

**Leibniz University of Hannover**  
**Political Science Department**

**Chair of Comparative and German Politics**

Lecturer: Benjamin G. Engst, MA

Seminar: Advanced Readings in CP (VM3) [www.benjamin-engst.de](http://www.benjamin-engst.de) ◦ [b.engst@ipw.uni-hannover.de](mailto:b.engst@ipw.uni-hannover.de)

## Seminar: Advanced Readings in Comparative Politics

### Literature

A major book introducing into comparative politics is:

- Boix, Carles / Susan C. Stokes (eds). 2007. *The Oxford Handbook of Comparative Politics*. OUP.

If this is your first seminar where you will write a term paper or essay you might find the following book helpful:

- Turbian, Kate L. 2007. *A Manual for Writers of Research Papers, Theses, and Dissertations: Chicago Style for Students and Researchers*. 7th Edition. Chicago: University of Chicago Press.

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### Week 2 [Fundamentals] ◦ The Development of the Research Area

#### *Required Readings*

- Caramani, Daniele. 2011. "Introduction to Comparative Politics." In: Daniele Caramani (ed.). *Comparative Politics*. Third Edition. Oxford: Oxford University Press: 1-17.
- Eason, David. 1957. "An Approach to the Analysis of Political Systems." *World Politics* 9 (3): 383-400. DOI: 10.2307/2008920

### Week 3 [Fundamentals] ◦ The Comparative Method

#### *Required Readings*

- Lijphart, Arend. 1971. "Comparative Politics and the Comparative Method." *American Political Science Review* 65 (3): 682-693. DOI: 10.2307/1955513
- Hall, Peter A. 2003. "Aligning Ontology and Methodology in Comparative Research." In: James Mahoney / Dietrich Rueschemeyer (eds.). *Comparative Historical Analysis in the Social Sciences*. Princeton: Princeton University Press: 373-404.

### Week 4 [Regimes] ◦ State and Nation Building

#### *Required Readings*

- Migdal, Joel S. 2004. *State in Society: Studying How States and Societies Transform and Constitute one Another*. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press: 231-264.
- Skocpol, Theda. 1985. "Introduction: Bringing the State Back In." In: Peter B. Evans / Dietrich Rueschemeyer / Theda Skocpol (eds.). *Bringing the State Back In*. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press: 3-37.

#### *Presentation*

- Tilly, Charles. 1985. "War Making and State Making as Organized Crime" In: Peter B. Evans / Dietrich Rueschemeyer / Theda Skocpol (eds.). *Bringing the State Back In*. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press: 169-191.

### Week 5 [Regimes] ◦ Democratic Regimes

#### Required Readings

- Dahl, Robert A. 1971. *Polyarchy: Participation and Opposition*. New Haven: Yale University Press: 1-16.
- Geddes, Barbara. 1999. "What do we know about democratization after twenty years?" *Annual Review of Political Science* 2: 115-144. DOI: 10.1146/annurev.polisci.2.1.115

#### Presentation

- Przeworski, Adam / Fernando Limongi. 1997. "Modernization: Theories and Facts." *World Politics* 49 (2): 155-183. Stable URL: <http://www.jstor.org/stable/25053996>

### Week 6 [Regimes] ◦ Non-Democratic Regimes

#### Required Readings

- Bueno De Mesquita, Bruce / James D. Morrow / Randolph M. Siverson / Alastair Smith. 1999. "Policy Failure and Political Survival: The Contribution of Political Institutions." *Journal of Conflict Resolution* 43 (2): 147-161. doi: 10.1177/0022002799043002002
- Linz, Juan J. / Alfred Stepan. 1996. "Toward Consolidated Democracies." *Journal of Democracy* 7 (2): 14-33.

#### Presentation

- Fearon James D. / David D. Laitin. 2003. "Ethnicity, Insurgency, and Civil War." *American Political Science Review* 97 (1): 75-90. DOI: <http://dx.doi.org/10.1017/S0003055403000534>

### Week 7 [Institutions] ◦ Institutionalism & Institutional Change

#### Required Readings

- Hall, Peter / Rosemary Taylor. 1996. "Political Science and the Three New Institutionalisms." *Political Studies* 44 (4): 936-957. DOI: 10.1111/j.1467-9248.1996.tb00343.x
- Greif, Avner / David D. Laitin. 2004. "A Theory of Endogenous Institutional Change." *American Political Science Review* 98 (4): 633-652. DOI: <http://dx.doi.org/10.1017/S0003055404041395>

#### Presentation

- Weingast, Barry R. 2005. "Persuasion, Preference Change, and Critical Junctures: The Microfoundations of a Macroscopic Concept." In: Ira Katznelson / Barry R. Weingast (Hrsg.): *Preferences and Situations: Points of Intersection Between Historical and Rational Choice Institutionalism*. New York: Russell Sage Foundation: 161-184.

### Week 8 [Institutions] ◦ Government & Government Performance

#### Required Readings

- Laver, Michael / Kenneth A. Shepsle. 1996. *Making and Breaking Governments: Cabinets and Legislatures in Parliamentary Democracies*. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press: 3-17.

- Esping-Andersen, Gøsta. 1990. *The Three Worlds of Welfare Capitalism*. Cambridge: Polity Press: 9-34.

*Presentation*

- Strøm, Kaare / Ian Budge / Michael Laver. 1994. "Constraints on Cabinet Formation in Parliamentary Democracies." *American Journal of Political Science* 38 (2): 303-335.

**Week 9 [Institutions] ◦ Representation & The Legislature**

*Required Readings*

- Strøm, Kare. 1990. "A Behavioral Theory of Competitive Political Parties." *American Journal of Political Science* 34 (2): 565-598. Stable URL: <http://www.jstor.org/stable/2111461>
- Laakso, Markku / Rein Taagepera. 1979. "'Effective' Number of Parties: A Measure with Application to West Europe." *Comparative Political Studies* 12 (1): 3-27. doi: 10.1177/001041407901200101

*Presentation*

- Strøm, Kaare. 2003. "Delegation and Accountability in Parliamentary Democracies." *European Journal of Political Research* 37 (3): 261-289. DOI: 10.1111/1475-6765.00513

**Week 10 [Actors] ◦ Political Parties and Party Systems**

*Required Readings*

- Sartori, Giovanni . 1990. "A Typology of Party Systems." In: Peter Mair (ed.). *The West European Party System* New York: Oxford University Press: 316-349.
- Lipset, Seymour Martin / Stein Rokkan. 1990. "Cleavage Structure, Party Systems, and Voter Alignments." In: Peter Mair (ed.). *The West European Party System* New York: Oxford University Press: 91-138.

*Presentation*

- Michels, Robert. 1925 [1911]. *Soziologie des Parteiwesens*. Stuttgart: Alfred Körner Verlag: 351-369.  
[The chapter is available in English, too.]

**Week 11 [Actors] ◦ Political Culture & Social Capital**

*Required Readings*

- Almond, Gabriel / Sidney Verba. 1963. *The Civic Culture: Political Attitudes and Democracy in Five Nations*. Princeton: Princeton University Press: 3-42.
- Putnam, Robert D. 1993. *Making Democracy Work: Civic Traditions in Modern Italy*. With Robert Leonardi and Raffaella Y. Nanetti. Princeton: Princeton University Press: 163-185.

*Presentation*

- Putnam, Robert D. 1995. "Turning in, Turning Out: The Strange Disappearance of Social Capital in America." *Political Science and Politics* 28 (4): 664-683. Stable URL: <http://www.jstor.org/stable/420517>

**Week 12 [Actors] ◦ Political Participation & Political Action**

*Required Readings*

- Barnes, Samuel H. / Max Kaase et al. 1979. *Political Action: Mass Participation in Five Western Democracies*. Beverly Hills: Sage Publications: 27-56.

- Brady, Henry E. / Sidney Verba / Kay Lehman Schlozman. 1995. "Beyond Ses: A Resource Model of Political Participation." *American Political Science Review* 89 (2): 271-294. DOI: 10.2307/2082425

*Presentation*

- Lijphart, Arend. 1997. "Unequal Participation: Democracy's Unresolved Dilemma." *American Political Science Review* 91 (1): 1-14. DOI: 10.2307/2952255

**Week 13 [Students] ◦ Open Session**

*Think about possible topics until Week 11.*

**Week 14 [Outlook] ◦ Summary & Feedback Session**

*Required Readings*

- von Beyme, Klaus. 2011. "The Evolution of Comparative Politics." In: Daniele Caramani (ed.). *Comparative Politics*. Third Edition. Oxford: Oxford University Press: 21-33.