

2020 120B Win

University of California, San Diego

THE GERMAN POLITICAL SYSTEM

Political Science 120B (Winter 2020)

Winter 2020

Time: Tu-Th, 9:30 -10:50

Room: Peterson 102

Grader: Ethan Roseman GPS

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Off. Hrs. tba

Prof. William Chandler

SSB 385

Off.Hrs: Thurs 11 - 12

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120B students have access our website: Compass or TritonED <http://ted.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, economic and migration policy, and the evolving place of Germany within international affairs.

Evaluation:

Your grade will be calculated on the basis on a mid-term and take-home final examination.

Mid-Term Exam, in class	6 February	2020	(50%)
Final Take-Home due by 11am	17 March	2020	(50%)

FINAL Take-home EXAMINATION: to be distributed in last week of classes.

The Take-Home Exam is due no later than 11:00 am, 17 March 2020 with electronic copy to TA and hard copy in class.

CORE READINGS

Eric Langenbacher and David Conradt, **The German Polity, 11th ed, 2017** (Roman and Littlefield).

William Chandler, ed., *Politics in Angela Merkel's Germany*, (Jan. 2018). **Purchase this course material here:** <https://store.cognella.com/19945> If you need any help with ordering from Cognella, feel free to email orders@cognella.com or call 858-552-1120 x503.

I. INTRODUCTORY SNAPSHOTS of INSTS and PARTIES

Readings:

Key Provisions in Basic Law, (in CP).
Langenbacher and Conradt Chaps 2, 3.

II. HISTORICAL LEGACIES

**Origins of a unified German State / Constitutional Traditions /
From Authoritarianism to Democracy/
From War to Capitulation / Founding of both FRG and GDR.
Germany and the European Union, the Brexit Crisis ...**

Readings:

Langenbacher and Conradt Chaps 1, 2.
G. Smith, *Democracy in Germany*, pp 22-3. (Elections in Weimar), in CP
Gilbert and Large, *The End of the European Era* (Norton,) 260-278, in CP
Bark and Gress, Chapter 4, *A History of West Germany ... 1945-1963*, in CP

III. INSTITUTIONS and ELITES

Chancellor-Democracy, Bundestag, Bundesrat, Federalism

Readings:

Langenbacher and Conradt Chaps. 7, 8.
Schüttemeyer, Suzanne, “Deparliamentarisation: How Severely is the German Bundestag Affected?” CP
Sturm, Roland, “Divided Government in Germany: The Case of the Bundesrat”, CP
Chandler, William, “Judicial Politics in Germany”, revised 2018, CP.

IV. CONFLICTS AND CLEAVAGES IN GERMAN POLITICS Electoral Systems, Party systems, recent Bundestag elections, Ideological currents.

Readings:

Langenbacher and Conradt Chapters 5, 6.

The Electoral System: Ballot example, (in CP)

Chandler, Wm, “Grand Coalition-building: Its Complicated” 2013 and 2017, CP

Stephen Szabo, “What we learned about German Politics...”, AICGP Newsletter, 2019

Dan Hough, “The German far-right AfD did well in a regional election. Don’t jump to any dramatic conclusions”, *Washington Post*, Oct 2019.

Bundeswahlleiter, data sheet, in CP.

Chandler, William, “Excess Mandates (*Überhangmandate*) and Re-districting” 2013, in CP

MID-TERM EXAMINATION: February 6 , 2020 9:30-10:50am.

V. From Two-State Division to Re-unification 1949 to 1990

- The former DDR: *Wirtschaftswunder* or a new *Mezzogiorno*?
- Social and economic change and policy development
- Immigration and social integration
- Merkel’s Coalitions, 2005-09, 2009-13, 2013 -17, 2017-21?

Readings:

Langenbacher and Conradt Chaps 2, 11.

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

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

Wagstyl, “Germany’s east-west migration fizzles out”, *FT*, Nov. 2013. In CP.

VI. GERMANY in EUROPE,
From War and Defeat to Building the new Europe
Survival of the Franco -German Entente?
Brexit, 2020

Readings:

Langenbacher and Conradt, Chapters 9, 10.

S. Wagstyl, “Backlash over Refugees leaves Merkel looking vulnerable”, FT 2015, CP.

Steven Erlanger, “Merkel’s Quandary may spell Trouble for all of Europe”, NYT, 22 Nov 2017, in CP.

VII. Germany in Transition: End of the Merkel Era?

Langenbacher and Conradt Chaps 2, 11.

The Economist, “What Germany offers the world”, 14 April 2012, in CP.

S. Wagstyl, “Germany’s rapidly aging population”, FT, in CP.

FINAL Take-home EXAMINATION: to be distributed in last week of classes.
The Take-Home Exam is due no later than 11 am 17 March 2020. Please submit Electronic copy to TA (roseman@ucsd.edu) and hard copy in class or by final due date.

Plagiarism will not be tolerated. The University of California, San Diego policy requires that suspicious papers (i.e., take-home exams) 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 or TA.

Political Science 120B: Recommended Readings, Winter 2020

Green, Simon, D. Hough, and A. MisKimmons, *The Politics of the New Germany* (Routledge, 2011, 2nd. Edition).

Mary Elise Sarotte, *The Collapse, the Accidental Opening of the Berlin Wall* (2014).