Topics in American Political Development

Government 381L, Fall 2012
Unique No. 38900
W 330-630, BAT 1.104

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Office Hours: M: 2:00-5:00pm

This is a research seminar on American Political Development. The course will expose students to a number of topics related to the application of political science to American history. Topics to be investigated include American Political Development as subfield, the state, the American South, Reconstruction, religion, industrialization, liberalism, immigration, gender, coercion, and the geopolitics of US political development. The seminar accordingly features a number of critically acclaimed works in the field of American political development, books and articles mostly of which date from the 1990s and '00s.

The seminar will explicitly consider the comparative dimensions to institutional changes in US politics and government. It will also focus on the qualitative methodologies used in APD research, and focus on levels-of-analysis issues and questions of evidence.

Students will be responsible for leading classroom discussion, for a 20-25 page research paper OR a combination of a book review and a 24-hr. take-home exam at the end of the semester. Students who choose the book review will make a five-minute presentation of the book they review and students who choose to write a research paper—an article quality, original work on a topic chosen by the student in consultation with her or his instructor—will be responsible for presenting their work at the end of the semester. A proposal for the research paper is due on the fifth week of class, and a draft of the paper is due on 13th week. The book review consists of a 1500 word review of a book *not* assigned in class, chosen in consultation with her or his instructor. The take-home final is designed to be a mock prelim exam for first and/or second year students.

The reaction papers are to ask questions, express opinions, and otherwise remark on the reading(s) assigned for that week.

The oral presentations are to be no more than 15-20 minutes in length. You are to summarize the book's argument, the evidence used, the methods which the author uses, the premises or assumptions of the work, and express your own reaction/point of view with respect to the research being discussed.

Documented Disability Statement:

The University of Texas will make reasonable accommodations for students with documented disabilities. Any student with a documented disability who requires academic accommodations should contact Services for Students with Disabilities at 471-6259 (voice) or 1-866-329-3986 (Video Phone) as soon as possible to request an official letter outlining authorized accommodations.

Grading: Ten reaction papers, 20 percent (10 out of 14 weeks); oral presentation(s) and class participation 30 percent; research paper OR book review and take-home exam 50 percent.

Required Readings

Richard F. Bensel, *The Political Economy of American Industrialization, 1877-1900* Cambridge University Press; 1 edition (November 6, 2000): 052177604X

John Gaventa, *Power and Powerlessness: Quiescence and Rebellion in an Appalachian Valley* (Urbana: University of Illinois Press, 1980): 0252007727

Marie Gottschalk, *The Prison and the Gallows: The Politics of Mass Incarceration in America* Cambridge University Press (June 19, 2006) ISBN: 0521682916

Ira Katznelson and Stephen Shefter, eds., *Shaped by War and Trade* (Princeton: Princeton U. P., 2002). ISBN: 0691057044

James A. Morone, *Hellfire Nation: The Politics of Sin in American History* Yale University Press (February 8, 2003) ISBN: 0300105177

Suzanne Mettler, *Dividing Citizens: Gender and Federalism in New Deal Public Policy* Cornell University Press (June 11, 1998) ISBN: 0801485460

Karen Orren and Stephen Skowronek, *Search for American Political Development* (New York: Cambridge University Press, 2004): ISBN: 0521547644

Paul Pierson, *Politics in Time: History, Institutions, and Social Analysis* (Princeton University Press; First Edition edition (August 9, 2004) ISBN: 0691117152

David Brian Robertson, *The Constitution and America's Destiny (*New York: Cambridge University Press, 2005); ISBN: 0521607787

Stephen Skowronek and Matthew Glassman, eds. *Formative Acts: American Politics in the Making* (Philadelphia: University of Pennsylvania Press, 2007). ISBN: 081224012X

Bartholomew Sparrow, *From the Outside In: World War II and the American State*. Princeton: Princeton University Press (February 5, 1996): 069104404X

Bartholomew Sparrow, *The* Insular Cases *and the Emergence of American Empire* (Lawrence: University Press of Kansas, 2006): ISBN: 0700614826

Daniel J. Tichenor, *Dividing Lines: The Politics of Immigration Control in America* (Princeton: Princeton University Press, 2002). ISBN: 0691088055

Richard M. Valelly, *The Two Reconstructions: The Struggle for Black Enfranchisement.* ISBN: 0226845303

Course Schedule

Aug. 29: Week 1 Introduction: Overview
Tocqueville, Hartz, V.O. Key, Burnham, and political science before APD

Sept. 5: Week 2 American Political Development as a Subfield
• Walter Dean Burnham, "Pattern Recognition and 'Doing' Political History, in Dodd and Jillson, eds., *The Dynamics of American Politics.*
• Orren and Skowronek, "Beyond the Iconography of Order" in Dodd and Jillson, eds., *The Dynamics of American Politics.*
• Skocpol and Pierson, "Historical Institutionalism," in Katznelson and Milner, *Political Science: State of the Discipline.*
• Orren and Skowronek, *The Search for American Political Development* (New York: Cambridge University Press, 2004).

Sept. 12: Week 3 The United States and the Founding
• David Brian Robertson, *The Constitution and America's Destiny (*New York: Cambridge University Press, 2005).

Sept. 19: Week 4 What Kind of Liberalism?
• J. David Greenstone, "Political Culture and American Political Development: Liberty, Union, and the Liberal Bipolarity," *Studies in American Political Development* 1 (1986): 1-49.
• Smith, "Beyond Tocqueville, Myrdal, and Hartz: The Multiple Traditions in America" *American Political Science Review* 1992.
• Daniel J. Tichenor, *Dividing Lines: The Politics of Immigration Control in America* (Princeton: Princeton University Press, 2002), Chs. 1-5, 8-10.

Sept. 26: Week 5 Religion
• James A. Morone, *Hellfire Nation: The Politics of Sin in American History* (New Haven: Yale University Press, 2003).

• **1-page research paper proposal due** ***for students writing the research paper***

Oct. 3: Week 6 A Matter of Timing
• "Forum: Timing and Sequence in Political Processes," *Studies in American Political Development* 14 (1) (Spring 2000): 72-119. (Includes pieces by Paul Pierson, Robert Jervis, Kathleen Thelen, and Amy Bridges)
• Bryan D. Jones, Tracy Sulkin, and Heather A. Larsen, "Policy Punctuations in American Political Institutions," *APSR* 97 (1) (February 2003): 151-69.

• Paul Pierson, *Politics in Time: History, Institutions, and Social Analysis* (Princeton: Princeton University Press, 2004)

Oct. 10: Week 7 Race and Reconstruction
• Richard M. Valelly, *The Two Reconstructions: The Struggle for Black Enfranchisement* (Chicago: University of Chicago Press, 2004)

• Book review due (for those *not* writing a research paper)
• Book review presentations *for students writing a review*
Oct. 17: Week 8 Industrialization
• Richard Franklin Bensel, *The Political Economy of American Industrialization, 1877-1900* (New York: Cambridge University Press, 2000).

Oct. 24: Week 9 Gender and Public Policy
• Suzanne Mettler *Dividing Citizens: Gender and Federalism in New Deal Public Policy* (Cornell University Press, 1998).

Oct. 31: Week 10 Coercion
• Marie Gottschalk, *The Prison and the Gallows: The Politics of Mass Incarceration in America* New York: Cambridge, 2006).
• Mary Fainsod Katzenstein, Leila Mohsen Ibrahim, and Katherine D. Rubin, "The Dark Side of American Liberalism and Felony Disenfranchisement" *Perspectives in American Politics,* Vol. 8 No. 4 (December 2010), 1035-54.

Nov. 7: Week 11 Geography and APD
• Bartholomew Sparrow, *The* Insular Cases *and the Emergence of American Empire*
• Colin D. Moore, "State Building Through Partnership: Delegation, Public-Private Partnerships, and the Political Development of American Imperialism, 1898-1916," *Studies in American Political Development* 25 No. 1 (April 2011): 27-55.

Nov. 14: Week 12 Land-use Policy
• John Gaventa, *Power and Powerlessness: Quiescence and Rebellion in an Appalachian Valley* (Urbana: University of Illinois Press, 1980)
• Christopher McGrory Klyza, "Ideas, Institutions, and Policy Patterns: Hardrock Mining, Forestry, and Grazing Policy on United States Public Lands, 1870-1985," *Studies in American Political Development* 8 No. 2 (1994).
• Balogh, "Scientific Forestry and the Roots of the Modern State," *Environmental History* 7 No. 2 (April 2002), pp. 198-225.

Nov. 21: Week 13 Agency and Institutional Change
• Skowronek and Glassman, eds. *Formative Acts.* Penn University Press, 2007.

• Student research presentation(s)
• Draft of research paper due

Nov. 28: Week 14 War and State-Building
• Bartholomew Sparrow, *From the Outside In: World War II and the American State*. Princeton: Princeton University Press (1996)

- Suzanne Mettler, "Bringing the State Back In to Civic Engagement: Policy Feedback Effects of the G.I. Bill for World War II Veterans," *American Political Science Review*, Vol. 96, No. 2 (June 2002): 351-65.

Dec. 5: Week 15 The United States among States

- Nettl, "The State as a Conceptual Variable," *World Politics*
- Katznelson and Shefter, eds. *Shaped by War and Trade.*

- **December 11: Take-home exam (mock prelim) distributed**
- **December 15: Research paper due**