

Seminar on Political Economy
L32 4552 and 5552
and
L50 498 Senior Seminar in Political Theory
Wednesday 4-6pm Spring 2016
Seigle Hall WC Seminar room.

Instructor: Norman Schofield (schofield.norman@gmail.com)

Syllabus

This is a research seminar. The required work for the seminar is a research paper approximately 20pp (double spaced) in length, together with a brief presentation of the paper during the last week of the seminar. I may go through material somewhat faster to leave more time for class presentations

There will be two required books for the course:

Norman Schofield (2006), *Architects of Political Change: Constitutional Quandaries and Social Choice Theory* (called AP). Cambridge UP, 2006.
Norman Schofield and Maria Gallego, *Leadership or Chaos* (called LC) Springer 2011.

These two books and a number of my related articles are available from my website in political science at:

http://polisci.wustl.edu/sub_page.php?s=3&m=0&d=24

Other recommended books are:

Daron Acemoglu and James Robinson, *Why Nations Fail* Random House New York (2012).
Gregory Clark, *A Farewell to Alms*, Princeton University Press (2007)
Calvin, W. 2008. *Global Fever: How to Treat Climate Change*. Chicago: Chicago University Press.

I have material by these authors which I shall distribute.

The first part of the course will use AP and some ideas from “social choice theory” to interpret constitutional transformation in the U.S., from 1776 to the present.

The second part will use LC and will focus on modeling elections in the U.S., Britain, Netherlands, Italy and Israel, and compare the effects of different electoral rules in Israel and Europe.

The third part will consider the connection between politics and economics, using Acemoglu and Robinson, and North Weingast and Wallis on Human History

The fourth part will continue with a discussion of International Political Economy, starting with Chapter 7 of AP, and finish with a discussion of the effects of climate change.

Part 1. Constitutional Quandaries

Week 1: Jan 20 Chapter 1 and 2 of AP, Power and Social Choice.

Week 2 Jan 27. Chapter 3 of AP (Franklin and the War of Independence) and Chapter 4 of AP (Madison Jefferson and Condorcet).

Week 3 Feb 3 Chapter 5 of AP (Lincoln and the Civil War).

Week 4: Feb 10. Chapter 6 of AP (Johnson and the realignment of 1964).

Miller and Schofield, APSR 2003, AJPS 2007,

Perspectives on Politics 2008

Part 2. Electoral Models and Social Choice.

Week 5: Feb 17. Political order LC Chapter 1

Week 6. Feb 24 Institutions LC Chapter 2

Week 7 Mar 2. (Elections in the U.S. and Britain). Ch 5 and 6 of LC

Week 8. Mar 9 Chapter 10 of LC (Elections in Israel and Turkey).

Week 9: Mar 16 Ch 9 of LC (Elections in Russia, Poland, Georgia and Azerbaijan).

Part 3. Political Economy.

Week 10 Mar 23. Political Business Cycles etc. Chs 3 and 4 of LC

Week 11 Mar 30 . Authoritarian Regimes.

Schofield and Levinson, PPE 2008(will be sent by email).

Part 4. International Political Economy and Climate Change

Week 12 April 6: Chapter 7 of AP (Keynes and the Atlantic Constitution).

Week 13 April 13. Discussion about Climate Change.

See also Calvin *Global Fever: How to Treat Climate Change*.

Week 14-15. April 20-27. Class presentations.