

Political Science 560
Fall 2007
Thursday 6:00-8:30
Faner 3173

Prof. Stephen Bloom
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Office Hours: T 1-2, W 10-12,
R 3:15-5:15
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POLS 560: Pro-Seminar in Comparative Politics

The purpose of this course is to provide students with an overview of the subfield of comparative politics and to better prepare them to take comparative field exams. In order to provide students with some hands-on experience with the preliminary exam process, I have included a mock preliminary exam in the course. It is my hope that the mock prelim will also help to reduce some of the stress and anxiety associated with taking the actual comparative field exam.

The comparative politics subfield is notoriously broad. Its geographic, methodological and substantive scope makes it one of the most difficult fields to study. The range of comparative politics research has, however, also attracted many dedicated scholars whose research interests and hypotheses have taken them from one part of the world to another.

The variety of comparative politics research is also reflected in this course. The first two seminar sessions provide an overview of the comparative method and theory building in comparative politics. The next three meetings tackle competing methodological approaches to the study of comparative politics: macrostructural, rational choice and cultural. The remaining seminars cover the empirical literature on various themes within comparative politics: the state, elections and party systems, political culture, political economy, democratization, political mobilization, and nationalism and ethnicity.

Course Requirements:

1. Two class briefings (20%). Each student will need to write two 750-word briefings. The briefing should place the readings of a given week in a broader context and provide a critical analysis that includes points that a careful reader might not have considered. These should be sent via e-mail to the instructor the day before class. The briefing writer(s) will also serve as discussant(s) and introduce the subject of the week's seminar. Under no circumstances should the briefing be read in class. You will be expected to pick two dates on August 23.
2. One recommended reading briefing (10%). Each student will be expected to write (a 500-word briefing) and present on one of the **books** from the recommended reading list.
3. Four memoranda (20%). Each student will need to write four thoughtful 500-word memoranda on the assigned readings. Memoranda should not be written for weeks that a student is acting as discussant (although it is fine if you are simply giving a presentation on a recommended reading).

4. Mock prelim (30%). Questions will be distributed on Thursday December 6 in class and are due in my office on Monday December 10 by noon.

5. Participation (20%). It is important for **each** student to participate in the discussion of **each** week's readings.

Required Books (Available for purchase at the SIU Bookstore):

Benedict Anderson, *Imagined Communities*. (London: Verso, 1991).

Christopher Barrett and Jeffrey Cason, *Overseas Research: A Practical Guide*. (Baltimore: Johns Hopkins University Press, 1997).

Barbara Geddes, *Paradigms and Sand Castles: Theory Building and Research Design in Comparative Politics*. (Ann Arbor: University of Michigan Press, 2003).

Mark Lichbach and Alan Zuckerman, eds., *Comparative Politics: Rationality, Culture, and Structure*. (Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, 1997).

James Mahoney and Dietrich Rueschemeyer, eds., *Comparative Historical Analysis in the Social Sciences*. (Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, 2003).

B. Guy Peters, *Comparative Politics: Theory and Methods*. (New York: New York University Press, 1998).

Course Schedule:

August 23

Introduction and Course Overview

Required Reading:

Lichbach, ch. 1

David Laitin, "Comparative Politics: The State of the Sub-discipline." In Katznelson and Milner, eds., *Political Science: The State of the Discipline*. (New York: Norton, 2002).

August 30

No Class

September 6

Comparative Method

Required Reading:

Peters, chs. 1-4, 6, 10 (skim 7-9)

Geddes, ch. 3

Giovanni Sartori. "Concept Misinformation in Comparative Politics." *American Political Science Review*, 1970, pp. 1033-53.

David Collier and James Mahon. "Conceptual Stretching Revisited." *American Political Science Review*, 1993, pp. 845-55.

Recommended Reading:

Henry Brady and David Collier, eds. *Rethinking Social Inquiry: Diverse Tools, Shared Standards*. (Lanham, MD: Rowman and Littlefield, 2004).

Gary King, Robert Keohane and Sidney Verba. *Designing Social Inquiry*. (Princeton: Princeton University Press, 1993).

Charles Ragin. *The Comparative Method: Moving Beyond Qualitative and Quantitative Strategies*. (Berkeley: University of California Press, 1987).

Dankwart Rustow and Kenneth Erickson. *Comparative Political Dynamics*. (New York: HarperCollins, 1991).

September 13

Comparative Theory

Required Reading:

Lichbach, chs. 9, 10

Geddes, chs. 1, 2, 4, 6

September 20

Macrostructural and Comparative Historical Approaches

Required Reading:

Mahoney and Rueschemeyer, chs. 1, 5-12

Recommended Reading:

Samuel Huntington, *Political Order in Changing Societies*. (New Haven: Yale University Press, 1968).

Gregory Luebbert. *Liberalism, Fascism, or Social Democracy*. (New York: Oxford University Press, 1991).

Barrington Moore, *Social Origins of Dictatorship and Democracy*. (Boston: Beacon Press, 1966).

Theda Skocpol, *States and Social Revolutions: a comparative analysis of France, Russia and China*. (Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, 1979).

Sven Steinmo, Kathleen Thelen and Frank Longstreth, eds., *Structuring Politics: Historical Institutionalism in Comparative Analysis*. (Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, 1992).

September 27

Rational Choice Approaches

Required Reading:

Lichbach, ch. 2.

Geddes, ch. 5

George Tsebelis, "In Defense of the Rational-Choice Approach," in *Nested Games: Rational Choice in Comparative Politics*. (Berkeley: University of California Press, 1990), pp. 18-51.

Ian Shapiro. "Can the Rational Choice Framework Cope with Culture?" *PS: Political Science and Politics*, 1998, pp. 40-42.

Jon Elster. "Review: Rational Choice History: A Case of Excessive Ambition," *American Political Science Review*, 2000, pp. 685-695.

Stephen Bloom. "Competitive Assimilation or Strategic Nonassimilation? The Political Economy of School Choice in Latvia," *Comparative Political Studies*, forthcoming.

Recommended Reading:

Robert Bates. Avner Grief, Margaret Levi, Jean-Laurent Rosenthal and Barry Weingast, eds., *Analytic Narratives*. Princeton: Princeton University Press.

Barbara Geddes. *Politician's Dilemma: Building State Capacity in Latin America*. Berkeley: University of California Press.

Donald Green and Ian Shapiro. *Pathologies of Rational Choice: A Critique of Applications in Political Science*. (New Haven: Yale University Press).

James March and Johan Olsen. "Institutional Perspectives on Political Institutions." *Governance*, 1996, pp. 247-64.

Douglass North, *Institutions, Institutional Change, and Economic Performance*. (New York: Cambridge University Press).

October 4

Cultural Approaches

Required Reading:

Lichbach, ch. 3

Benedict Anderson, *Imagined Communities*. (London: Verso, 1992).

Recommended Reading:

Clifford Geertz, *Old Societies and New States*. New York: Free Press, 1963).

Lawrence Harrison and Samuel Huntington, eds. *Culture Matters: How Values Shape Human Progress*. (New York: Basic Books, 2001).

Louis Hartz, *The Liberal Tradition in America*. (New York, Harcourt, Brace & World, 1955).

David Laitin, *Hegemony and Culture*. (Chicago: University of Chicago Press, 1986).

Max Weber, *The Protestant Ethic and the Spirit of Capitalism*. (New York: HarperCollins, 1930 [1904-1905]).

October 11

The State and Neo-Statism

Required Reading:

Lichbach, ch. 8

Alekander Gershenkron, *Economic Backwardness in Historical Perspective*. Cambridge: Harvard University Press, 1962), pp. 5-30.

Peter Hall, "Policy Paradigms, Social Learning, and the State." *Comparative Politics*, 1993, pp. 275-96.

Theda Skocpol, "Bringing the State Back In." In Peter Evans et al. *Bringing the State Back In*. (Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, 1985), pp. 3-37.

Charles Tilly, "War Making and State Making as Organized Crime." In Peter Evans et al. *Bringing the State Back In*. (Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, 1985), pp. 169-91.

Recommended Reading:

Peter Evans. *Embedded Autonomy: State and Industrial Transformation*. Princeton: Princeton University Press.

Nora Hamilton. *The Limits of State Autonomy: Post-Revolutionary Mexico*. (Princeton: Princeton University Press, 1982).

Stephen Krasner. *Sovereignty*. (Princeton: Princeton University Press, 1999).

Ellen Kay Trimberger. *Revolution from Above: Military Bureaucrats and Development in Japan, Turkey, Egypt and Peru*. (New Brunswick, NJ: Transaction Books, 1978).

October 18

Elections, Parties and Party Systems

Required Reading:

Lichbach, ch. 5

Seymour Martin Lipset and Stein Rokkan. "Cleavage Structures, Party Systems, and Voter Alignments." In *Party Systems and Voter Alignments*. (New York: Free Press, 1967), pp. 1-64.

Gary Cox, *Making Votes Count*. (Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, 1997), excerpts.

Herbert Kitschelt. "Linkages between Citizens and Politicians in Democratic Polities." *Comparative Politics*, 2000, pp. 845-79.

Recommended Reading:

Maurice Duverger, *Political Parties*. (New York: Wiley, 1964).

Anthony Downs, *An Economic Theory of Democracy*. (New York: HarperCollins, 1957).

Rein Taagepera and Matthew Shugart, *Seats and Votes*. New Haven: Yale University Press.

Michael Laver and Kenneth Shepsle, *Making and Breaking Governments: Cabinets and Legislatures in Parliamentary Democracies*. (Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, 1996).

George Tsebelis and Jeanette Mooney. *Bicameralism*. (Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, 1997).

October 25
Political Culture

Required Reading:

Robert Putnam. *Making Democracy Work*. (Princeton: Princeton University Press, 1993), pp. 3-16, 83-137, 152-71.

Frederick. Solt. "Civics or Structure: Revisiting the Origins of Democratic Quality in the Italian Regions." *British Journal of Political Science*, 2004, pp. 123-135.

Ronald Inglehart and Wayne E. Baker. "Modernization, Cultural Change, and the Persistence of Traditional Values." *American Sociological Review*, 2000, pp. 19-51.

Recommended Reading:

Gabriel Almond and Sidney Verba, *The Civic Culture: Political Attitudes and Democracy in Five Nations*. (Princeton: Princeton University Press, 1963).

Ronald Inglehart, *Culture Shift in Advanced Industrialized Societies*. (Princeton: Princeton University Press, 1990).

Robert Putnam, *Bowling Alone*. (New York: Simon & Schuster, 2000).

Dietrich Rueschemeyer, Marilyn Rueschemeyer and Bjorn Wittrock. *Participation and Democracy: East and West*. (New York: M.E. Sharpe, 1998).

November 1
Political Economy and Development

Required Reading:

Daniel Lerner, *The Passing of Traditional Society*. (New York: Free Press, 1958), pp. 43-75.

Samuel Huntington. "Political Order and Political Decay." In *Political Order in Changing Societies*. (New Haven: Yale University Press, 1996 [1968]), pp. 1-71.

Stephan Haggard and Robert Kaufman, "Democratic Transitions and Economic Reform." In *The Political Economy of Democratic Transition*. (Princeton: Princeton University Press, 1995), pp. 151-82.

David Cameron. "The Expansion of the Political Economy: A Comparative Analysis." *American Political Science Review*, 1978, pp. 1243-61.

Ronald Rogowski. "Political Cleavages and Changing Exposure to Trade." *American Political Science Review*, 1987, pp. 1121-37.

Recommended Reading:

Ruth Berins Collier. *Paths Toward Democracy: The Working Class and Elites in Western Europe and South America*. (Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, 1999).

Gösta Esping-Andersen. *Three Worlds of Welfare Capitalism*. (Princeton: Princeton University Press, 1990).

Peter Gourevitch. *Politics in Hard Times*. Ithaca, NY: Cornell University Press, 1986).
 Adam Przeworski, *Democracy and the Market*. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, 1991).

Dietrich Rueschemeyer, Evelyn Huber Stephens and John Stephens, eds., *Capitalist Development and Democracy*. (Chicago: University of Chicago Press, 1992).

November 8

Authoritarianism, Democracy and Transitions to Democracy

Required Reading:

Guillermo O'Donnell and Philippe Schmitter. *Transitions from Authoritarian Rule: Tentative Conclusions about Uncertain Democracies*. (Baltimore: Johns Hopkins University Press, 1978), excerpts.

Michael Bratton and Nicholas van de Walle. "Neopatrimonial Regimes and Political Transitions in Africa." *World Politics*, 1994, pp. 453-489.

Mitchell A. Orenstein, Stephen Bloom and Nicole Lindstrom. "A Fourth Dimension of Transition." In Orenstein et al. *Transnational Actors in Central and East European Transitions*. Pittsburgh: University of Pittsburgh Press, forthcoming.

Michael McFall, "The Fourth Wave of Democracy and Dictatorship." *World Politics*, 2002, pp. 212-44.

Thomas Carothers. "The End of the Transition Paradigm." *Journal of Democracy*, 2002, pp. 5-21.

Recommended Reading:

Robert Dahl, *Polyarchy*. (New Haven: Yale University Press, 1971).

Larry Diamond. *Developing Democracy toward Consolidation*. (Baltimore: Johns Hopkins University Press, 1999).

Samuel Huntington. *The Third Wave: Democratization in the Late Twentieth Century*. (Oklahoma City: University of Oklahoma Press, 1991).

Juan Linz and Alfred Stepan, *Problems of Democratic Consolidation: Southern Europe, South America and Post-Communist Europe*. (Baltimore: Johns Hopkins University Press, 1996).

November 15

Political Mobilization and Revolution

Required Reading:

Lichbach, ch. 6

Mahoney and Rueschemeyer, ch. 2.

Sidney Tarrow, *Power in Movement*. (Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, 1998), pp. 1-25.

Richard Price. "Transnational Civil Society and Advocacy in World Politics." *World Politics*, 2003, pp. 579-606.

Jeff Goodwin and Theda Skocpol. "Explaining Revolutions in the Contemporary Third World." *Politics & Society*, 1989, pp. 489-509.

S. A. Arjomand. "Iran's Revolution in Comparative Perspective." *World Politics*, 1986, pp. 383-414.

Recommended Reading:

James DeNardo. *Powers in Numbers*. (Princeton: Princeton University Press, 1985).

Ted Robert Gurr, *Why Men Rebel*.

Jack Goldstone. *Revolution and rebellion in the early modern world*. (Berkeley: University of California Press, 1991).

Mancur Olson. *The Logic of Collective Action: Public Goods and the Theory of Groups*. (Cambridge: Harvard University Press, 1965).

Samuel Popkin, *The Rational Peasant*. (Berkeley: University of California Press, 1979).

Charles Tilly, *From Mobilization to Revolution*. (New York: Random House, 1978).

November 22

Thanksgiving Holiday

November 29

The Politics of Multiethnic States

Required Reading:

Ernest Gellner, *Thought and Change* (London: Weidenfeld and Nicholson, 1964), pp. 147-78.

Clifford Geertz. "The integrative revolution: Primordial sentiments and civil politics in the new states." In *Old Societies and New States*. New York: Free Press, 1963), pp. 105-57.

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

Donald Horowitz, "Making Moderation Pay: The Comparative Politics of Ethnic Conflict Management." In Joseph Montville, ed., *Conflict and Peacemaking in Multiethnic Societies*. (Lexington, MA: D. C. Heath, 1990), pp. 451-75.

James Fearon and David Laitin, "Explaining Interethnic Cooperation," *American Political Science Review* 90, 1996, pp. 715-35.

Recommended Reading:

Paul Brass, *Theft of an Idol*. (Princeton: Princeton University Press, 1997).

Rogers Brubaker. *Citizenship and Nationhood in France and Germany*. (Cambridge: Harvard University Press, 1992).

Karl Deutsch, *Nationalism and Social Communication*. (Cambridge: MIT Press, 1966).

Donald Horowitz, *Ethnic Groups in Conflict*. (Berkeley: University of California Press, 1985).

Arend Lijphart, *Democracy in Plural Societies*. (New Haven: Yale University Press, 1977).

Anthony Smith, *The Ethnic Origins of Nations*. (Oxford: Blackwell, 1986).

Ashutosh Varshney. *Ethnic Conflict and Civil Life: Hindus and Muslims in India*.

December 6
Comparative Politics in the Field

Required Reading:

Barrett and Cason

Recommended Reading:

Robert Emerson, Rachel Fretz and Linda Shaw. Writing Ethnographic Fieldnotes.
(Chicago: University of Chicago Press, 1995).