

PSCI 5610
Proseminar in Comparative Politics
Spring 2018

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Office Hours:

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11:00 am- 12:30 noon
Tuesdays and Thursdays

or any time I'm in my office

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Required Texts:

- Geddes, Barbara. 2003. *Paradigms and Sand Castles: Theory Building and Research Design in Comparative Politics*. Ann Arbor: University of Michigan Press
- Huntington, Samuel. 1993. *The Third Wave: Democratization in the Late Twentieth Century* Norman: University of Oklahoma Press
- Lijphart, Arend. 1999. *Patterns of Democracy: Government Forms and Performance in Thirty Six Countries*. New Haven, CT: Yale University Press
- Moore Jr. Barrington. 1966. *Social Origins of Dictatorship and Democracy: Lord and Peasant in the Making of the Modern World*. Boston: Beacon.
- Putnam, Robert. 1993. *Making Democracy Work: Civic Traditions in Modern Italy*. Princeton, NJ: Princeton University Press.

COURSE OBJECTIVES

The purpose of this course is to introduce beginning graduate students to the central theoretical approaches and methods in the field of comparative politics as well as the currently prominent research programs in the field. The field of comparative politics is a complex and diverse field. In a practical sense (for instance, in designating courses in a U.S. university catalog), it refers to politics within nations other than the U.S. It also involves comparisons across all nations or subsets of nations (by region, by level of development, by regime type, by other criteria) in an effort to "discover" general laws that explain and predict the behavior of individuals and groups and the performance of institutions across systems. That presents us with an extraordinarily diverse array of nations, cultures, configurations of government institutions, patterns of mass behavior and of state-society relations. It also compels us to become familiar with a variety of research methods and to develop some understanding of what method is most appropriate for what kind of research question. The Seminar in Scope and Methods introduced you to the principles and mechanics of research design, so this course will, to some extent, but not entirely, assume you are familiar with those principles. Our goal in this course will be to gain some understanding of how to apply those principles in comparative research, whether it involves the analysis of cross-national data sets, comparative case studies, or even single nations over time and/or across regions.

Given the breadth, diversity, and complexity of the subject matter of comparative politics, it should not be surprising to you that there is no single paradigm that dominates the field. We are still in the era of "competing paradigms". Indeed, it is arguably a permanent condition of the field. Therefore, this course will necessarily involve brief introductions to major research traditions in comparative politics. We cannot touch on all of them, but I have made an effort to structure the course around introductions to several of the major research programs on-going in the field today. If comparative politics is one of your major fields, you should use this as an opportunity to identify the research areas that engage your interest to the point that you could build a career around teaching and research in that subject area.

COURSE REQUIREMENTS

Your grade in this course will be based on a take-home final exam (worth 30% of your final grade), 9 weekly reaction papers (choose from 13 weekly topics from week 3 on-- collectively worth 20% of your grade), and a research design (worth 40% of your grade), with the final 10% determined by class participation. The writing assignments are intended to sharpen your analytical skills and give you some experience with the kind of analysis that you will be required to do in your other courses, on your comprehensive exams (for Ph.D. students), and in the kind of research and writing you will do as a practicing political scientist.

A. Exam: (30% of final grade)

There will be a take-home final exam that will consist of essay questions. You are free to use any books, notes, or

journal articles that you have, but you are not to confer with other students on the test questions. Evidence of collaboration with other students or anyone else will be treated as an instance of cheating and dealt with according to University rules on cheating. You will receive a grade of "0" for the exam and an "F" for the course. The exam will be distributed during the last class week (May 2) and will be due May 9 by 11:59 pm. There is a 3% point penalty for each day you are late turning in an exam.

B. Reaction Papers: (20% of final grade)

Students will be expected to write nine short (2 page maximum) reaction papers during the semester. These papers will consist of an analytical discussion of that week's readings. A set of questions will be provided to which you will respond. These questions are designed to focus your reading on important themes covered. The paper will be due at the beginning of class on the day that the readings are discussed. No late papers or electronic papers will be accepted. **All students must do a reaction paper for January 23.** One must do two reaction papers out of the three weekly sets of readings from January 30- February 27 (and turned in no later than the day we cover those readings). The second set of three must cover the readings for three of the four weeks from March 6-April 3, and the last must cover three of the four weeks between April 10 –May 1. Each Week I will randomly select 1 or 2 people to orally answer the week's question, so be prepared with your papers.

In sum:

- 1) everyone does January 23
- 2) choose 2 out of 3 topics from January 30- February 27
- 3) choose 3 out of 4 topics from March 6-April 3
- 4) choose 3 out of 4 topics from April 10 –May 1

These papers should not be simply summaries of the readings but on addressing the questions provided (I will hand out weekly prompt questions). Papers that simply summarize the readings with no original discussion will be penalized heavily. Papers that summarize only one or two of the readings to the exclusion of the others will also **not** receive high marks. These papers must be typed, single-spaced, 12 pt font, one inch margins, 2 pages MAXIMUM.

C. Research Design: (30%)

Over the course of the semester, you should select one of the topics in the course (or another topic in comparative politics) and develop a research design that should culminate in a conference paper, publication, and/or thesis/dissertation. This review will be completed in two stages. The first installment should be a **research problem statement** with a **literature review**: you will present detailed problem statement that clarifies the research puzzle at the center of your project. This statement should be in a form that makes it clear that testable hypotheses can be derived from it. It should be on the order of an extended abstract of a journal article. In order to demonstrate how this research puzzle is grounded in existing research, you should offer in support of the problem statement detailed summaries (one page each) on each of **seven refereed journal articles** on the topic you have chosen. For this installment, confine yourself to refereed journal articles; do not use books, chapters in edited books, government reports, or any other type of resource. Those sources can be used in the final draft, but the purpose of the first installment is to get you to delve into the journal literature on your subject. Each summary should be preceded by a complete citation of the relevant journal article, in the style format of the *American Political Science Review*. This installment is due **Tuesday, March 6**

The final draft should include 1) the research problem statement (revised and expanded from the first draft), 2) a detailed **literature review**, which is an analytical essay that explains how this body of works defines the parameters of research program in comparative politics in which your research project is grounded, and 3) your research design, which includes a theoretical framework (derived from the literature) from which you derive one or more testable hypotheses and then specify what data would be required to test these hypotheses. The final draft is due **Friday May 11 by 5:00 pm (electronically via email to me)**.

D. Oral Presentation Research Design: (10%)

You will be required to present your research design in a "public forum"—I will ask some of you other fellow graduate students to attend. I will set up a special session (depending on your schedules) where you will be asked to present your research designs orally. Each of you will have 10 minutes to present (in a "panel" of 5) to be followed by

“discussion” period. Each paper will be assigned a “discussant” who will be responsible for commenting on the paper and making constructive suggestions for improvement. You will be evaluated by your peers (including other audience members) and the instructor and the format will be similar to what you would find at a typical political science conference.

E. Class Participation: (10%) The quality of your class participation will be assessed both by the instructor and your peers. I pay particular attention to the quality of your comments, not just the quantity. Further, attendance does matter – if you are not in attendance, you are not participating.

Remember:

1. The research design, oral presentation, and reaction paper assignments assignment are not optional; you will receive a grade of “F” for the course if you do not turn in any one of the major paper assignments, regardless of your score on the exam.
2. You may NOT do a paper on an issue in U.S. domestic policy or U.S. domestic politics. If you do, you will receive a grade of “0” for the paper assignment. If you have the slightest doubt concerning the legitimacy of your paper topic, clear it with me.
3. You may NOT turn in an identical paper that you have done in another class this semester or any previous semester. If you do, that will be counted as an instance of plagiarism, and you will receive a grade of “F” for the course and be referred to the appropriate University authorities.
4. You may NOT turn in a paper that was written in whole or in part by someone else. If you do, that will be treated as an instance of plagiarism, and you will receive a grade of “F” for the course and be referred to the appropriate University authorities.
5. Your paper must demonstrate that you have read multiple scholarly articles from several different *refereed scholarly* journals (not news magazines, government reports, web sites), and you must use the appropriate citation and bibliographic format.
6. Your paper must be typed, double-spaced, with no more than one inch margins on all four sides and no larger than 12 point type. You must turn in a printed copy AND an electronic copy (by email) in MS Word, word perfect, or pdf format.
7. You may NOT change topics after you turn in the first installment. If you decide you cannot complete the paper you originally proposed, see me. To change topics you will have to do the first installment for your new topic before you turn in your final draft.

IMPORTANT DATES

March 6 Research Problem and literature review due
May 11 (Friday) Final Draft of Research Design due
May 1 Take-Home Final distributed
May 8 Take Home Final Due
Reaction Paper 1: all do January 23
Reaction Papers 2-3 (i.e. 2 of 3 weeks) between January 30- February 27
Reaction Paper 4-6: (i.e. 3 of 4 weeks) between March 6-April 3
Reaction Paper 7-9: (i.e. 3 of 4 weeks) between April 10 –May 1
Final Presentation: TBA (during finals week)

COURSE OUTLINE

The course outline that follows delineates in sequence the major themes addressed in the course and the assigned readings for each theme. You are expected to complete the assigned readings before class and come to class prepared to discuss them. Class participation counts 10% of your grade, and informed discussion requires careful reading of the assignments. The readings load is rather heavy for this course, but it is essential that you devote the time needed to master them.

1. January 16: Overview of the Field

Required Readings

- Wiarda, Howard. 1991. “Comparative Politics, Past and Present,” in Howard Wiarda, ed. *New Directions in Comparative Politics* (Boulder, CO: Westview Press, 1991), pp. 3-30.
Macridis Roy C. 1955 *The Study of Comparative Politics* New York: Random House pp-7-14 in Bernard Susser ed. 1992 *Approaches to the Study of Politics*. New York: Mac Millan Co

- Dahl, Robert. 1961. "The Behavioral Approach in Political Science: Epitaph for a Monument to a Successful Protest" *American Political Science Review* 55:763-772.
- Laitin, David. 2002. "Comparative Politics: the State of the Subdiscipline" pp.630-659 in Ira Katznelson and Helen Milner eds. 2002. *Political Science: State of the Discipline*. New York: Norton and Company.
- Easton, David "Categories for the Systems Analysis of Politics" pp. 189-201 in Bernard Susser ed. 1992 *Approaches to the Study of Politics*. New York: Mac Millan Co.
- Almond, Gabriel 1965. "A Developmental Approach to Political Systems" *World Politics*, 17: 183-214

2. January 23: Comparative Historical Studies

Required Readings

- Moore Jr. Barrington. 1966. *Social Origins of Dictatorship and Democracy: Lord and Peasant in the Making of the Modern World*. Boston: Beacon., Ch. 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 7, 8, 9.
- Bendix, Reinhard 1978. *Kings or People*. Berkeley: University of California Press. Chp 1, 3-18 only; chp 2, pp. 21-60; Chp 8 or 14
- Peters, B. Guy; Pierre, Jon; and King, Desmond S. 2005. "The Politics of Path Dependency: Political Conflict in Historical Institutionalism," *Journal of Politics*, 67, 4 (November): 1275–1300
- Blaydes, Lisa and Eric Chaney. 2013 "The Feudal Revolution and Europe's Rise: Political Divergence of the Christian West and the Muslim World before 1500 CE" *American Political Science Review* 107,1, (February)

3. January 30: Modernization Theory and its critics

Required Readings

- Lipset, Seymour Martin (1959). "Some Social Requisites of Democracy: Economic Development and Political Legitimacy", *American Political Science Review*. 53: 69-105.
- Deutsch Karl. 1961. "Social Mobilization and Political Development" *American Political Science Review* 55:493-514.
- Binder, Leonard. 1971. "Crises of Political Development" in Leonard Binder, Lucian Pye, James S. Coleman, Sidney Verba, Joseph Lapalombara and Myron Weiner *Crises and Sequences in Political Development* Princeton: Princeton University Press.
- Huntington, Samuel.1965. "Political Development and Political Decay," *World Politics* 17 (3): 386-430.
- Chilcote, Ronald. 1991 "Alternative Approaches to Comparative Politics" in Howard Wiarda, ed. *New Directions in Comparative Politics* Boulder, CO: Westview Press, 1991.

4. February 6: Neo Marxist Critics of Modernization and "Bringing the State Back in "

Required Readings

- Lenin, V.I. *Imperialism: The Highest form of Capitalism* chps 1,4,6,7, 10 (they are very short chapters)
- Frank, Andre Gunder. 1966. The development of underdevelopment. (reprinted from the Monthly Review, September, 1966) *Monthly Review* (New York, N.Y.). 41 (June '89):37-51.
- Valenzuela, Samuel and Arturo Valenzuela. 1978. "Modernization and Dependency: Alternative Perspectives in the Study of Latin American Underdevelopment," *Comparative Politics* 10: 535-557.
- Wallerstein, Immanuel. 1974. "Dependence in an Interdependent World: The Limited Possibilities of Transformation within the Capitalist World Economy" *African Studies Review* 17 (1): 1-26.
- Skocpol, Theda. 1985. "Bringing the State Back In: Strategies of Analysis in Current Research." In Peter B. Evans, Dietrich Rueschemeyer and Theda Skocpol, Eds. *Bringing the State Back In*. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press
- O'Donnell, Guillermo. 1979. "Tensions in the Bureaucratic-Authoritarian State and the Question of democracy" in David Collier, ed. *The New Authoritarianism in Latin America*. Princeton: Princeton University Press pp. 285-318.

I will be in Ethiopia from February 11-26 No Class on February 13 and 20 (no class will be held)

5. February 27: Research Design in Comparative Politics

Required Readings

- Przeworski, Adam and Henry Teune, *The Logic of Comparative Social Inquiry*, pp 1-47
- Lijphart, Arend. 1971. "Comparative Politics and the Comparative Method," *American Political Science Review* 65: 682-693.
- Gerring, John "What is a Case Study and What is it Good for?" *American Political Science Review* 98 (2004): 341-354.
- Coppedge, Michael.1999., "Thickening Thin Concepts and Theories: Combining Large N and Small in Comparative Politics." *Comparative Politics* 31: 465-476.
- Meckstroth, Theodore W. 1975. "'Most Different Systems' and 'Most Similar Systems': A Study in the Logic of Comparative Inquiry." *Comparative Political Studies* 8 (July): 132-157.
- Geddes, Barbara. 2003. *Paradigms and Sand Castles: Theory Building and Research Design in Comparative Politics*. Ann Arbor: University of Michigan Press

6. March 6: Comparative Institutions

Required Readings

- Lijphart, Arend. 1999. *Patterns of Democracy: Government Forms and Performance in Thirty Six Countries*. New Haven, CT: Yale University Press, chapters: 1-3, 5-8, 11, 15, 16
- Duverger, Maurice. 1984. "What is the Best Electoral System?" in Arend Lijphart and Bernard Grofman *Choosing an Electoral System*. New York: Praeger, pp. 31-40
- Lakeman, Enid . 1984. "The Case for Proportional Representation?" in Arend Lijphart and Bernard Grofman *Choosing an Electoral System*. New York: Praeger, pp 41-52.
- Cheibub, José Antonio. 2007. *Presidentialism, Parliamentarism, and Democracy*. Cambridge, UK: Cambridge University Press, pp. 1-48.
- Linz, Juan. 1990. "Perils of Presidentialism" *Journal of Democracy* 1:51-69.
- Horowitz, Donald. 1990. "Comparing Democratic Systems" *Journal of Democracy* 1:73-79.

Mid term break (no class March 13)

7. March 20: Institutionalism - Rational Choice Approaches

Required Readings

- Bueno de Mesquita, Bruce, James D. Morrow, Randolph M. Siverson, and Alastair Smith. 2000. "Political Institutions, Political Survival, and Policy Success," pp. 59-84 in Bruce Bueno de Mesquita and Hilton Root, eds., *Governing for Prosperity*. New Haven: Yale University Press.
- Tsebelis, George. 1990. *Nested Games: Rational Choice in Comparative Politics* (Berkeley: University of California Press). Pp. 1-47, 119-158.
- Barbara Geddes. 1991. "A Game Theoretic Model of Reform in Latin American Democracies," *American Political Science Review* 85: 371-392.
- Green, Donald and Ian Shapiro, *Pathologies of Rational Choice Theory*, (New Haven: Yale University Press, 1994), pp. 1-46.
- Acemoglu, Daron and James A. Robinson. 2006. *The Economic Origins of Dictatorships and Democracy*. New York: Cambridge University Press. Ch. 1 & 2

8. March 27: Political Culture

Required Readings:

- Almond, Gabriel and Sidney Verba (1963). *The Civic Culture*. Boston: Little Brown, pp. 1-47; 307-336.
- Inglehart, Ronald. 1990. *Culture Shift in Advanced Industrial Society* (Princeton: Princeton University Press. Introduction, Ch. 1-4, 10, 11
- Inglehart, Ronald and Christian Welzel. 2005. *Modernization, Cultural Change, and Democracy*. Cambridge, UK: Cambridge University Press, pp. 15-134.
- Elkins, David J. and Simeon, Richard E.B., 1979. "A Cause in Search of Its Effect, or What Does Political

9. April 3: Civil Society

Required Readings:

- Putnam, Robert. 1995. "Bowling Alone: America's Declining Social Capital" *Journal of Democracy* 6: 65-78
Stable Link http://muse.jhu.edu/journals/journal_of_democracy/v006/6.1putnam.html
- Putnam, Robert. 1993. *Making Democracy Work: Civic Traditions in Modern Italy* Princeton: Princeton University Press [chp 1 and chps 4,5,6]
- Booth, John and Patricia Bayer Richards. 1998. "Civil Society, Political Capital, and Democratization in Central America," *Journal of Politics* 60:780-800.
- Foley, Michael W. and Bob Edwards. 1996. " The Paradox of Civil Society" *Journal of Democracy* 7:38-52.
Stable Link: http://muse.jhu.edu/journals/journal_of_democracy/v007/7.3foley.html
- Tusalem, Rollin 2007 A Boon or a Bane? The Role of Civil Society in Third- and Fourth-Wave Democracies
International Political Science Review, 361–386

Suggested Readings

- Fish, M. Steven. 1995. *Democracy From Scratch: Opposition and Regime in the New Russian Revolution*. Princeton

10. April 10: Ethnic Politics

Required Readings

- Lijphart, Arend. 1969. "Consociational Democracy." *World Politics* 21 (January): 207–25.
- Brass, Paul 199. "Ethnic Conflict in Multiethnic Societies: The Consociational Solution and its Critics" in Paul Brass, *Ethnicity and Nationalism: Theory and Comparison*. Newbury Park: Sage.
- Fearon, James D. And David D. Laitin. 1996. "Explaining Interethnic Cooperation," *American Political Science Review*. 90: 715-735.
- Horowitz, Donald 1993. "The Challenge of Ethnic Conflict: Democracies in Divided Societies," *Journal of Democracy*. (Oct). .
- Ishiyama, John 2009. "Do Ethnic Parties Promote Minority Ethnic Conflict?" *Nationalism and Ethnic Politics* 15:56-83
- Kaufmann, Chaim. 1996. "Possible and Impossible Solutions to Ethnic Civil Wars." *International Security*. 20 (4): 136-175
- Ishiyama, John, Amalia Pulido and Brandon Stewart 2016 "Does conflict lead to ethnic particularism? Electoral violence and ethnicity in Kenya 2005-2008" *Nationalism and Ethnic Politics* 22(3): 300-321

SPECIAL GRADUATE STUDENT PRESENTATION:

11. April 17: Political Parties: Organizations and Systems

Required Readings

- Downs, Anthony. 1957. "An Economic Theory of Political Action in a Democracy" *The Journal of Political Economy* 65: 135-150
- LaPalombara, Joseph, Myron Weiner. 1966. "The Origin and Development of Political Parties." In: Joseph LaPalombara, Myron Weiner (eds.), *Political Parties and Political Development*, 3-42. Princeton: Princeton University Press
- Krouwel, Andre. 2003. "Otto Kirchheimer and the catch-all party" *West European Politics* 26:23-40.
- Katz, Richard S. and Peter Mair (1994): "Changing Models of Party Organization: the emergence of the cartel party", *Party Politics* 1:1, 1994, 5-28
- Gunther, Richard and L. Diamond "Species of Political Parties: A New Typology" *Party Politics*, March 1, 2003; 9(2): 167 – 199.
- Mainwaring. Scott. 1998. " Party Systems in the Third Wave" *Journal of Democracy* 9.3 (1998) 67-81 stable link http://muse.jhu.edu/journals/journal_of_democracy/v009/9.3mainwaring.html
- Ishiyama, John and Anna Batta. 2011. "Swords into Plowshares: Rebel legacies, electoral competition and the transformation of the Communist Party of Nepal (Maoist)," *Communist and Post Communist Studies* 4(4): 369-379.

SPECIAL GRADUATE STUDENT PRESENTATION:

12. April 24: Political Violence

Required Readings

- Collier Paul and Anke Hoeffler . 2004. "Greed and grievance in civil war" *Oxford Economic Papers* 56: 563 – 595
- Gurr, Ted R. *Why Men Rebel* Princeton:Princeton University Press (selected chapters on BB)
- Lichbach, Mark I. 1994. "Rethinking Rationality and Rebellion: Theories of Collective Action and Problems of Collective Dissent," *Rationality and Society* 6: 8-32
- Mason, T. David, Mehmet Gurses, Patrick Brandt and Jason Quinn. 2011. "When Civil Wars Recur: Conditions for Durable Peace after Civil Wars" *International Studies Perspectives* 12(2): 171-189
- McAdam, Doug; Tarrow, Sidney; and Charles Tilly. 1997. "Toward an Integrated Perspective on Social Movements and Revolution." Pp. 142-173 Lichbach and Zuckerman

SPECIAL GRADUATE STUDENT PRESENTATION:

13. May 1: Democratic Transitions, Democratic Consolidation and Semi Authoritarianism

Required Readings

- Acemoglu, Daron, and James Robinson. 2001. "A Theory of Political Transitions." *American Economic Review* 91:938–63.
- Huntington, Samuel P. 1991. *The Third Wave: Democratization in the Late Twentieth Century*. Norman: University of Oklahoma Press.
- Adam Przeworski, Michael Alvarez, José Antonio Cheibub & Fernando Limongi. 1996. "What Makes Democracies Endure?" *Journal of Democracy* 7.1: 39-55
- Bratton, Michael and Nicolas Van De Walle. 1994. "Neopatrimonial Regimes and Political Transitions in Africa", *World Politics* 46: 453-489
- Ross, L. Michael. 2001. "Does Oil Hinder Democracy?" *World Politics*. 53 (April), 325-61.
- Levitsky, Steven and Lucan Way. 2002. "The Rise of Competitive Authoritarianism" *Journal of Democracy* 13:51-65
- Carothers, Thomas.2002. "The End of the Transition Paradigm" *Journal of Democracy* 13:5-21

III. University of North Texas--Policy on Academic Integrity:

Department of Political Science POLICY ON ACADEMIC INTEGRITY: The Political Science Department adheres to and enforces UNT's policy on academic integrity (cheating, plagiarism, forgery, fabrication, facilitating academic dishonesty and sabotage). Students in this class should review the policy, which is located at: http://policy.unt.edu/sites/default/files/untpolicy/pdf/7-Student_Affairs-Academic_Integrity.pdf.

Violations of academic integrity in this course will be addressed in compliance with the penalties and procedures laid out in this policy. Students may appeal any decision under this policy by following the procedures laid down in the UNT Policy Manual Section 18.1.16 "Student Standards of Academic Integrity."

IV. University of North Texas-Statement of ADA Compliance:

The University of North Texas makes reasonable academic accommodation for students with disabilities. Students seeking reasonable accommodation must first register with the Office of Disability Accommodation (ODA) to verify their eligibility. If a disability is verified, the ODA will provide you with a reasonable accommodation letter to be delivered to faculty to begin a private discussion regarding your specific needs in a course. You may request reasonable accommodations at any time, however, ODA notices of reasonable accommodation should be provided as early as possible in the semester to avoid any delay in implementation. Note that students must obtain a new letter of reasonable accommodation for every semester and must meet with each faculty member prior to implementation in each class. Students are strongly encouraged to deliver letters of reasonable accommodation during faculty office hours or by appointment. Faculty members have the authority to ask students to discuss such

letters during their designated office hours to protect the privacy of the student. For additional information see the Office of Disability Accommodation website at <http://www.unt.edu/oda>. You may also contact them by phone at [940.565.4323](tel:940.565.4323).