NS3023 Introduction To Comparative Politics
Naval Postgraduate School
Department of National Security Affairs
Spring 2003

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Class Hours: MW, 1000 – 1150
Room GL 133

Office Hours: By Appointment

Course Description:

This course is designed to provide graduate students with an introduction to the study of Comparative Politics. While it is introductory, it is also designed for students at the graduate level. There is much reading and the concepts are often difficult to grasp at first reading. They are, however, necessary for political analysis. The main focus will be on different theoretical approaches to explanation in the field, as well as current conceptual issues. The course will provide analytical tools for a better understanding of the dynamics of change in the current world with particular attention to the issues of democratic consolidation, state formation, and state collapse.

Course Objective:

Students should be able to utilize the methodologies, approaches and findings in the course readings as tools to better understand political dynamics throughout the world. The readings cover a variety of theoretical and methodological perspectives, designed to help students to develop their abilities to think analytically about the dynamics of politics and critically evaluate various methods for analyzing political phenomena.

Evaluation:

Grades will be based on two take-home examinations and class participation, including a presentation on one or more of the readings. The mid-term will be handed out in class during the sixth week of the course to be returned the following week. NOTE: The final exam will be a take home essay, not an in-class exam, despite what the schedule in Python says. The final will be handed out the last week of class to be returned during finals week. (Exact dates will be announced in advance of the events). Due to conference travel at the end of June, the final exam may have an earlier deadline than the end of finals week. Students will be updated during the quarter as to the final deadline.

The breakdown of the final grade is as follows:

Mid-term examination 30%
Class participation 30%
Final exam 40%

All students are expected to complete the assigned readings before each class and to participate knowledgeably and actively in the discussion.

Note:

The discipline of Comparative Politics is diverse, extensive, and lacking in agreement on many of the key concepts. In this course we cannot cover all of the approaches to the discipline, let alone the findings from different theoretical approaches. Rather, we focus on certain of the main classical and contemporary approaches and illustrate them with some of the leading examples of the relevant literature. We take up some of the main questions in the discipline, and will focus in particular on how and why states form in different historical eras and cultural areas, transitional arrangements for failed states, what is democracy and why we care about it, how democratic forms of government are achieved, challenges to democratic consolidation, and the dividing line between domestic and international affairs.

Required Texts:

The following paperback books are available for purchase at the campus bookstore:

Arend Lijphart, *Patterns of Democracy*, New London, CT: Yale University Press, 1999.

Adam Przeworski, *Democracy and the Market,* New York and Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, 1991.

Yossi Shain and Juan J. Linz, eds. *Between States: Interim Governments and Democratic Transition*. New York and Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, 1995.

Readings on Reserve

Unless otherwise noted, all readings in this course outline are *required.* All the readings not contained in the required texts are available at the reserve desk of the library in the course reader. Where appropriate, links to online texts have been provided in the syllabus; nonetheless there will also be hardcopies of these readings in the course reader as well. Recommended readings, for the most part, are also included in the course reader.

There are two copies of the two-volume course reader on reserve. Weeks one to five are in the first volume, six through eleven in the second. DO NOT take readings out of the course reader except to copy or read in the library, and DO NOT get the articles out of order when you do copy them. I have pusposely not used staples or paper clips to separate the readings, in order to make it easier for you to copy them all. Please do not make me regret this by getting the pages and readings out of order.

Being Informed:

Students are expected to read the New York Times or another reputable news source daily.

I. INTRODUCTION TO THE MAIN ISSUES

Week 1: March 31, April 2
Why Study Comparative Politics?

1. Francis Fukuyama, "The End of History?" *The National Interest* (Summer 1989). Available online at: http://www.wku.edu/~sullib/history.htm.
2. Samuel Huntington. "The Clash of Civilizations," *Foreign Affairs*, (Summer 1993). Available online at: http://www.lander.edu/atannenbaum/Tannenbaum%20courses%20folder/POLS%20103%20World%20Politics/103_huntington_clash_of_civilizations_full_text.htm. PDF file available through ProQuest.
3. Stanley Kurtz. "The Future of 'History': Francis Fukuyama vs. Samuel P. Huntington," *Policy Review* (June & July 2002), pp. 43 – 58. Available online through ProQuest (PDF file).

Week 2: April 7, 9
The "Politics" in Comparative Politics

1. Max Weber, "The Types of Legitimate Domination," in *Economy and Society* Volume One. Berkeley: UC Press, pp. 212-254.
2. Max Weber, "Politics as a Vocation," in *From Max Weber: Essays in Sociology,* eds. H. H. Gerth and C. Wright Mills. New York: Oxford University Press, 1946, pp. 77-128.
3. Theda Skocpol, "Bringing the State Back In: Strategies of Analysis in Current Research," in *Bringing the State Back In*, eds. Theda Skocpol, et. al. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, 1985, pp. 3-37.

Week 3: April 14, 16
The Method of Comparative Politics

1. Arend Lijphart, "Comparative Politics and the Comparative Method," American Political Science Review (1971), pp. 682-693. Available online through JSTOR.
2. Alexander George, "Case Studies and Theory Development," in Diplomacy, ed. P.G. Lauren. New York: Free Press, 1979, pp. 43-68. Available online: http://muse.jhu.edu/journals/world_politics/v048/48.1kohli.html.
3. Atul Kohli, et. al. "The Role of Theory in Comparative Politics: A Symposium," World Politics 48, no. 1 (October 1995), pp. 1 – 49.
4. Ronald Rogowski. "Rationalist Theories of Politics: A Mid-term Report," World Politics 30, (January 1978), pp. 296 – 323.

Recommended Reading:
James Fearon, "Counterfactuals and Hypothesis Testing in Political Science," *World Politics* 43, no. 2. (January 1991), pp. 169-195. *Available online: http://links.jstor.org/sici?sici=0043-8871%28199101%2943%3A2%3C169%3ACAHTIP%3E2.0.CO%3B2-5*.

II. STATE FORMATION AND STATE AUTONOMY

Week 4: April 23 -- NO CLASS ON APRIL 21
The Formation and Evolution of the State in Western Europe: Early States

1. Hendrik Spruyt. "Modes of Nonterritorial Organization: Feudalism, the Church, and the Holy Roman Empire," in *The Sovereign State and its Competitors*, NJ: Princeton University Press, 1994, pp. 34 – 58.
2. Charles Tilly, "War Making and State Making as Organized Crime," in *Bringing the State Back In*. Theda Skocpol, et. al., eds. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, 1985, pp. 169-191.
3. Herman Schwartz, "The Rise of the Modern State: From Street Gangs to Mafias," in *States Versus Markets*. New York: St. Martin's Press, 1994, pp. 10-42.
4. Theda Skocpol. "Explaining Social Revolutions; Alternatives to Existing Theories," in *States and Social Revolutions: A Comparative Analysis of France, Russia and China.* New York: Cambridge University Press, 1979; pp. 3-41 (NOTE: focus on pp. 19 – 33, skim the rest), AND pp. 284 – 293 (skim).

Week 5: April 28, 30
State Formation and Evolution Outside of Europe: Late Developers

1. Alexander Gerschenkron, "Economic Backwardness in Historical Perspective," in *The Sociology of Economic Life*, eds. Marc Granovetter and Paul Swedborg. Boulder, CO: Westview Press, 1962, pp. 111 – 130.
2. Joe Midgal. "Strong Societies, Weak States: Power and Accommodation," in *Understanding Political Development*, eds. Samuel Huntington, Myron Weiner and Gabriel Almond. Boston: Little, Brown, 1987, pp. 391 – 437.
3. Peter Evans, "States and Industrial Transformation," and "States," in *Embedded Autonomy: States and Industrial Transformation*. NJ: Princeton University Press, 1998, pp. 3 – 20, and 43 – 73.
4. Jeffrey Herbst. "The Challenge of State-Building in Africa," in *States and Power in Africa*. Princeton, N.J.: Princeton University Press, 2000, pp. 11 – 31.

Recommended Reading:
Robert H. Jackson and Carl Rosberg. "Personal Rule: Theory and Practice in Africa," *Comparative Politics* 16, no. 4 (July 1984), 421 – 442. *Available online through JSTOR.*

Week 6: May 5, 7 **Midterm Exam Distributed**
States in the World Economy: Global Challenges to State Autonomy

1. Immanuel Wallerstein, "The Rise and Future Demise of the World Capitalist System: Concepts for Comparative Analysis," *Comparative Studies in Society and History* 16, 1974, pp. 387-415.

Available onlin: http://links.jstor.org/sici?sici=0010-4175%28197409%2916%3A4%3C387%3ATRAFDO%3E2.0.CO%3B2-P.

2. Harold L. Wilensky, "Globalization: Does it Subvert Job Security, Labor Standards, and the Welfare State?" in *Rich Democracies*. Berkeley: University of California Press, 2002, pp. 637-669.
3. Peter Katzenstein. *Small States in World Markets: Industrial Policy in Europe*. Ithaca: Cornell University Press, 1985, pp. 9 – 34.

Week 7: May 12, 14 **Midterm Exam Due**

State Failure and Post-Conflict Transitions

1. Rotberg, Robert I. "Failed States in a World of Terror," *Foreign Affairs* 81, no. 4 (Julu/August 2002), pp. 127 – 140.
   Available in reader and online through ProQuest.
2. Yossi Shain and Juan J. Linz, eds. *Between States: Interim Governments and Democratic Transition*. New York and Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, 1995. Chapters 1-4 (pp. 1-75), 6 (pp. 92-102), and 11 (pp. 211-236).

III. DEMOCRACY AND DEMOCRATIZATION

Week 8: May 19, 21

Varieties of Democracy

1. Larry Diamond. "Defining and Developing Democracy," in *Developing Democracy: Toward Consolidation*. Baltimore: The Johns Hopkins University Press, 1999, pp. 1-19.
2. Adam Przeworski, *Democracy and the Market: Political and Economic Reforms in Eastern Europe and Latin America.* New York: Cambridge University Press, 1991, pp. 1-37.
3. Arend Lijphart, *Patterns of Democracy: Government Forms and Performance in Thirty Six Countries*, New Haven: Yale University Press, 1999. Chapters 1,2,3 (pp. 1-47).

***Strongly* Recommended:**

Lijphart, *Patterns of Democracy,* Chapters 7,8,and 10. Skim these, if nothing else, to become familiar with the concepts and variables of democratic governments.

Week 9: May 28 – NO CLASS MAY 26

Pathways to Democratization

1. Barrington Moore. "The Democratic Route to Modern Society," in *Social Origins of Dictatorship and Democracy*: *Lord and Peasant in the Making of the Modern World*, Boston: beacon Press, 1962, pp. 413 – 432.
2. O'Donnell and Schmitter, *Transitions from Authoritarian Rule: Tentative Conclusions about Uncertain Democracies*, Baltimore: The Johns Hopkins University Press, 1986. Entire Book (72 pp).
3. Adam Przeworski, *Democracy and the Market: Political and Economic Reforms in Eastern Europe and Latin America.* New York: Cambridge University Press, 1991, pp. 51-99.

Recommended Readings:

- Dankwart Rustow. "Transitions to Democracy: Toward a Dynamic Model," *World Politics* 2, no. 3 (April 1970), pp. 337 – 364. *Available online:* http://links.jstor.org/sici?sici=0010-4159%28197004%292%3A3%3C337%3ATTDTAD%3E2.0.CO%3B2-X
- Ruth Berins Collier and Paul Mahoney. "Adding Collective Actors to Collective Outcomes: Labor and Recent Democratization in South America and Southern Europe," *Comparative Politics* 29, no. 3 (April 1997), 285 - 303. *Available online through JSTOR:* http://links.jstor.org/sici?sici=0010-4159%28199704%2929%3A3%3C285%3AACATCO%3E2.0.CO%3B2-F.

Week 10: June 2, 4
Challenges to Democratic Consolidation

1. Philippe C. Schmitter. "The Consolidation of Political Democracies: Processes, Rythyms, Sequences and Types," in *Transitions to Democracy: Comparative Perspectives from Southern Europe, Latin America and Eastern Europe,* ed. Geoffrey Pridham. Brookfield: Dartmouth Press, 1995, pp. 535-567.
2. Stephen Haggard and Robert H. Kaufman. "Economic Adjustment and Prospects for Democracy," in *The Politics of Economic Adjustment*, eds. Stephan Haggard and Robert R. Kaufman, Princeton, NJ: Princeton University Press, 1992, pp. 319-350.
3. Donald L. Horowitz. "Democracy in Divided Societies," in *Nationalism, Ethnic Conflict, and Democracy*, eds. Larry Diamond and Marc F. Plattner. Baltimore: The Johns Hopkins University Press, 1994, pp. 36-55.
4. Felipe Aguero. "Toward Civilian Supremacy in South America," in *Consolidating the Third Wave Democracies: Themes and Perspectives*, eds. Larry Diamond, Marc. F. Plattner, Yun-Han chu, and Humg-mao Tien. Baltimore: The Johns Hopkins University Press, 1997, pp. 177-206.

Strongly Recommended:
Adam Przeworski, *Democracy and the Market: Political and Economic Reforms in Eastern Europe and Latin America.* New York: Cambridge University Press, 1991, p. 136-187.

Week 11: June 9, 11 **Final Exam Distributed**
Where is the Dividing Line between Comparative Politics and International Relations?

1. Peter Gourevitch. "The Second Image Reversed: International Sources of Domestic Politics," *International Organization* 32, no. 4 (Autumn 1978), pp. 881 - 912. *Available online through JSTOR: http://links.jstor.org/sici?sici=0020-8183%28197823%2932%3A4%3C881%3ATSIRTI%3E2.0.CO%3B2-6* .
2. Ruth Berins Collier. "Combining Alternative Perspectives: Internal Trajectories Versus External Influences as Explanations of Latin American Politics in the 1940s." *Comparative Politics* 26, no. 1 (October 1993), pp. 1 – 29. *Available online through JSTOR: http://links.jstor.org/sici?sici=0010-4159%28199310%2926%3A1%3C1%3ACAPITV%3E2.0.CO%3B2-K*
3. Zeev Maoz, "The Controversy over Democratic Peace: Rearguard Action or Cracks in the Wall?" *International Security* 22, no. 1. (Summer, 1997), pp. 162-198. *Available online through JSTOR: http://links.jstor.org/sici?sici=0162-2889%28199722%2922%3A1%3C162%3ATCOTDP%3E2.0.CO%3B2-E*.

Recommended Reading:
Peter Evans. *Dependent Development: The Alliance of Multinational, State, and Local Capital in Brazil.* NJ: Princeton University Press, 1979, pp. 3 – 54.