

University of California, San Diego

THE GERMAN POLITICAL SYSTEM

Political Science 120B (Winter, 2011)

Winter 2011
MWF 11:00-11:50
Room: Centre 109

TA: Nathan Combes (ncombes@ucsd.edu)
Off Hrs: Wed. 9:30-10:30

Prof. William Chandler
SSB 368 //
Off.Hrs: M:1:30-3:30
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120B students may access our website: <http://webct.ucsd.edu>

GENERAL

PS 120B examines the development and functioning of the German political system with primary emphasis on the institutions of the post-war Federal Republic, the party system/elections, the consequences of reunification and the implications of European integration. It also includes analysis of ideological traditions, the policy process, and the evolving place of Germany within international affairs.

EVALUATION

There will be two options in 120B.

Option A = Two Examinations only. Your grade will be calculated on the basis of a mid-term and final examination.

Option B = Two Examinations plus a term paper. This option is available only to students who receive a B+ or better on the mid-term. If you qualify and decide to write a paper, you will submit a one page proposal by Feb. 9, 2011, which must be approved by the instructor.

	Option A	Option B
Mid-Term Exam, MON, Feb. 7, 2011	(40%)	(30%)
Final Exam, Mar 14 , 11:30 am to 2:29 pm	(60%)	(50%)
Optional paper, due March 9, 2011.	-----	(20%)

CORE READINGS

Green, Hough, MisKimmons and Timmens, *The Politics of the New Germany* (Routledge, 2008)
William Chandler, ed., *Politics in Germany*, (CP= Coursepack, revised Dec 2011), only available for purchase from University Readers online (www.universtyreaders.com) and at 1-800- 200-3908.

I. INTRODUCTORY OVERVIEW

Readings:

Green et al. Chapters 1 and 2.

The Economist, "Its a rainy day, sunshine girl", 25 Sept 2010. in CP

Optional:

Conradt, 8th. Ed., Chapter 2, and pp. 285- 288.

II. HISTORICAL LEGACIES

**Constitutional Traditions / from Authoritarianism to Democracy/
From War to Capitulation and the Foundings of the FRG and the GDR.**

Readings:

G. Smith, *Democracy in Germany*, pp 22-3. (Elections in Weimar)

Gilbert and Large, *The End of the European Era* (Norton,) 260-278

Bark and Gress, Chapter 4, *A History of West Germany ... 1945-1963*,

Glaessner, "The Rise and Decline of 'Realistic Socialism' in the GDR,".

Green, Chap. 3

III. INSTITUTIONS and ELITES

Chancellor-Democracy, Bundestag, Bundesrat, Federalism

Readings:

Green et al., Chapter 4.

Key Provisions in Basic Law, (Conradt p. 303- 314 in CP.

Gordon Smith, "The Chancellor" in CP

Suzanne Schüttemeyer, "Deparliamentarisation: How Severely is the German Bundestag Affected?" (2008), in CP,

Sturm, "Divided Government in Germany: The Case of the Bundesrat". In CP

William Chandler "Judicial Politics in Germany", in CP.

IV. CONFLICTS AND CLEAVAGES IN GERMAN POLITICS

Ideological currents, Party systems, Bundestag and Landtag elections

Readings:

Green et al. Chapter 5

Chandler, William, “Winners and Losers in 2009 Bundestag Elections”, Dec 2009.

The Electoral System: Ballot example, in CP

Bundeswahlleiter, data sheet, in CP

Chandler, William, *German Elections 1949 to 2005: Seats in Bundestag*, CP

Pulzer, Peter, “Germany Votes for Deadlock: The Federal Election of 2005” in CP

Chandler, William, “Excess mandates (*Überhangmandate*) and Re-districting” 2010.

MID-TERM EXAMINATION: Monday, February 7, 2011

V. GERMANY in EUROPE,

Readings:

Green et al. Chapter 9, 10

Paterson, William, “Does Germany still have a European Vocation?” 2010, in CP

VI. THE GERMAN POLITICAL ECONOMY: STATE AND SOCIETY

- Social and economic change and policy development
- The former DDR: *Wirtschaftswunder* or new *Mezzogiorno*?
- Immigration and social integration
- Merkel’s Grand Coalition,
- 2009 the New Merkel-Westerwelle majority

Readings:

Green et al. Chapters 6, 7, 8.

B. Benoit, “.Merkel’s Bold Gamble”, FT, Oct 2009, in CP

Marc Howard, “Causes and Consequences of Germany’s New Citizenship Law” in CP

VII. INTERPRETATIONS: From Division to Re-unification and Beyond

Readings:

Green et al. Chapter 11

Torpey, "Coming to Terms with the Communist Past" in CP.

B. Benoit, "Economic Parity remains a distant dream" (Nov 09) in CP.

OPTIONAL PAPERS Due: March 9, 2011 in class.

Please note that plagiarism will not be tolerated. The University of California, San Diego policy requires that suspicious papers will be run through *Turn It In* and referred to the Dean. Always cite work that is not your own. Direct quotes and paraphrases require full citations. When in doubt, ask the instructor.

FINAL EXAMINATION: March 14, 11:30am to 2:29 pm

Political Science 120B: Reserve Readings Winter 2011

Green, Simon, Dan Hough, Alister MisKimmons and Graham Timmens, *The Politics of the New Germany* (Routledge, 2008) ISBN 978-0-415-35366-3

David Conradt, *The German Polity*, 8th Ed. (Longmans)

Padgett, Paterson, and Smith, *Developments in German Politics 3* (Duke UP, 2003)

Green, Simon and William E. Paterson, eds., *Governance in Contemporary Germany, The Semisovereign State Revisited* (Cambridge UK, Cambridge University Press, 2005)

Gunlicks, Arthur, *The Länder and German Federalism* (Manchester Univ. press, 2003).

Yoder, Jennifer, *From East Germans to Germans, the New Postcommunist Elites* (Duke UP, 1999)

Lees, Charlie, *Party Politics in Germany* (Palgrave, 2005)

Anderson, Jeffery and Eric Langenbacher, eds., *From the Bonn to the Berlin Republic* (Berghahn Publishers, 2010). ISBN 978-0-85745-221-4 Pb. (Not yet in Lib)