

# *Comparative Politics II*

*Political Science (PLSC) 778 01*  
(23146)

## **Class**

Time: 9:25 am-11.15 am Wednesdays  
Location: RKZ 202

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Office Hours: 2.30 pm-4.30 pm Wednesday at  
31 Hillhouse (email in advance  
to confirm time)

## **Introduction**

This course is the more canon-driven complement to Comparative Politics I (PLSC 777a), taught by Susan Stokes in Fall 2013, which focuses more on research design and trends in the discipline. The goal of this course is to cover, in some depth, many of the main topics and readings in comparative politics. Not coincidentally, we will also cover some of the comparative politics reading list, the aim being to partially prepare you for the comprehensive exams that many of you will take. I say 'partially' because comparative politics is a big sprawling field and no course can hope to cover everything.

The readings each week are designed to cover some of the essential points of a substantive topic, as well as raise deeper methodological questions that have application to other issues and themes in comparative politics. One thing to note is that I have not included some obviously important readings (e.g. Dan Posner's *Institutions and Ethnic Politics in Africa*, Robert Putnam's *Making Democracy Work*, James Mahoney's *Colonialism and Postcolonial Development*) that were on the syllabus for PLSC 777a. Knowledge of these will be assumed, however, in our discussions.

For each of the broad subject areas we cover in class, you might also want to take a look at the other readings mentioned in the Comparative Politics Reading List, so that you can do other relevant readings.

## Assignments and Grades

The assignments for the course are designed to develop skills that prepare you, as much as possible, for the format of the exams. We will write a lot, read each other's papers, and (with papers' names removed) critique and suggest improvements to the papers we write.

Each of you will have to do 3 short response papers (3 pages each), each worth 10% of the grade. These will be assigned to ensure that several of you are writing response papers on any given week. These are due Sunday evening by 7pm, emailed to me, to allow all of us time to read. Each of you will submit one copy to me with your name on, for me to grade and send individual comments back. Each of you should also upload one anonymous copy to the folder I will create for that week on classesv2, to be discussed by all of us at the beginning of class the following week.

Class participation and evidence of consistent preparation for class: 20% of the grade. NB: I would very strongly prefer it if students do not take notes on a laptop, as working with the computer distracts from engagement with the lecture as well as class conversation. If you must take notes on a laptop, then you *must* turn the wireless feature off. I especially want to remind students that emailing, texting, etc. is rude to me and to their fellow seminar participants, and it will have an adverse effect on your grade for class participation.

2 longer 'exam' questions, no longer than 10 pages each, to be assigned on the Thursday and finished by the following Friday at 5pm. One of these will be done before Spring break and one after. Each paper will be worth 25% of the grade. These too will be read and critiqued by the class.

## Books

The following book is required, and should be ordered as soon as possible:

- Carles Boix & Susan Stokes, eds. *The Oxford Handbook of Comparative Politics* (Oxford 2007) 019956602X

## Jan 15<sup>th</sup> Introduction

Carles Boix and Susan Stokes, "Introduction" in Boix & Stokes, pp.3-26.

Przeworski, Adam, "Is the science of comparative politics possible?" in Boix & Stokes, pp.147-71.

## Jan 22<sup>nd</sup> The use of history

*How much can historical 'natural experiments' help us to disentangle complex theoretical and empirical puzzles?*

North, Douglass & Weingast, Barry, "[Constitutions and Commitment: Evolution of the Institutions Governing Public Choice in 17<sup>th</sup> century England,](#)" *Journal of Economic History*, 1989, 49, pp.803-832.

Engerman, Stanley and Sokoloff, Kenneth. (1997). Factor Endowments, Institutions, and Differential Paths of Growth Among New World Economies: A View From Economic Historians of the United States. In Haber, Stephen, ed., *How Latin America Fell Behind*. Stanford: Stanford University Press, available at <http://www.nber.org/papers/h0066>.

Acemoglu, Daron, Simon Johnson and James A. Robinson (2001) "[The Colonial Origins of Comparative Development: An Empirical Investigation,](#)" *American Economic Review*, (December 2001) 91, 5, pp.1369-1401.

Pranab Bardhan, "[History, Institutions and Underdevelopment,](#)" in Bardhan, *Scarcity, Conflicts and Cooperation: Essays in the Political and Institutional Economics of Development* (MIT Press, 2005), pp.1-26.

LaPorta, Rafael, Florencio Lopez-de-Silanes, & Andrei Shleifer, "[The Economic Consequences of Legal Origins,](#)" NBER Working Paper No. 13608, November 2007.

Lisa Blaydes and Eric Chaney, "The Feudal Revolution and Europe's Rise: Political Divergence of the Christian West and the Muslim world before 1500 CE," *American Political Science Review*, Vol. 107, No. 1 February 2013, pp.16-34.

## Jan 29<sup>th</sup> Varieties of Capitalism & Welfare States

*How useful is the 'varieties of capitalism' framework?*

Matthew E. Carnes and Isabela Mares, "The Welfare State in Global Perspective," in Boix & Stokes, pp.868-85

Iversen, Torbin and Sockice, David. (2006). [Electoral Institutions and the Politics of Coalitions: Why Some Democracies Redistribute More Than Others.](#) *American Political Science Review*, 100(2): 165-81.

Mares, Isabela. (2003). [The Politics of Social Risk: Business and Welfare State Development.](#) Cambridge:Cambridge University Press., pp.1-9, 213-46, 249-63.

Alesina, Alberto & Rodrik, Dani, 1994. "[Distributive Politics and Economic Growth,](#)" *The Quarterly Journal of Economics*, MIT Press, vol. 109(2), pages 465-90, May

Peter A. Hall and David Soskice, "An Introduction to Varieties of Capitalism," in Hall and Soskice, eds. *The Institutional Foundations of Comparative Advantage* (Oxford, 2001). Available at <http://www.people.fas.harvard.edu/~phall/VofCIntro.pdf>

Philipp Rehm, Jacob S. Hacker and Mark Schlesinger, "Insecure Alliances: Risk, Inequality, and Support for the Welfare State," *American Political Science Review*, Vol. 106, No. 2 May 2012, pp.386-406.

Lucas Leeman and Isabela Mares, "The adoption of proportional representation: one phenomenon, a plethora of explanations," *Journal of Politics* [forthcoming, 2014] available in resources on classesv2.

## **February 5<sup>th</sup> Democratization**

*How important is economic development to democratization?*

Barbara Geddes, "What causes Democratization?" in Boix & Stokes, pp.317-39.

Frye, "Economic Transformation and Comparative Politics," in Boix & Stokes, pp.940-68

Samuel P. Huntington, [Political Order in Changing Societies](#) (New Haven: Yale, 1968), pp.1-92

Przeworski, Adam, Alvarez, Michael, Cheibub, Jose, and Limongi, Fernando. 2000. *Democracy and Development: Political Institutions and Well Being in the World, 1950-1990*. Cambridge, 2000.

Seymour Martin Lipset, "[Some Social Requisites of Democracy: Economic Development and Political Legitimacy](#)," *The American Political Science Review*, LIII, 1 (March 1959), pp.69-105.

## **February 12<sup>th</sup> State Formation and State Capacity**

*How important is war for strong state formation?*

Hendrik Spruyt, "War, Trade, and State Formation," in Boix & Stokes, pp.211-35.

Tilly, Charles, "[Reflections on the History of European State-Making](#)," in Tilly, ed. *The Formation of National States in Western Europe* (Princeton, 1975) pp.3-84

Levi, Margaret, [Of Rule and Revenue](#) (Berkeley, 1988) pp.1-41

Migdal, Joel, (1987) "[Strong Societies, Weak States](#)," in Weiner, Myron & Huntington, Samuel, *Understanding Political Development*. Illinois: Scott Foresman/Little Brown, pp.391-436.

Alesina, Alberto & Spolaore, 1995. "[On the Number and Size of Nations](#)," NBER Working Papers 5050, National Bureau of Economic Research, Inc

James Scott, [Seeing like a State](#) (Yale, 1998), pp.9-53.- Available as an e-book in Orbis.

Lisa Wedeen, [Ambiguities of Domination](#) (Chicago), pp.1-32

## February 19<sup>th</sup> Ethnic Conflict

*Question: How effective is consociational power-sharing in moderating ethnic conflicts?*

Donald L. Horowitz, [A Democratic South Africa?](#) (Berkeley, 1992), pp.163-203. [This is a more concise introduction to some of the conflict moderation strategies outlined in Horowitz's [Ethnic Groups in Conflict, pp.563-652](#), which may be substituted for this. But note that this reading does not substitute for many other parts of EGC, for instance on the causes of conflict, or ethnicity and the military].

Arend Lijphart, ["The Puzzle of Indian Democracy: A Consociational Interpretation,"](#) *American Political Science Review*, Vol.90, No.2, June 1996, pp.258-68

Arend Lijphart, ["Self-Determination versus Pre-Determination of Ethnic Minorities in Power-Sharing Systems,"](#) in Will Kymlicka, *The Rights of Minority Cultures* (Oxford University Press, 1995), pp.275-287.

Fearon, James, and David Laitin, ["Explaining Ethnic Cooperation,"](#) *American Political Science Review*, 1996, 90, pp.715-35

David D. Laitin, ["Hegemony and Religious Conflict: British Imperial Control and Political Cleavages in Yorubaland,"](#) in Peter B. Evans, Dietrich Rueschemeyer and Theda Skocpol, eds. *Bringing the State Back in* (Cambridge, 1985) pp.285-316

## February 26<sup>th</sup> Party Systems & Party Cleavages 1

*Question: Why do party systems turn on religious and ethnic cleavages in some systems and class cleavages in others?*

Lipset & Rokkan, Seymour Martin Lipset and Stein Rokkan, ["Cleavage Structures, Party Systems, and Voter Alignments: An Introduction,"](#) in Lipset and Rokkan, eds., *Party Systems and Voter Alignments: Cross-National Perspectives* (NY: Free Press, 1967), pp.1-65.

Carles Boix, "The Emergence of Parties and Party Systems," in Boix & Stokes, pp.499-521

Herbert Kitschelt, "Party Systems," in Boix and Stokes, pp.522-55

Rein Taagepera "Electoral Systems," in Boix & Stokes, pp.678-702

G. Bingham Powell, JR "Aggregating and Representing Political Preferences," in Boix & Stokes, pp.653-77

## **March 5th Party Systems & Party Cleavages 2 [This class needs to be rescheduled]**

*Question: How important are government institutions on the one hand and civil society organizations on the other to the type of party system that emerges in different countries?*

Lipset & Rokkan, Seymour Martin Lipset and Stein Rokkan, "[Cleavage Structures, Party Systems, and Voter Alignments: An Introduction](#)," in Lipset and Rokkan, eds., *Party Systems and Voter Alignments: Cross-National Perspectives* (NY: Free Press, 1967), pp.1-65.

Daniel Posner, "[The Political Salience of Cultural Difference: Why Chewas and Tumbukas are Allies in Zambia and Adversaries in Malawi](#)," *American Political Science Review*, 2004, 98, pp.529-46.

Stathis Kalyvas, [The Rise of Christian Democracy in Europe](#) (Cornell, 1996) pp.21-57

Gary Cox, [Making Votes Count: Strategic Coordination in the World's Electoral Systems](#) (Cambridge, 1997), pp.3-33, 203-21, 251-65.

## **Clientelism**

*Question: Why has vote buying and turnout buying been so prevalent in so many democracies? [You may answer this question or the one above]*

Kitschelt & Wilkinson, '[Introduction](#),' in Kitschelt and Wilkinson, *Patrons, Clients and Policies: Patterns of Democratic Accountability and Political Competition* (Cambridge, 2007), pp.1-49

Susan C. Stokes, "Political Clientelism," in Boix and Stokes, pp.604-27

Martin Shefter, "[Parties and Patronage, England, Germany and Italy](#)," *Politics and Society*, 1981, 7, 403-451.

**---Yale Spring Recess begins 5.20 pm March 7<sup>th</sup> and classes resume March 24<sup>th</sup> 8.20 am---**

## **March 26<sup>th</sup> Institutions and Fiscal Federalism**

*How has the recent financial crisis demonstrated some of the problems of fiscal federalism?*

David Samuels, "Separation of Powers," in Boix and Stokes, pp.707-27

Pablo Beramendi, "Federalism" in in Boix and Stokes, pp.752-81

Jonathan Rodden. (2006). [\*Hamilton's Paradox: The Promise and Peril of Fiscal Federalism\*](#). Cambridge: Cambridge University Press. pp. 1-23, 250-81

Meltzer and Richards. 1981. [\*A rational theory of the size of government\*](#). *Journal of Political Economy* 89 (5): 914-927.

Tsebelis, George. (1995). [\*Decision Making in Political Systems: Veto Players in Presidentialism, Parliamentarism, Multicameralism and Multipartyism\*](#). *British Journal of Political Science*, 25, 289-325.

## April 2<sup>nd</sup> Political Regimes

*How critical are the middle and upper middle classes for determining democracy or dictatorship?*

Barrington Moore, [\*Social Origins of Dictatorship & Democracy: Lord and peasant in the Making of the Modern World\*](#) (Cambridge, MA: Beacon Press, 1966), pp.40-110

Gregory Luebbert, [\*"Social Foundations of Political Order in Interwar Europe,"\*](#) *World Politics*, 1987, 39, 4, pp.449-78

Acemoglu, Daron & Robinson, James, [\*Economic Origins of Dictatorship and Democracy\*](#) (Cambridge, 2006), pp.15-46

Gandhi, Jennifer & Przeworski, Adam, [\*"Authoritarian Institutions and the Survival of Autocrats,"\*](#) *Comparative Political Studies*, 2007, 40, 11, pp.1279-1301.

Stephan Haggard and Robert F. Kaufman, "Inequality and Regime Change: Democratic Transitions and the Stability of Authoritarian Rule," *American Political Science Review*, Vol. 106, No. 3 August 2012, pp.495-516.

## April 9<sup>th</sup> Development

*Why have some states failed to develop their rural sectors since independence?*

Robert Bates, [\*Markets and States in Tropical Africa: The Political Basis of Agricultural Policies\*](#) (Berkeley, 1981) pp. 119-32.

Samuel Huntington, [\*Political Order in Changing Societies\*](#) (Yale, 1968), pp.1-92.

Atul Kohli, *State-Directed Development: Political Power and Industrialization in the Global Periphery* (Cambridge, 2004) [\*"The Colonial Origins of a Modern Political Economy,"\*](#) pp.27-83

Myron Weiner, [\*"Institution-Building in India,"\*](#) in Ashutosh Varshney/Myron Weiner, *The Indian Paradox* (Sage, 1989), pp.77-95.

Abhijit Banerjee and Lakshmi Iyer, [History, Institutions and Economic Performance: The Legacy of Colonial Land Tenure Systems in India](#) *American Economic Review*, 95,4, (Sep 2005) pp.1190-1213).

### **April 16<sup>th</sup> Civil Wars**

*What explains patterns of participation in civil wars?*

Stathis Kalyvas, "Civil Wars," in Boix & Stokes, pp.416-434.

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

Elisabeth Wood, [Insurgent Collective Action and Civil War in El Salvador](#) (Cambridge, 2003), pp. 226-56

### **April 23<sup>rd</sup> Nationalism & Contentious Politics**

*Why do people mobilize on the basis on ethnicity?*

Benedict Anderson, [Imagined Communities](#) (London, 1983) pp.20-65

Ernest Gellner, [Nationalism](#)," *Theory and Society*, 10,6, Nov. 1981, pp.753-776

Keith Darden and Anna Gryzmala Busse, Keith Darden and Anna Maria Gryzmala-Busse, "[The Great Divide: Literacy, Nationalism, and the Communist Collapse](#)," *World Politics*, 59, no.1 (2006).

Sidney Tarrow and Charles Tilly, "Contentious Politics and Social Movements," , in Boix & Stokes, pp.435-61

Scott, James, [Weapons of the Weak: Everyday Forms of Peasant Resistance](#) (Yale, 1987), pp.241-314 – Available as an e-book in Orbis

Steven I. Wilkinson, [Votes and Violence](#), (Cambridge, 2004) Chapters 2 and 5.

---Yale classes end April 25<sup>th</sup> 2014---



