

Comparative Political Economy
Political Science 7132
University of Colorado, Boulder
Professor Sarah Wilson Sokhey
Fall 2018, Thursdays, Ketchum 1B-31, 2-4:30pm

Office: Ketchum 133
E-mail: sarah.sokhey@colorado.edu
Office hours: Tuesdays, 10am-12pm & by appointment

Course Description

This course introduces students to academic research in comparative political economy. We address a wide variety of topics including the interaction of states and markets, the political determinants of economic development, the welfare state, and the politics of economic reform. This course is primarily designed to train Political Science PhD students, although it may be of interest to students in other disciplines.

Course Requirements

Students are required to read all material before class and come prepared to discuss the material critically. This class is intended to help prepare political science graduate students for their comprehensive exams and to be prepared to conduct their own research including a dissertation project. The reading load is designed to meet these goals.

Your grade will be based on the following components:

- Final Paper (DUE: Sat., Dec. 1st by 11:59pm) 40%
- Participation 30%
- 6 weekly reaction papers 30% total (each worth 5%)

Participation

Participation includes: 1) taking part in class discussions including being the discussion leader for one week, 2) submitting an abstract in week 3, and 3) presenting and discussing your research in the final 2 weeks of class. Your participation grade is based on a holistic assessment of your participation in these activities throughout the semester.

As part of the class discussions, each student will be required to choose a week for which they will be responsible for starting off the discussion for the readings by offering several discussion questions. This is not a presentation of the readings, but rather an opportunity for you to frame the discussion and pose interesting questions to your classmates. You may prepare notes or questions to provide to your classmates in advance, but this is not required. If you do, I am happy to post those on our Canvas course website.

Conveniently, we have 11 weeks of reading and 11 students enrolled. We can, however, make adjustments if two students would like to cover the same week. Furthermore, there are 2 weeks where you can choose which set of readings to complete. If you are the discussant for one of those weeks, you are only required to focus on one set of readings for your discussion questions.

6 Weekly Reaction Papers – Due before class for the weeks for which you write

You are required to write 6 reaction papers based on the readings. The reaction papers should be about 2 pages, double-spaced, 11 or 12 point font. You should briefly summarize the most important points in the readings and identify interesting questions and/or critiques of the materials. You should aim to make an argument in your reaction paper. You may choose any 6 weeks in which to write these. You are responsible for making sure you complete 6 reaction papers by the end of the semester. We have 11 weeks of reading material giving you ample choice of weeks for which to write a reaction paper. You should upload your reaction paper on our course website (<https://canvas.colorado.edu>) before class that week.

Research Paper

You are required to write a research paper. Ideally, your paper should include an empirical component, but I am open to suggestions about research design or theoretical papers. Please talk to me first if you will not be including an empirical component to your paper to make sure it fits well with the class. There is no required length, but research papers are often in the 20-30 page range.

During the last two weeks of class, students will read and discuss each other's work. You will be asked to prepare a presentation, and you will be assigned to be a discussant for another student's paper.

Books to Purchase

The following texts are recommended for purchase because we read most or all of the book. I will also try to reserve these at Norlin Library.

- Ben W. Ansell and David J. Samuels, 2014, *Inequality and Democratization*
- Jennifer Gandhi, 2008, *Political Institutions Under Dictatorship*
- Margaret Levi, 1988, *Of Rule and Revenue*
- Irfan Nooruddin, 2011, *Coalition Politics and Economic Development*
- Douglas North, 1990 *Institutions, Institutional Change, and Economic Development*
- Elinor Ostrom, 1990, *Governing the Commons*

Accommodations for Disabilities: If you qualify for accommodations because of a disability, please submit your accommodation letter from Disability Services to your faculty member in a timely manner so that your needs can be addressed. Disability Services determines accommodations based on documented disabilities in the academic environment. Information on requesting accommodations is located on the [Disability Services website](#). Contact Disability Services at 303-492-8671 or dsinfo@colorado.edu for further assistance. If you have a temporary medical condition or injury, see [Temporary Medical Conditions](#) under the Students tab on the Disability Services website.

Classroom Behavior: Students and faculty each have responsibility for maintaining an appropriate learning environment. Those who fail to adhere to such behavioral standards may be subject to discipline. Professional courtesy and sensitivity are especially important with respect to individuals and topics dealing with race, color, national origin, sex, pregnancy, age, disability, creed, religion, sexual orientation, gender identity, gender expression, veteran status, political affiliation or political philosophy.

Honor Code: All students enrolled in a University of Colorado Boulder course are responsible for knowing and adhering to the Honor Code. Violations of the policy may include: plagiarism, cheating, fabrication, lying, bribery, threat, unauthorized access to academic materials, clicker fraud, submitting the same or similar work in more than one course without permission from all course instructors involved, and aiding academic dishonesty. All incidents of academic misconduct will be reported to the Honor Code (honor@colorado.edu); 303-492-5550). Students who are found responsible for violating the academic integrity policy will be subject to nonacademic sanctions from the Honor Code as well as academic sanctions from the faculty member. Additional information regarding the Honor Code academic integrity policy can be found at the [Honor Code Office website](#).

Plagiarism: Don't do it. If I find you have plagiarized, you will fail the course and I will follow University procedures to pursue academic sanctions. At the graduate level, the reputational costs of plagiarizing are very high; it's not worth it. More generally, you should take seriously the task of correctly citing works you have referenced. If you have any questions about what constitute plagiarism or proper citation, please ask.

Sexual Misconduct, Discrimination, Harassment and/or Related Retaliation: The University of Colorado Boulder (CU Boulder) is committed to fostering a positive and welcoming learning, working, and living environment. CU Boulder will not tolerate acts of sexual misconduct (including sexual assault, exploitation, harassment, dating or domestic violence, and stalking), discrimination, and harassment by members of our community. Individuals who believe they have been subject to misconduct or retaliatory actions for reporting a concern should contact the Office of Institutional Equity and Compliance (OIEC) at 303-492-2127 or cureport@colorado.edu. Information about the OIEC, university policies, [anonymous reporting](#), and the campus resources can be found on the [OIEC website](#).

Please know that faculty and instructors have a responsibility to inform OIEC when made aware of incidents of sexual misconduct, discrimination, harassment and/or related retaliation, to ensure that individuals impacted receive information about options for reporting and support resources.

Religious Holidays: Campus policy regarding religious observances requires that faculty make every effort to deal reasonably and fairly with all students who, because of religious obligations, have conflicts with scheduled exams, assignments or required attendance.

Names & Pronouns: Professional courtesy and sensitivity are especially important with respect to individuals and topics dealing with differences of race, culture, religion, politics, sexual orientation, gender, gender variance, and nationalities. Class rosters are provided to the instructor with the student's legal name. I will gladly honor your request to address you by an alternate name or gender pronoun. Please advise me of this preference early in the semester so that I may make appropriate changes to my records. See policies at colorado.edu/policies/classbehavior.html and at colorado.edu/studentaffairs/judicialaffairs/code.html#student_code.

Course Plan

The required readings will be posted on our course website on Canvas (<https://canvas.colorado.edu>) except for the books listed for purchase. I will try to put the book suggested for purchase on reserve at Norlin Library. Recommended readings are optional and are included to give you a fuller idea of the literature on the topic. Recommended readings may also be useful for your research papers.

Week 1: Introduction and Course Overview (August 30)

Take a look at some recent research on comparative political economy issues on the *Washington Post* Monkey Cage blog. I will post a few recent examples on our course website on Canvas.

Also, read: Layna Mosley and David Andrew Singer, "The Global Financial Crisis: Lessons and Opportunities for International Political Economy," *International Interactions*, 35:4, 420-429, 2009.

Week 2: Research Design in CPE (September 6)

How should we design research in CPE? What kinds of questions should we ask?

Discussion Leader(s): _____

Required:

- Barbara Geddes, *Paradigms and Sand Castles: Theory Building and Research Design in Comparative Politics*, Chapters 1 and 2.
- Peter Hall "The Role of Interests, Institutions, and Ideas in the Comparative Political Economy of Industrialized Nations," in Mark Lichbach and Alan Zuckerman, eds., *Comparative Politics*, Cambridge University Press, 1997, pp. 174-207.
- Benjamin Barber, Pablo Beramendi, and Erik Wibbels, "The Behavioral Foundations of Social Politics: Evidence from Surveys and a Laboratory Democracy," *Comparative Political Studies*, Vol. 46, Issue 10, 2013.

Recommended:

- Hilary Appel, "The Ideological Determinants of Liberal Economic Reform: The Case of Privatization," *World Politics*, 52:4 (July) 2000, pp. 520-549
- Macartan Humphreys and Jeremy Weinstein, "Field Experiments and the Political Economy of Development," *Annual Review of Political Science*, 2009 (pp. 367-78)

Week 3: No Class, Research Paper Abstract Due (September 13)

Please use this week to start thinking about your research paper. Submit a proposed abstract for your paper on our course website on Canvas before class time on Thursday, Sept. 13 at 2:30pm. Your abstract should include a possible research question, references to relevant literature, and possible data. Your abstract will count as part of your participation grade. I will make all of the abstracts available to your classmates. Please take some time to read at least a few of your classmates' abstracts and make suggestions that will be publicly viewable on Canvas. As always, be polite and courteous and focus on constructive suggestions.

I will provide comments on your abstracts to help you get started on your research papers. Your abstract does not commit you to write about a certain topic; you can change your mind at any time although I recommend choosing and sticking with a final topic by November 1st at the latest. That gives you about a month to write the paper.

Week 4: Governance & Governance Dilemmas (September 20)

Why does the collective action problem matter? Why is the collective action so difficult to overcome? Why is it sometimes difficult to pass optimal economic policies? What can the state do to address the governance dilemma?

Discussion Leader(s): _____

Required:

- Mancur Olson, *The Logic of Collective Action*, Harvard University Press, 1965. ALL. (purchase)
- Douglas North, *Institutions, Institutional Change, and Economic Development*, Cambridge University Press, 1990. ALL. (purchase)
- Merilee Grindle, "Good Enough Governance Revisited," *Development Policy Review*, 29(s1), 2007.
- Layna Mosley, "Regulating globally, implementing locally: The financial codes and standards effort," *Review of International Political Economy*, 17(4):724-76, 2010.

Recommended:

- Marcus Kurtz and Andrew Schrank, "Growth and Governance: Models, Measures, and Mechanisms," *Journal of Politics*, 69:2, 2007

Week 5: Governance Solutions? (September 27)

How do we solve governance dilemmas? Do we need a state to solve governance dilemmas? Is demand for the right institutions or rules of the game sufficient?

Discussion Leader(s): _____

Required:

- Elinor Ostrom, *Governing the Commons: The Evolution of Institutions for Collective Action*, Cambridge University Press, 1990, Chapters 1, 5, and 6. (purchase)
- Robert Putnam, 1990, *Making Democracy Work*, Chapters 1, 5, and 6 (CANVAS)
- Robert Bates, *Beyond the Miracle of the Market: The Political Economy of Agrarian Development in Kenya*, Cambridge University Press, 1989, pages 1-11 and pages 45-93 (CANVAS)

Recommended:

- William Riker and Itai Sened, "A Political Theory of the Origin of Property Rights: Airport Slots," *American Journal of Political Science*, 1991

Week 6: The State & Institutions: Explaining Outcomes & the Natural Resource Curse (October 4)

How should we understand the role of the state in the economy and in setting economic policy? When does the state have a positive influence? When does the state have a negative influence?

Discussion Leader(s): _____

Required reading: Choose 1 set of readings to complete.

Explaining Outcomes

- Alicia Adsera and Carles Boix, "Trade, Democracy, and the Size of the Public Sector: The Political Underpinnings of Openness," *International Organization*, 2002.
- Sarah Brooks and Marcus Kurtz, "Embedding Neoliberal Reform in Latin America," *World Politics*, 60:2 (January), 2008, pp.231-280
- Christine Lipsmeyer, "Booms and Busts: How Parliamentary Governments and Economic Context Influence Welfare Policy," *International Studies Quarterly*, 55:955-980, 2011.

The Natural Resource Curse

- Michael Ross, “Does Oil Hinder Democracy?” *Comparative Politics*, Vol. 53, Issue 3 (April), 2001.
- Michael Ross, “What Have We Learned about the Resource Curse?” *Annual Review of Political Science*, Vol. 18 (May), 2015, pp. 239-259.
- Pauline Jones Luong and Erika Weinthal, *Oil Is Not a Curse: Ownership Structure and Institutions in Soviet Successor States*, Cambridge University Press, 2010, chapters 1, 6, and 9.

Recommended:

- Peter Katzenstein, *Small States in World Markets*, Cornell University Press, 1985. Preface, Chapters 1, 2, and 5. (purchase)
- Jana Grittersova, “Non-market cooperation and the variety of finance capitalism in advanced democracies,” *Review of International Political Economy*, Vol. 21, No.2, 2014

Week 7: Regime Type and Economic Development, Part 1 (October 11)

The age-old question: does regime type influence economy development? If so, how? Which characteristics of regime type matter most? We'll also talk about experiments this week.

Discussion Leader(s): _____

Required:

- Margaret Levi, *Of Rule and Revenue*, University of California Press, 1989. (purchase)
- Barrington Moore, *Social Origins of Dictatorship and Democracy: Lord and Peasant in the Making of the Modern World*, Boston: Beacon Press, 1966.
- Mancur Olson, “Dictatorship, Democracy, and Development,” *American Political Science Review*, 87:3, 1993 pp. 567-576
- Adam Przeworski., Michael E. Alvarez, Jose Antonio Cheibub, Fernando Limongi, *Democracy and Development: Political Institutions and Well-Being in the World, 1950-1990*, Cambridge University Press, 2000, chapters 4 and 5.

Recommended:

- Dani Rodrik, “Institutions for High Quality Growth: What They Are and How to Acquire Them,” *Studies in Comparative International Development*, Fall 2000.
- Dani Rodrik, “The Paradoxes of the Successful States,” *European Economic Review*, 1997.

Week 8: Regime Type & Economic Development, Part 2 (October 18)

Discussion Leader(s): _____

- Ora John Reuter and Jennifer Gandhi, “Economic Performance and Defection from Hegemonic Parties,” *British Journal of Political Science*, 41(1): 83-110, 2011.
- Jennifer Gandhi, *Political Institutions Under Dictatorship*, Cambridge University Press, Chapter 4: Institutions and Policies Under Dictatorship, 2008. (purchase)
- Lisa Blaydes, *Elections and Distributive Politics in Mubarak's Egypt*, Cambridge University Press, 2011, Chapter 5.
- Irfan Nooruddin, *Coalition Politics and Economic Development*, Cambridge University Press, 2011. (purchase)

Recommended:

- Daniel Treisman, “Income, Democracy, and Leader Turnover,” *American Journal of Political Science*, 2014.

- Edmund Malesky, Dimitar Gueorguiev, and Nathan Jensen, “Monopoly Money: Foreign Investment and Bribery in Vietnam, a Survey Experiment,” *American Journal of Political Science*, forthcoming in 2015.

Week 9: Trade Politics (October 25)

Discussion Leader(s): _____

Required:

- Ronald Rogowski, “Political Cleavages and Changing Exposure to Trade,” *American Political Science Review*, 81:4 (December) 1987: 1121-1137
- Brian Greenhill, Layna Mosley, Assem Prakash, “Trade-based Diffusion of Labor Rights: A Panel Study, 1986-2002,” *American Political Science Review*, Vol. 103, No. 4, 2009.
- Moonhawk Kim, “Costly Procedures: Divergent Effects of Legalization in the GATT/WTO Dispute Settlement Procedures,” *International Organization*, Vol. 52, 2008: 657-686.
- Kristen Hopewell, “Different paths to power: The rise of Brazil, India and China at the World Trade Organization,” *Review of International Political Economy*, Volume 22, Issue 2, 2015.
 - See also her related book: Kristin Hopewell, *Breaking the WTO: How Emerging Powers Disrupted the Neoliberal Project*, Stanford University Press, 2016.

Week 10: Business & FDI (November 1)

What control do businesses have on the state? What is the connection between business and the state in setting economic policy? Are businesses equally influential in all types of political regimes? How do businesses attempt to influence the government? What role does FDI play in domestic politics?

Discussion Leader(s): _____

Required:

- Lindblom, Charles “The Market as a Prison,” *Journal of Politics*, Vol. 44, 1982, pp. 323-346
- Dinissa Duvanova, *Building Business in Post-Communist Russia, Eastern Europe, and Eurasia: Collective Goods, Selective Incentives, and Predatory States*, Cambridge University Press, 2013, Chapter 4 “Business Environment and Business Organization”
 - See also: Dinissa Duvanova, “Bureaucratic Corruption and Collective Action: Business Associations in the Postcommunist Transition,” *Comparative Politics*, Vol. 39, No.4, 2007, pp.441-461
- Leslie Johns and Rachel L. Wellhausen, “Under One Roof: Supply Chains and the Protection of Foreign Investment,” *American Political Science Review*, Vol. 110, No. 1, 2016 (February).
- Andrew Kerner and Jane Lawrence, “What’s the Risk? Bilateral Investment Treaties, Political Risk, and Fixed Capital Accumulation,” *British Journal of Political Science*, 2012.

Recommended:

- Fred Block, “The Ruling Class Doesn’t Rule: Notes on the Marxist Theory of the State,” *Political Economy*, Thomas Ferguson and Joel Rogers, eds., pp. 32-46
- Karl Polanyi, *The Great Transformation: The Political and Economic Origins of Our Time*, 1944; read Foreword (by Joseph Stiglitz) and Introduction (by Fred Block); chapter 4 (Societies and Economic Systems, and chapter 5 (Evolution of the Market Pattern)
- Pepper Culpepper, *Quiet Politics and Business Power: Corporate Control in Europe and Japan*, Cambridge University Press, 2011; read chapters 1, 2, and 7

Week 11: Welfare Politics (November 8)

Why do we see different welfare states around the world? What affects the choice of welfare policies? What does this research tell us about political science more generally?

Discussion Leader(s): _____

Required:

- Isabela Mares, “The Comparative Political Economy of the Welfare State,” In *Comparative Politics: Rationality, Culture, and Structure*, 2nd edition
- Gösta Esping-Anderson, *Three Worlds of Welfare Capitalism*, Princeton University Press, 1990, Part I (pp. 1-143) and Conclusion (221-229) (purchase)
- Nita Rudra, “Globalization and the Decline of the Welfare State in Less-Developed Countries,” *International Organization*, vol. 56, Issue 2, pp.411-445.
- Christine Lipsmeyer, “Booms and Busts: How Parliamentary Governments and Economic Context Influence Welfare Policy,” *International Studies Quarterly*, 55:955-980, 2011.

Recommended:

- Isabela Mares, *The Politics of Social Risk: Business and Welfare State Development*, Cambridge University Press, 2003.
- Sara Watson, “The Left Divided: Parties, Unions, and the Resolution of Southern Spain’s Agrarian Social Question,” *Politics & Society*, 36(4):451-477, 2008.
- Linda Cook, *Postcommunist Welfare States: Reform Politics in Russia and Eastern Europe*, Cornell University Press, 2007, Introduction, chapter 4, and conclusion.
- Haggard, Stephan and Robert Kaufman, *Development, Democracy, and Welfare States: Latin America, East Asia*, Princeton University Press, 2008, Chapter 5: The Political Economy of Welfare Reform.
- Torben Iversen, *Capitalism, Democracy, and Welfare*, Cambridge University Press, 2005. (Read Part I and II, pages 3-182; skim Part 3, pages 183-278) (purchase)
- Alicia Adsera and Carles Boix, “Trade, Democracy, and the Size of the Public Sector: The Political Underpinnings of Openness,” *International Organization*, 2002. (Recommended again here—as in Week 9 on trade politics—because it fits well with the Lipsmeyer article.)

Week 12: Transitional Politics (November 15)

Post-communist politics are not a natural experiment, but are a chance to see different states undergo similar challenges during the same time period. What is the connection between democracy and the market?

Discussion Leader(s): _____

Required reading: Choose 1 set of readings to complete.

Latin America

- Karen Remmer, “The Political Economy of Elections in Latin America, 1980-1991,” *American Political Science Review*, 87, 1993, pp. 393-407.
- Sarah Brooks, “Insecure Democracy: Risk and Political Participation in Brazil,” *Journal of Politics*, Vol. 76, No. 4 (October), 2014.
- Andy Baker, *The Market and the Masses in Latin America: Policy Reform and Consumption in Liberalizing Economies*, Cambridge University Press. Chapter 1: Consuming the Washington Consensus, 2009.

Post-Communist Countries

- Adam Przeworski, *Democracy and the Market: Political and Economic Reforms in Eastern Europe & Latin America*, Cambridge University Press, 1991. Prologue, Chapters 3 and 4, and Conclusion, (purchase)

- Joel Hellman, “Winners Take All: The Politics of Partial Reform in Post-communist Transitions,” *World Politics*, 50:2 (1998)
- Timothy Frye, *Building States and Markets after Communism: The Perils of Polarized Democracy*, Cambridge University Press, 2010, chapters 1-3 and conclusion

Recommended:

- Juliet Johnson, *Priests of Prosperity: How Central Bankers Transformed the Post-Communist World*, Cornell University Press, 2016.

Week 13: Fall Break (No Class)

Week 14: Inequality (November 29)

How should we conceptualize inequality? How do we measure increasing inequality? What are the political consequences of inequality?

Discussion Leader(s): _____

- Amartya Sen. 1999. *Development as Freedom*, New York: Anchor Books, Introduction & Chapter 5
- Thomas Piketty. 2014. *Capital in the Twenty-First Century*. The Belknap Press of Harvard University Press. Chapter 2 and Conclusion
- Kimuli Kasara and Pavithra Suryanarayan, “When Do the Rich Vote Less Than the Poor and Why? Explaining Turnout Inequality across the World,” *American Journal of Political Science*, Vol. 59, No. 3 (July 2015), pp.613-627
- Ben W. Ansell and David J. Samuels, *Inequality and Democratization: An Elite-Competition Approach*, Cambridge University Press, 2014.

Week 15: Discussion of Research Papers (December 6)

Notes about the research paper

- Papers are due on Saturday, December 1st by 11:59pm. This deadline is to allow your classmates time to read your paper before class, so please do submit your paper in a timely manner. Your paper will be made available to all of your classmates. You are expected to have looked at all of your classmates’ papers prior to the presentations during the final weeks of class. Your comments during the discussion should focus on constructive suggestions.
- Please upload your paper on our course website available through <https://canvas.colorado.edu>.
- You will be assigned discussant responsibilities for one other specific paper in class. As the assigned discussant, you should treat your responsibilities like you would if you were discussing a paper at a professional conference: briefly summarize the paper’s main findings, highlight the paper’s strong points, and make constructive comments for improvement. You should prepare a one-page memo with your comments to share with your classmate as part of your discussant responsibilities. As always, please be polite and constructive.
- Your presentation & discussant responsibilities will be part of your participation grade for the course.
- You will be assigned a specific day for your presentation in class.
- A schedule of who is presenting when and assigned discussant duties will be posted on Canvas.

Week 16: Discussion of Research Papers (December 13)