

Political Science 510
Approaches to Comparative Politics
Mondays 2:30-4:30 New Dept. Conference Room

Overview

The goal of this course is to introduce graduate students to research in the field of Comparative Politics. The course also exposes students to fundamental methodological and substantive issues relevant for specializing in this field. To that end, the course is divided roughly into two sections. The first five meetings cover general research design and conceptual issues. The second part of the class consists of research topics tailored around the research interests of faculty in the department. For many of these meetings, a faculty member will join the class for discussion of a set of readings related to his/her research interests. I have listed the names of the faculty on the schedule.

Requirements

1. Participation: This is a seminar course and thus attendance is mandatory. Participation in course discussions will account for 10% of the grade.
2. Precis: For most weeks, each student will write a short (400 words) response paper to the readings. These writing assignments represent 15% of the grade.
3. Ph.D. Qualifying Examination Question: On November 11, please arrive at class with a possible question for the Qualifying Examination in Comparative Politics. I will then circulate these questions among all of the students. The quality of your question will account for 10% of the grade.
4. Answer to Ph.D. Qualifying Question: By December 9, please answer one of the qualifying exam questions submitted by students. There is no strict length limit, but I will provide some guidance in class. This will account for 25% of your grade.
5. Annotated Bibliography: By November 25, please submit an annotated bibliography on a literature in comparative politics of your choice (with my approval). The bibliography should cover at least 10 individual works. You will provide an introduction (about 500 words) defining the area of study, why it is important, and the general state of knowledge. This will be followed by succinct summaries of the individual works (about 250 words each). The summaries should briefly describe the central question, theoretical argument, empirical evidence and conclusion. You should conclude with an essay of no more than 500 words that synthesizes these works, points out limitations in these studies, and identifies remaining research questions. This will account for 25% of the grade.

6. Data report: Each student will write a report on data that are used to analyze research questions from a topic covered in the class (or, with the instructor's approval, a related topic). The student will briefly describe the report in class. This report is due no later than November 28 and accounts for 15% of the grade.

Readings

The readings for each week are listed on the schedule. These readings can generally be found on-line through the library's website or at the following depository: taguchi.wustl.edu/ps510/ (user and password = comparative). There are several books on the list that you will either need to borrow (from the library or other graduate students) or buy. Please look ahead on the schedule and be sure you make appropriate arrangements to secure these readings in advance of class meetings.

Tentative Schedule

September 9 *Introduction*

Munck, Gerardo and Richard Snyder. 2007. "Debating the Direction of Comparative Politics—An Analysis of Leading Journals." *Comparative Political Studies* 40 (1): 5-31.

Wibbels, Erik. 2007. "No Method to the Comparative Politics Madness." *Comparative Political Studies* 40 (1): 37-44.

Munck, Gerardo and Richard Snyder. 2007. "Visions of Comparative Politics—A Reply to Mahoney and Wibbels." *Comparative Political Studies* 40 (1) 45-47.

King, Gary, Robert Keohane and Sidney Verba. 1994. *Designing Social Inquiry*. Princeton: Princeton University Press. Chapters 1, 4-6.

Huber, John. 1996. *Rationalizing Parliament*. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press. pp. 138-144.

Brady, Henry and David Collier (eds). 2004. *Rethinking Social Inquiry*. Rowman and Littlefield. Chapter 13.

Benoit, Kenneth. 2005. "How Qualitative Research Really Counts." *Qualitative Methods Newsletter*.

Green, Donald and Alan Gerber. 2003. The Underprovision of Experiments in Political Science. *The Annals of the American Academy of Political and Social Science* 589: 94-112.

Gerring, John. 2004. "What is a Case and What is it Good for?" *American Political Science Review* 98: 341-354.

Hug, Simon. 2013. "Qualitative Comparative Analysis: How Inductive Use and Measurement Error Lead to Problematic Inference." *Political Analysis* 21 (2): 252-265.

Maniadis, Zacharias, Fabio Tufano, and John List. 2013. "One Swallow Doesn't Make a Summer." Working paper.

September 16 *Institutions and Political Regimes*

Weingast, Barry. "Rational Choice Institutionalism." In Ira Katznelson and Helen Milner. *Political Science: The State of the Discipline, Centennial Edition*.

David, Paul A. 1985. "Clio and the Economics of QWERTY." *American Economic Review* 75 (2): 332-337.

Riker, William. 1980. "Implications from the Disequilibrium of Majority Rule for the Study of Institutions." *American Political Science Review* 74 (2): 432-446.

Bender, Glazer and Hammond. 2001. "Theories of Delegation." *Annual Review of Political Science* 4 (1): 235.

Powell, G. Bingham. 2004. "The Chain of Responsiveness." *Journal of Democracy* 15 (9): 91-105. http://muse.jhu.edu/journals/journal_of_democracy/v015/15.4powell.html

Acemoglu, Daron and James Robinson. *Economic Origins of Dictatorship and Democracy*. 2006. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press. Chapters 1-5.

Pzeworski, Adam et. al. *Democracy and Development: Political Institutions and Material Well-Being in the World 1950-1990*. Chapters 1-2.

Lieberman, Evan. 2001. "Causal Inference in Historical Analysis: A Specification of Periodization Strategies." *Comparative Political Studies* 34 (9): 1011-1035.

September 23 *The State (Parikh)*

Levi, Margaret. 2002 "The State of the Study of the State." In Katznelson & Milner, *State of the Discipline*. pp. 33-55.

Clemens, Elisabeth S. and James M. Cook. 1999. Politics and Institutionalism: Explaining Durability and Change. *Annual Review of Sociology* 25: 441-466.

Evans, Peter B., Dietrich Rueschemeyer, and Theda Skocpol, eds. 1985. *Bringing the State Back In*. New York: Cambridge University Press.

Skocpol, Theda. 1979. *States and Social Revolutions*. New York: Cambridge University Press. Chapter 1.

September 30 *Culture*

Almond, Gabriel and Sidney Verba (eds). 1963. *The Civic Culture*. Princeton: Princeton University Press. Chapters 1, 5, 10, 11-13.

Greif, Avner. 1994. "Cultural Beliefs and the Organization of Society: A Historical and Theoretical Reflection on Collectivist and Individualist Societies." *The Journal of Political Economy* 102 (5): 912-950.

Posner, Daniel. 2004. "The Political Salience of Cultural Differences: Why Chewas and Tumbukas are Allies in Zambia and Adversaries in Malawi." *American Political Science Review* 98: 529-46.

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

Elkin, David and Richard Simeon. 1979. "A Cause in Search of Its Effect, or What Does Political Culture Explain?" *Comparative Politics* 11: 127-146.

Habyarimana, James, Macartan Humphreys, Daniel Posner, and Jeremy Weinstein. 2007. "Why Does Ethnic Diversity Undermine Public Goods Provision?" *American Political Science Review* 101 (4): 709-725.

October 7 *Political Geography (Tavits and Rosas)*

William Riker. 1964. *Federalism: Origin, Operation, Significance*. Chapters 4 (portion on parties, pgs 85-101).

Perepechko et al. 2007. "Remeasuring and Rethinking Social Cleavages in Russia: Continuity and Changes in Electoral Geography 1917-95." *Political Geography* 26: 179-208.

Colin Flint "A TimeSpace for electoral geography: economic restructuring, political agency, and the rise of the Nazi party" *PG* 20, (2001), pp. 301-329.

J. Rodden and Chris Warshaw, *Why the Democrats Need Boll Weevils and Blue Dogs: The Distribution of Political Preferences across U.S. House Districts*, unpublished ms 2009.

Jonathan Rodden. (2010). The geographic distribution of political preferences. *Annual Review of Political Science* 13:321-340.

Ron Johnston and Charles Pattie. 2006. "Putting Voters in Their Place. Geography and Elections in Great Britain", Oxford U.

October 14 *Political and Legal Cultures: From Democratic Values to Institutional Legitimacy (Gibson)*

Putnam, Robert D. 1995. "Bowling Alone: America's Declining Social Capital." *Journal of Democracy* 6 (1): 65-78.

Inglehart, Ronald and Christian Welzel. 2002. "Political Culture and Democracy." In Howard Wiarda (ed). *New Directions in Comparative Politics*. New York: Westview Press 141-164.

Gibson, James L., Gregory A. Caldeira, and Vanessa Baird. 1998. "On the Legitimacy of National High Courts." *American Political Science Review* 92 (2): 343-358.

Gibson, James L. 2002. "Truth, Justice, and Reconciliation: Judging the Fairness of Amnesty in South Africa." *American Journal of Political Science* 46 (3): 540-556.

October 21 *Comparative Political Economy (Rosas)*

Przeworski, Adam et al. 2000. *Democracy and Development: Political Institutions and Material Well-Being in the World*. Cambridge University Press.

Boix, Carles. 2004. *Democracy and Redistribution*. Cambridge University Press.

Desai, Raj, et al. 2003. "Democracy, Inequality, and Inflation." *American Political Science Review* 97 (3): 391-406.

Epstein, David et al., 2006. "Democratic Transitions." *American Journal of Political Science* 50 (3): 551-569.

Scheve, Kenneth and David Stasavage. 2009. "Institutions, Partisanship, and Inequality in the Long-Run." *World Politics* 61 (2): 215-53.

Rodden, Jonathan. 2006. *Hamilton's Paradox*. New York: Cambridge University Press.

October 28 *Parties in Legislatures (Crisp)*

Krehbiel, Keith. 1996. "Institutional and Partisan Sources of Gridlock: A Theory of Divided and Unified Government." *Journal of Theoretical Politics*. 8:7-40.

Cox, Gary W., and Mathew. D. McCubbins. 2005. *Setting the Agenda: Responsible Party Government in the US House of Representatives*. New York: Cambridge University Press. (Chapters 2-3)

Shugart, Matthew Soberg, and John M. Carey. 1992. *Presidents and Assemblies: Constitutional Design and Electoral Dynamics*. New York: Cambridge University Press. (Chapters 7-8)

Crisp, Brian F., Santiago Olivella, Michael Malecki, and Mindy Sher. Forthcoming. "Vote-Earning Strategies in Flexible List Systems: Seats at the Price of Unity." *Electoral Studies*.

Crisp, Brian F., and Amanda Driscoll. 2012. "The Strategic Use of Legislative Voting Procedures." *Legislative Studies Quarterly* 37(1): 67-97.

Bianco, Kam, Sened, and Smyth. 2010. "Parliaments, Cabinets, and Uncovered Sets." *American Political Science Review*.

Carrubba, Gabel, and Hug. 2008. "Legislative Voting Behavior, Seen and Unseen: A Theory of Roll-Call Vote Selection." *Legislative Studies Quarterly* 33 (4): 543-572.

November 4 *Elections and Party Competition*

Schofield, Norman and Itai Sened. 2006. *Multiparty Democracy: Elections and Legislative Politics*. New York: Cambridge University Press. (skim thoroughly)

Janda, Kenneth. 1993. "Comparative Political Parties: Research and Theory." In A. Finifter (ed.) *Political Science: The State of the Discipline II*. Washington, D.C.: APSA. Pp. 163-191.

Stokes, Susan. 1999. "Political Parties and Democracy." *Annual Review of Political Science* 2: 243-267.

Tavits, Margit. 2007. "Principle vs. Pragmatism: Policy Shifts and Political Competition." *American Journal of Political Science* 51(1): 151-65.

Tavits, Margit. 2011. "Power Within Parties: The Strength of the Local Party and MP Independence in Postcommunist Europe." *American Journal of Political Science* 55(4): 923-936.

Calvo, Ernesto and Maria Murillo. 2007. "Who Delivers? Partisan Clients in the Argentine Electoral Market." *American Journal of Political Science*.

November 18 *Violence and Civil War (Brancati)*

Kalyvas, Stathis. 2006. *The Logic of Violence in Civil War*. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press.

Fearon, James and David Laitin. 2003. "Ethnicity, Insurgency, and Civil War." *American Political Science Review* 97 (1): 75-90.

Weinstein, Jeremy. 2007. *Inside Rebellion*. Cambridge University Press.

Wilkinson, Steven. 2004. *Violence and Votes*. Cambridge University Press.

Chapman, Thomas and Philip Roeder. 2007. "Partition as a Solution to Wars of Nationalism: The Importance of Institutions." *American Political Science Review* 101 (4): 677-691.

Hartzell, Caroline and Matthew Hoddie. 2003. "Institutionalizing Peace: Power Sharing and Post-Civil War Conflict Management." *American Journal of Political Science* 47 (2): 318-332.

Lijphart, Arend. 1977. *Democracy in Plural Societies*. New Haven: Yale University Press, Chapters 2-3.

Walter, Barbara. 2001. *Committing to Peace: The Successful Settlement of Civil Wars*. Princeton: Princeton University Press. Chapter 2.

November 25 Democratization

Ross, Michael. 2001. "Does Oil Hinder Democracy?" *World Politics* 53 (3): 325-361.

Berman, Sheri. 1997. "Civil Society and the Collapse of the Weimar Republic." *World Politics* 49 (3): 401-429.

Rustow, Dankwart A. 1970. "Transitions to Democracy: Toward a Dynamic Model." *Comparative Politics* (2): 337-363.

Weingast, Barry R. 1997. "The Political Foundations of Democracy and the Rule of Law." *American Political Science Review* 91 (2): 245-63

Finkel, Steven E., et al. 2007. "The Effects of U.S. Foreign Assistance on Democracy Building, 1990–2003." *World Politics* 59 (3): 404-439.

Hegre, Håvard, Tanja Ellingsen, Scott Gates and Peter Gleditsch. 2001. "Toward a Democratic Civil Peace: Democracy, Political Change and Civil War, 1816-1992." *American Political Science Review* 95 (1): 33-48.

Pevehouse, Jon C. 2002. "Democracy from the Outside In? International Organizations and Democratization." *International Organization* 56 (3): 515-549.

Hyde, Susan D. 2007. "The Observer Effect in International Politics: Evidence from a Natural Experiment." *World Politics* 60 (1): 37-63

Snyder, Jack, and Edward D. Mansfield. 1995. "Democratization and the Danger of War." *International Security* 20 (Summer): 5-38.

December 2 Comparative Judicial Politics

Carey, John. 2000. "Parchment, Equilibria, and Institutions." *Comparative Political Studies* 33(6/7):735-761.

North, Douglas C., and Barry R. Weingast. 1989. "Constitutions and Commitment: The Evolution of Institutions Governing Public Choice in Seventeenth Century England." *Journal of Economic History* 49(Dec.):803-832.

Epp, Charles E. 1996. "Do Bills of Rights Matter? The Canadian Charter of Rights and Freedoms." *American Political Science Review* 90(4):765-779.

Stone Sweet, Alec. *Governing with Judges*. 2000. Oxford University Press. Chapter 2.

Helmke, Gretchen. 2002. "The Logic of Strategic Defection: Court-Executive Relations in Argentina Under Dictatorship and Democracy." *American Political Science Review* 96(2):291-303.

Vanberg, Georg. 2001. "Legislative-Judicial Relations: A Game-Theoretic Approach to Constitutional Review." *American Journal of Political Science* 45:346-361.

Carrubba, Clifford and Mathew Gabel. Forthcoming. *Courts and Compliance*. Cambridge University Press.