

POLI220A: State and Society

Course Summary and Objectives

This seminar complements Political Science 220B (Comparative Politics: Institutions) to prepare students for the Comparative Politics comprehensive exam and to provide them with the background and training necessary to undertake original research in comparative politics. Each week will introduce a new theme, typically a dependent variable in comparative politics. This seminar will focus on the non-institutional side of political science, specifically on themes such as culture, identity, behavior, order, and violence. Although this course tries to be comprehensive, it is far from exhaustive. Students should familiarize themselves with the list of recommended readings as well in order to prepare for the comprehensive exam.

Requirements

Students will be graded based on class participation (30%), one class presentation (30%), and a final exam (40%) that mimics the comprehensive exam. The distribution of requirements is as follows:

- Class participation (30%): Students are expected to do all required readings for the week before coming to class, and to participate actively in class. Students can miss 1 session without penalty as long as they turn in a response paper (2-3pp single-spaced, by email) synthesizing the week's readings by email by the beginning of class that week; students will be penalized for missing more than 1 session, even if they turn in a response paper (though the penalty will be lower if they do).
- Class presentation (30%): Students will be assigned to one in-class presentation. This presentation will last no longer than 10 minutes (strictly enforced). It must not provide a summary of readings. Instead, it must synthesize the main research questions for the week's readings, briefly summarize how each reading contributes one or more answer(s) to these questions, consider new questions raised or old questions unanswered by these readings, and offer one research design for tackling one of these questions.
- Final exam (40%): The final exam will be a take-home, open-book, open-note, written exam. Students will have to answer 2 out of 4 essay questions.

Format

This class is a graduate seminar: **active participation is required and expected.** All electronic devices are banned during classtime.

Week 1: Research Methods in Comparative Politics

Required:

- Coffman, Lucas C. and Muriel Niederle. 2015. "Pre-Analysis Plans Have Limited Upside, Especially Where Replications Are Feasible." *Journal of Economic Perspectives* 29(3).
- Dunning, Thad. 2012. Natural Experiments in the Social Sciences: Introduction, Part I and Conclusion
- Geddes, B. 2003. Paradigms and Sand Castles: Theory Building and Research Design in Comparative Politics. Ann Arbor: University of Michigan Press: Chapters 1-2
- Humphreys, Macartan. 2014. "How to make field experiments more ethical." *The Washington Post* Monkey Cage. November 2.
- Humphreys, Macartan. 2013. "Monkey Business." Available at: http://cegablog.org/2013/03/20/tss_humphreys/
- Laitin, David D. 2012. "Fisheries Management." *Political Analysis*
- Nosek, B.A. et al. 2015. "Promoting an open research culture." *Science* 348(6242).

Recommended:

- Barrett, Chris and Jeff Cason. Overseas Research, A Practical Guide.
- Cilliers, Jacobus, O. Dube, and B. Siddiqi. Forthcoming. "The White-Man Effect: How Foreigner Presence Affects Behavior in Experiments." *Journal of Economic Behavior and Organization*.
- Fearon, James D. 1991. "Counterfactuals and Hypothesis Testing in Political Science." *World Politics* 43(2): 169-195
- George, Alexander L. and Andrew Bennett. 2005. Case Studies and Theory Development in the Social Sciences. Cambridge, Mass.: MIT Press: Chapter 1
- Gerring, John. 2007. "The Case Study: What it is and What it Does." In Carles Boix and Susan C. Stokes, eds. *The Oxford Handbook of Comparative Politics*. New York: Oxford University Press: 90-122.
- Humphreys, Macartan and Jeremy M. Weinstein. 2009. "Field Experiments and the Political Economy of Development." *Annual Review of Political Science* 12: 367-378
- King, Gary, Robert O. Keohane, and Sidney Verba. 1994. Designing Social Inquiry: Scientific Inference in Qualitative Research. Princeton, N.J.: Princeton University Press: Chapter 1
- Lieberman, Howard and Lynch. 2004. "Symposium: Field Research." *Qualitative Methods Newsletter of the APSA Organized Section on Qualitative Methods* 2(1).
- Przeworski, Adam. 2007. "Is the Science of Comparative Politics Possible?" In Carles Boix and Susan C. Stokes, eds. *The Oxford Handbook of Comparative Politics*. New York: Oxford University Press: Chapter 6.

Professor Claire L. Adida
Office SSB389
Office Hours: Friday 12-2pm

Winter 2018
Friday 9-11.50am
cadida@ucsd.edu

- Ragin, Charles C. 1987. The Comparative Method: Moving Beyond Qualitative and Quantitative Strategies. Berkeley: University of California Press: Chapter 1
- Shapiro, Ian in Ian Shapiro, Rogers M. Smith, and Tarek E. Masoud, eds. 2004. Problems and Methods in the Study of Politics. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press: Chapter 2
- Tsai, Lilly. 2010. "Quantitative research and issues of political sensitivity in rural China." In Contemporary Chinese Politics: New Sources, Methods, and Field Strategies. Carlson, Gallagher, Lieberthal and Manion, Eds. Cambridge University Press.

Week 2: The State

Required:

- Bates, Robert. 1983. Essays on the Political Economy of Rural Africa. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press: Chapter 1
- Ellickson, Robert. 1991. Order without Law: How Neighbors Settle Disputes. Cambridge: President and Fellows of Harvard College: Chapters 1-6
- Herbst, Jeffrey. 2000. States and Power in Africa. Princeton: Princeton University Press: Introduction and Chapters 1-4
- Michalopoulos, S. and Elias Papaioannou. 2015. "On the Ethnic Origins of African Development: Traditional Chiefs and Pre-colonial political centralization." *Academy of Management Perspectives* 29(1).
- Ostrom, Elinor. 1991. *Governing the Commons: the Evolution of institutions for collective action*. New York: Cambridge University Press: Chapters 1 & 2.
- Tilly, Charles. 1990. Coercion, Capital, and European States: AD 990-1990. Cambridge: Blackwell: Chapters 2 and 3

Recommended:

- Hariri, Jacob. 2012. "The Autocratic Legacy of Early Statehood." *APSR* 106(3): 471-494.
- King, Charles. 2001. "The Benefits of Ethnic War: Understanding Eurasia's Unrecognized States." *World Politics* 53(4): 524-552.
- Krasner, Stephen D. 1984. "Review: Approaches to the State" Alternative Conceptions and Historical Dynamics." *Comparative Politics* 16(2).
- Levi, M. 1997. Consent, Dissent, and Patriotism Cambridge: Cambridge University Press
- Migdal, J. Strong Societies and Weak States: Chapters 1 and 2
- Migdal, J.S. in Mark Irving Lichbach, and Alan S. Zuckerman , eds. 2009. Comparative Politics: Rationality, Culture, and Structure. New York: Cambridge University Press: Chapter 7
- North, Douglas Structure and Change in Economic History
- Olson, M. The Rise and Decline of Nations

Week 3: Autocracy

Required:

- Blaydes, L. 2011. Elections and Distributive Politics in Mubarak's Egypt. Cambridge University Press: Chaps 1-4.
- King, Gary, Jennifer Pan, and Margaret E. Roberts. 2013. "How Censorship Allows Government Criticism but Silences Collective Expression." *American Political Science Review* 107(2): 326-343.
- Lorentzen, Peter. 2013. "Regularizing rioting: permitting public protest in an authoritarian regime." *QJPS* 8: 127-158.
- Magaloni, Beatriz. 2006. Voting for Autocracy: Hegemonic Party Survival and its Demise in Mexico. New York: Cambridge University Press: Introduction and Chapter 1
- Svobik, Milan W. The Politics of Authoritarian Rule. Cambridge University Press: Chaps 1, 4, 6.
- Wintrobe, Ronald. 1998. The Political Economy of Dictatorship. Cambridge University Press: Chaps 1-3.

Recommended:

- Decalo, S. Coups and Army Rule in Africa
- Diaz-Cayeros, Alberto, Beatriz Magaloni and Barry Weingast. 2003. "Tragic Brilliance: PRI Hegemony and its Demise" Manuscript.
- Ekiert, G. 1996. The State Against Society. Political Crises and their Aftermath in East Central Europe. Princeton: Princeton University Press
- Gandhi, Jennifer and Ellen Lust-Okar. 2009. "Elections under authoritarianism." *Annual Review of Political Science* 12: 403-22.
- Geddes, B. 2005. "Why parties and elections in authoritarian regimes?"
- Greene, Kenneth F. Why Dominant Parties Lose: Mexico's Democratization in Comparative Perspective. Chapter 1.
- Havel, V. 1991. Open Letters: Selected Writings 1964-1990. New York: Knopf: "The Power of the Powerless"
- Huntington, S. 1968. Political Order in Changing Societies. New Haven and London: Chapter 4
- Luebbert, G.M. 1991. Liberalism, Fascism or Social Democracy Oxford: Oxford University Press
- Luebbert, G.M. 1987. "Social Foundations of Political Order in Interwar Europe." *World Politics*.
- Lust-Okar Ellen. 2005. Structuring Conflict in the Arab World: Chapters 2-3
- O'Donnell, G. 1973. Modernization and Bureaucratic Authoritarianism. Berkeley: University of California Berkeley: Chapter 2
- Olson, M. 2000. Power and Prosperity New York: Basic Books
- Rogowski, R. 1977. "The Gauleiter and the Social Origins of Fascism" *Comparative Studies in Society and History* 19(4)

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- Stepan, A. The State and Society: Chapters 1 and 2
- Wellhofer, E.S. 2003. "Democracy and Fascism: Class, Civil Society and Rational Choice in Italy." *APSR* 97(1)

Week 4: Exclusion

Required:

- Adida, Laitin, Valfort. 2016. *Why Muslim Integration Fails in Christian-Heritage Societies*. Harvard University Press: Parts I and II.
- Bertrand, M. and Mullainathan, S. 2004. "Are Emily and Greg more employable than Lakisha and Jamal? A field experiment on labor market discrimination." *AER* 94(4).
- Dancygier, R. 2010. *Immigration and Conflict in Europe*. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press: pp. 1-102
- Hainmueller and Hangartner. 2011. "Who gets a Swiss passport? A natural experiment in immigrant discrimination." *APSR*
- Hopkins, D. 2010. "Politicized places: explaining where and when immigrants provoke local opposition." *APSR* 104(1).
- Scheve, K. and M. Slaughter. 2001. "Labor market competition and individual preferences over immigration policy." *Review of Economics and Statistics* 83(1).
- Sniderman et al. 2004. "Predisposing factors and situational triggers: exclusionary reactions to immigrant minorities." *APSR* 98(1).

Recommended:

- Adida, Laitin, Valfort. 2010. "Identifying barriers to Muslim integration in France." *Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences* 107(52).
- Blalock, H. 1967. *Toward a theory of minority-group relations*.
- Citrin, J., Green, Muste and Wong. 1997. "Public opinion towards immigration reform: the role of economic motivations." *Journal of Politics* 59.
- Hainmueller and Hiscox. 2010. "Attitudes toward highly skilled and low-skilled immigration: evidence from a survey experiment." *APSR* 104(1)
- Hero, R. and R. Preuhs. 2007. "Immigration and the evolving American welfare state: examining policies in the US States." *AJPS* 51(3).
- Malhotra, Margalit and Mo. 2011. "Economic explanations for opposition to immigration: distinguishing between prevalence and magnitude." *AJPS*
- Olzak, S. 1994. *The dynamics of ethnic competition and conflict*. Stanford University Press.

Week 5: Constructing the nation

Required:

- Anderson, B. 1983. Imagined Communities. New York: Verso: Chapters 1-5
- Bazzi et al. 2017. "Unity in Diversity? Ethnicity, Migration, and Nation-Building in Indonesia." *Working Paper*.
- Depetris-Chauvin Emilio and Ruben Durante. 2016. "One team, one nation: football, ethnic identity, and conflict in Africa". Working paper: http://mit-neudc.scripts.mit.edu/2016/wp-content/uploads/2016/03/paper_165.pdf
- Gellner, E. "Nationalism." In Thought and Change: Chapter 7
- Laitin, David. 2007. Nations, states and violence. New York: Oxford University Press
- Mazumder, Soumyajit. 2017. "Becoming White: How Mass Warfare Turned Immigrants Into Americans." *Working Paper*: <http://smazumder.me/files/war-assimilation-mazumder.pdf>
- Weber, E. Peasants into Frenchmen: Chapters 6, 27, 29

Recommended:

- Brubaker, R. 1992. Citizenship and Nationhood in France and Germany. Cambridge: Harvard University Press.
- Fearon, J.D. "What is Identity (As We Now Use the Word)?" Unpublished manuscript: <http://www.stanford.edu/~jfearon/papers/iden1v2.pdf>
- Gellner. 1983. Nations and Nationalism.
- Hardin, R. One for All: Chaps. 1, 4, 6.
- Kalyvas, S. The Rise of Christian Democracy in Europe
- Kitschelt, H. 1995. The Radical Right in Western Europe. Ann Arbor: University of Michigan Press.
- Waters, Mary. 1999. Black identities: West Indian immigrant dreams and American realities. Harvard University Press: Introduction.

Week 6: Ethnic identities and ethnic politics

Required:

- Robert Bates, "Modernization, Ethnic Competition and the Rationality of Politics in Contemporary Africa," in Donald Rothchild and Victor Olorunsola, *State Versus Ethnic Claims: African Policy Dilemmas* (Boulder, CO: Westview Press, 1983), pp. 152-171.
- Berman, Eli. 2000. "Sect, Subsidy, and Sacrifice: An Economist's View of Ultra-Orthodox Jews." *Quarterly Journal of Economics* 115 (August): 905-953.
- Fearon, James. 1999. "Why Ethnic Politics and 'Pork' tend to go together." Unpublished paper.
- Chandra, K. 2004. Why ethnic parties succeed. Cambridge University Press: Introduction.
- Posner, Daniel. 2005. Institutions and Ethnic Politics in Africa. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press: Chapters 2-5
- Weber, Max. 1996. "The Origins of Ethnic Groups." In Hutchinson and Smith, eds. Ethnicity. New York: Oxford University Press.

Recommended:

- Fredrik Barth. 1969. Ethnic Groups and Boundaries: Introduction
- Brass, P. 1974. Language, Religion and Politics in North India. Cambridge University Press: Chapter 1.
- Chandra, K. 2006. "What is ethnic identity and does it matter?" *Annual Review of Political Science* 9.
- Ferree, Karen. 2011. Framing the Race in South Africa. Cambridge University Press: Chapters 1 and 2.
- Jia, Ruixue and Torsten Persson. 2013. "Ethnicity in children and mixed marriages: theory and evidence from China." Working Paper.
- Laitin, D. Hegemony and Culture
- Posner, Daniel. 2004. "Measuring Ethnic Fractionalization in Africa." *American Journal of Political Science* 48(4): 849-863
- Rogowski, Ronald. 1989 Commerce and Coalitions. Princeton: Princeton University Press: Chapters 1-4
- Sen and Wasow. 2013. "Reconciling race and causation: designs that estimate effects of seemingly immutable characteristics." *Annual Review of Political Science*.
- Wantchekon, L. 2003. "Clientelism and voting behavior: evidence from a field experiment in Benin." *World Politics* 55.

Week 7: Political participation

Required:

- Blattman, C. 2009. "From violence to voting: war and political participation in Uganda." *The American Political Science Review*.
- Ferree, Karen et al. Forthcoming. "Election ink and turnout in a fragile democracy."
- Gans-Morse, Jordan, Sebastián Mazzuca, and Simeon Nichter. 2013. "Varieties of Clientelism: Machine Politics during Elections." *AJPS*.
- Kasara, Kimuli and Pavithra Suryanarayan. 2014. "When do the rich vote less than the poor and why? Explaining turnout inequality across the world" *AJPS*.
- Mazumder, Soumyajit. Forthcoming. "A Change is Gonna' Come: The Persistent Effect of the US Civil Rights Movement on Political Attitudes." *AJPS*.
- Pons, Vincent. Forthcoming. "Will a five-minute discussion change your mind? A countrywide experiment on voter choice in France." *American Economic Review*.

Recommended:

- Abrajano, M. and C. Panagopolous. 2010. "Does language matter? The impact of Spanish and English-language GOTV efforts on Latino turnout." *American Politics Research*
- Gerber, Alan, Gregory Huber, Marc Meredith, Danier Biggers, and David Hendry. 2013. "Felony status, participation, and political reintegration: results from a field experiment." Working paper
- Giné, Xavier and Ghazala Mansuri. 2011. "Together we will; Experimental evidence on female voting behavior in Pakistan." World Bank Policy Research Working Paper 5692.
- Green, Gerber and Nickerson. 2003. "Getting out the vote in local elections: results from six door-to-door canvassing experiments." *The Journal of Politics* 65(4).
- Kramon, E. 2009. "Vote-buying and turnout in Kenya" in Bratton, ed. Voting and Democratic Citizenship in Africa
- Ross, M. 2008. "Oil, Islam and Women." *APSR* 102(1)
- Shorter, Edward and Charles Tilly. 1971. "The Shape of Strikes in France, 1830-1960." *Comparative Studies in Society and History* 13(1): 60-86. [Stable URL: <http://www.jstor.org/stable/178198>]

Week 8: High-risk participation

Required:

- Humphreys, M. and Jeremy Weinstein. 2008. "Who Fights? The Determinants of Participation in Civil War." *AJPS*.
- Kalyvas and Kocher. 2007. "How 'free' is free riding in civil wars? Violence, Insurgency, and the Collective Action Problem." *World Politics* 59: 177-216.
- Kuran, Timur (1991). "Now Out of Never: The Element of Surprise in the East European Revolution of 1989." *World Politics* 44: 7-48.
- Lohmann, Susanne. 1994. "Dynamics of informational cascades: the monday demonstrations in Leipzig, East Germany, 1989-1991." *World Politics* 47: 42-101.
- Petersen, Roger D. Resistance and Rebellion: Lessons from Eastern Europe. Cambridge University Press: Chaps 1-3.
- Scott, James C. 1976. The Moral Economy of the Peasant: Rebellion and Subsistence in Southeast Asia. New Haven: Yale University Press: Chapters 1, 2 and 7.
- Wood, Elisabeth J. Insurgent Collective Action and Civil War in El Salvador. Chapters 1, 7, 8.

Recommended:

- Berman et al. 2011. "Do working men rebel? Insurgency and unemployment in Afghanistan, Iraq, and the Philippines." *Journal of Conflict Resolution* 55(4)
- Collier, P. and P. C. Vicente. 2008. "Votes and violence: evidence from a field experiment in Nigeria." *CSAE WPS/2008-16*.
- Friedman, Willa. 2012. "Local economic conditions and participation in the Rwandan Genocide." Working paper.
- Gurr, Ted (1970). Why Men Rebel. Princeton, NJ: Princeton University Press.
- Hardin, Russell. 1995. One for all: the logic of group conflict. Princeton: Princeton University Press: Chapters 1-2 and 6
- Horowitz, Donald (2001). The Deadly Ethnic Riot. Berkeley, CA: University of California Press.
- Scacco, Alexandra. 2008. "Who Riots? Explaining Individual Participation in Ethnic Violence." Working paper.

Week 9: Conflict and Violence

Required:

- Dube, Oeindrila and Juan F. Vargas. 2013. "Commodity price shocks and civil conflict: evidence from Colombia." *Review of Economic Studies* 80.
- Fearon, J. 1995. "Ethnic War as a Commitment Problem."
- Fearon, J. and David Laitin. 2003. "Ethnicity, Insurgency and Civil War" *APSR*
- Horowitz, Donald L. Ethnic Groups in Conflict: 141-184.
- Jha, S. "Trade, Institutions, and Religious Tolerance: Evidence from India." Working Paper.
- Parkingson and Zaks. Forthcoming. "Militant and rebel organization." *CP*.
- Wilkinson, S. 2004. Votes and Violence: Electoral Competition and Ethnic Riots in India. Chapters 1, 2, 5.

Recommended:

- Collier, Paul and A. Hoeffler. 2004. "Greed and Grievance in Civil War." *Oxford Economic Papers* 56(4)
- Fearon, J. 1998. "Commitment Problems and the Spread of Ethnic Conflict." In David A. Lake and Donald S. Rothchild, eds. The International Spread of Ethnic Conflict. Princeton: Princeton University Press
- Horowitz, David. 1985. Ethnic Groups in Conflict. Berkeley: University of California Press: Chapters 1-6
- Kalyvas, S. The Logic of Violence in Civil War. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press: Chapters 7-9
- Miguel, E. Shanker Satyanath, and Ernest Sergenti. 2004. "Economic Shocks and Civil Conflict: An Instrumental Variable Approach." *Journal of Political Economy* 112(4)
- Petersen, R. 2002. Understanding Ethnic Violence. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press
- Ross, M. 2006. "A Closer Look at Oil, Diamonds, and Civil War." *Annual Review of Political Science* 9: 265-300
- Varshney, A. 2003. Ethnic Conflict and Civic Life: Hindus and Muslims in India. New Haven: Yale University Press: Chapters 1-2, 6, 10, 12
- Weinstein, J. Inside Rebellion. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press: Chapter 1

Week 10: Governance and Government Performance

Required:

- Adida, Claire L., Jessica Gottlieb, Eric Kramon, and Gwyneth McClendon. 2016. "Breaking the clientelistic voting equilibrium: the joint importance of salience and coordination." AidData Working Paper 48: http://docs.aiddata.org/ad4/pdfs/WPS48_Breaking_the_Clientelistic_Voting_Equilibrium.pdf
- Bjorkman, Martina and Jakob Svensson. 2009. "Power to the People: Evidence from a randomized field experiment of community-based monitoring in Uganda." *Quarterly Journal of Economics* 124(2): 735-769
- Distelhorst, G. and Yue Hou. 2014. "Ingroup Bias in Official Behavior: a National Field Experiment in China." *Quarterly Journal of Political Science*.
- Holland, A. 2017. *Forbearance as Redistribution*: Introduction and Chapter 1.
- Singh, P. 2015. "Subnationalism and social development: a comparative analysis of Indian states." *World Politics* 67(3).
- Xu, Yiqing and Yang Yao. 2015. "Informal institutions, collective action, and public investment in rural China." *APSR* 109(2).

Recommended:

- Adida, C. and Desha M. Girod. 2011. "Do Migrants Improve their Hometowns? Remittances and Access to Public Services in Mexico, 1995-2000." *Comparative Political Studies*
- Besley, Timothy and Robin Burgess. 2002. "The Political Economy of Government Responsiveness: Theory and Evidence from India." *Quarterly Journal of Economics* 117(4): 1415-1452.
- Chattopadhyay, R. and E. Duflo. 2004. "Women as policy makers: evidence from a randomized policy experiment in India." *Econometrica* 72(5)
- Deitz, Thomas, Elinor Ostrom and Paul Stern. 2003. "The Struggle to govern the commons." *Science* 302(5652): 1907-1912
- Humphreys and Weinstein. 2012. "Policing politicians: citizen empowerment and political accountability in Uganda." Working paper.
- Kitschelt, H. 2000. "Linkages between citizens and politicians in democratic politics." *Comparative Political Studies* 33(6/7)
- Lassen, D.D. 2005. "The Effect of Information on Voter Turnout: Evidence from a Natural Experiment." *AJPS* 49(1)
- Miguel, E. and Mary Kay Gugerty. 2005. "Ethnic Diversity, Social Sanctions, and Public Goods in Kenya." *Journal of Public Economics* 89: 325-68
- Olken, B. 2007. "Monitoring corruption: evidence from a field experiment in Indonesia." *Journal of Political Economy* 115(April): 200-249.
- Olson, M. 1965. *The Logic of Collective Action: Public Goods and the Theory of Groups*. Cambridge: Harvard University Press: Chapters 1-2 and 6
- Reinikka, Ritva and Jakob Svensson. 2004. "Local capture: evidence from a

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central government transfer program in Uganda.” *Quarterly Journal of Economics* (May): 679-705.

- Tsai, L. 2007. “Solidary groups, informal accountability, and local public goods provision in rural China.” *APSR* 101(2).
- Tsai, L. 2007. Accountability without Democracy. Cambridge University Press: Chaps 1, 3 and 4.