book *Leadership or Chaos*(LC)

There will be detailed analyses of elections in various other countries, such as Israel, Turkey, Russia, Canada . Finally we shall discuss theories of democratization and of partial democracies, using recent work by Acemoglu and Robinson, Przeworski , and Paul Collier and Epstein et al..

Students will be expected to work on a substantial research paper, either empirically or theoretically based. If time permits, there will be an opportunity for students to make a presentation of their work at the end of the semester. This research paper should be approximately 20pp (double spaced) in length.

There will be two required books for the course:

Norman Schofield (2006), *Architects of Political Change: Constitutional Quandaries and Social Choice Theory* (called AP)

Norman Schofield and Maria Gallego *Leadership or Chaos* (springer 2011) (called LC)  
I shall send you copies of these via the web.

### **Part 1. Constitutional History (AP)**

Week 1: first class. September 7: AP Chs 1 &2. Introduction and Power and Social Choice

Week 2: September 14 AP Chs 3 &4: "Franklin and Madison".

Week 3: September 21 No class

Week 4: September 28 LC Chs 5 &6: "Lincoln and Johnson

Week 5: October 5 LC Ch2 and 3

### **Part 2 (Elections in the US and UK)**

Week 6: October 12 The US LC Ch5

Week 7: October 19 The UK LC Ch6

#### Part 4. Elections in Autocracies

Week 8 : October 26 Elections in Russia, Poland and the Caucasus LC Chs 8, 9 and 10

Week 9: November 2 Elections in Turkey, Israel LC Ch10

#### Part 5. Democracy and Authoritarian Regimes

Weeks 10 and 11: November 9 and 16 . Discussion of work by Acemoglu and Robinson , Przeworski, Epstein et al, Collier.

Week 12: November 23. No class.

Week 13: November 30. last meeting, student presentations