

Political Sociology Comprehensive Exam Reading List

The State and State Formation

1. Abrams, Philip. 1977. "Notes on the Difficulty of Studying the State," *Journal of Historical Sociology* 1: 58-89.
2. Adams, Julia. 1994. "The Familial State: Elite Family Practices and State-Making in the Early Modern Netherlands." *Theory and Society* 23(4): 505-539.
3. Bourdieu, Pierre. 1994. "Rethinking the State: Genesis and Structure of the Bureaucratic Field." *Sociological Theory* 12(1): 1-18.
4. Brown, Wendy. 1992. *States of Injury*. Princeton: Princeton University Press. (**Read "Finding the Man in the State"**)
5. Downey, Liam, Elizabeth Lawrence, Micah Pyles, and Derek Lee. 2020. "Power, Hegemony, and World Society Theory: A Critical Evaluation." *Socius: Sociological Research for a Dynamic World* 6: 1-22.
6. Elias, Norbert. 1982. *The Civilizing Process*. New York: Pantheon Books. **Read pp. 91-228 ("On the Sociogenesis of the State")**.
7. Gramsci, Antonio. 1971. *Selections from the Prison Notebooks*. New York: International Publishers. (**Read "State and Civil Society"**)
8. Loveman, Mara. 2005. "The Modern State and the Primitive Accumulation of Symbolic Power." *American Journal of Sociology* 110: 1651-1683.
9. Mackinnon, Catharine. 1989. *Toward a Feminist Theory of the State*. Cambridge: Harvard University Press. **Read Chapters 8, 9, 12.**
10. Mann, Michael. 1986. *The Sources of Social Power, Volumes 1 and 2*. Cambridge University Press. (**Read Vol. 1, Chapter 1 and Vol. 2, Chapter 3**)
11. Mayrl, Damon and Sarah Quinn. 2016. "Defining the State from Within: Boundaries, Schemas, and Associational Policymaking." *Sociological Theory* 34(1): 1-26.
12. Meyer, John W., John Boli, George M. Thomas, and Francisco O. Ramirez. 1997. "World Society and the Nation-State." *American Journal of Sociology* 103(1): 144-81.
13. Miliband, Ralph. 1969. *The State in Capitalist Society*. Merlin Press.
14. Mitchell, Timothy. 1991. "The Limits of the State: Beyond Statist Approaches and Their Critics" *American Political Science Review* 85(1): 77-96.
15. Moore, Barrington. 1966. *Social Origins of Dictatorship and Democracy*.
16. Polanyi, Karl. 1944. *The Great Transformation: The Political and Economic Origins of Our Time*. Boston: Beacon Press.
17. Poulantzas, Nicos. 1969. "The Problem of the Capitalist State." *New Left Review* 58.
18. Skocpol, Theda. 1985. "Bringing the State Back In." In *Bringing the State Back In*, edited by Peter Evans, Dietrich Rueschemeyer and Theda Skocpol. Cambridge University Press.
19. Tilly, Charles. 1985. "War Making and State Making as Organized Crime," In *Bringing the State Back In*, edited by Peter Evans, Dietrich Rueschemeyer and Theda Skocpol. Cambridge University Press.
20. Wallerstein, Immanuel. 2004. *World-Systems Analysis: An Introduction*. Durham and London: Duke University Press

Power, Ideology, and Difference

21. Althusser, Louis. 1971. "Ideology and Ideological State Apparatuses," in *Lenin and Philosophy*. New Left Books, pp. 121-172.
22. Anderson, Benedict. 1991. *Imagined Communities*. London: Verso. **Read Chapters 1-3.**

23. Bourdieu, Pierre. 1989. "Social Space and Symbolic Power." *Sociological Theory* 7: 14-25.
24. Bourdieu, Pierre. 1993. "Part III. Symbolic Power and the Political Field," in *Language and Symbolic Power*. Harvard University Press.
25. Brubaker, Rogers. 1992. *Citizenship and Nationhood in France and Germany*. Cambridge: Harvard University Press. **Read the Introduction and Part I.**
26. Chatterjee, Partha. 1993. *Whose Imagined Community? The Nation and its Fragments*. Princeton: Princeton University Press.
27. Chibber, Vivek. 2014. *Postcolonial Theory and the Specter of Capital*. Verso Books.
28. Collins, Patricia Hill. 2019. *Intersectionality as Critical Theory*. Durham: Duke University Press.
29. De Leon, Cedric, Manali Desai, and Cihan Tugal. 2009. "Political Articulation: Parties and the Constitution of Cleavages in the United States, India, and Turkey." *Sociological Theory* 27: 193-219.
30. Fanon, Frantz. 2008 [1952]. *Black Skin, White Masks*.
31. Fields, Barbara J. 1990. "Slavery, Race and Ideology in the United States of America." *New Left Review* 181: 95-118.
32. Foucault, Michel. 1978. *History of Sexuality*.
33. Go, Julian. 2013. "For a Postcolonial Sociology." *Theory and Society* 42(1): 25-55.
34. Hall, Stuart. 2019 [1980]. "Race, Articulation, and Societies Structured in Dominance," in *Essential Essays, Volume 1*. Duke University Press, pp. 172-221.
35. Laclau, Ernesto and Chantal Mouffe. 1985. *Hegemony and Socialist Strategy*. London: Verso.
36. Lukes, Steven. 2005 [1974]. *Power: A Radical View. 2nd Ed.* MacMillan.
37. Pzeworski, Adam. 1985. *Capitalism and Social Democracy*. New York: Cambridge University Press. **Read Chapters 2 and 4.**
38. Reed, Isaac. 2013. "Power: Relational, Discursive and Performative Dimensions." *Sociological Theory* 31(3): 193-218.
39. Robinson, Cedric. 1983. *Black Marxism. The Making of the Black Radical Tradition*,. University of North Carolina Press. **Read the Introduction and Chapter 1.**
40. Said, Edward. 1978. *Orientalism*. New York: Pantheon.

Agency, Collective Action, and Social Change

41. Armstrong, Elizabeth and Mary Bernstein. 2008. "Culture, Power, and Institutions: A Multi-Institutional Politics Approach to Social Movements." *Sociological Theory* 26: 74-99.
42. Clemens, Elisabeth S. 1993. "Organizational Repertoires and Institutional Change: Women's groups and the transformation of US Politics, 1890-1920." *American Journal of Sociology*. 755-798.
43. McAdam, Doug, Sidney Tarrow, and Charles Tilly. 2001. *Dynamics of Contention*. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press.
44. Scott, James C. 1985. *Weapons of the Weak. Everyday Forms of Peasant Resistance*. New Haven: Yale University Press. **Read Chapters 1, 2, and 8.**
45. Sewell Jr., William H. 2005. *Logics of History*. Chicago: University of Chicago Press. **Read Chapters 3, 4, and 8.**
46. Skocpol, Theda. 1979. *States and Social Revolutions*. Harvard University Press.

States, Capitalists, and Policy

47. Akard, Patrick. 1992. "Corporate Mobilization and Political Power: The Transformation of U.S. Economic Policy in the 1970s." *American Sociological Review* 57: 597-615.
48. Block, Fred. 1987. "The Ruling Class Does Not Rule: Notes on the Marxist Theory of the State." in *Revising State Theory: Essays in Politics and Postindustrialism, Labor and Social Change*. Philadelphia: Temple University Press.
49. Domhoff, G. William. 1990. *The Power Elite and the State: How Policy is Made in America*. New York: Aldine de Gruyter. **Read the Introduction and Chapters 1, 5, and 6.**
50. Domhoff, G. William. 2014. *Who Rules America? The Triumph of the Corporate Rich* (7th edition). New York: McGraw-Hill Education.
51. Jenkins, Craig and Barbara Brents. 1989. "Social Protest, Hegemonic Competition, and Social Reform: A Political Struggle Interpretation of the Origins of the American Welfare State." *American Sociological Review* 54: 891-909.
52. Mills, C. Wright. 1956. *The Power Elite*. New York: Oxford University Press.
53. Mizuchi, Mark S. 2013. *The Fracturing of the American Corporate Elite*. Cambridge, Massachusetts: Harvard University Press.

Optional Overview Readings

The following references are not part of the required reading list but are included here for students seeking further source materials as they prepare for their comprehensive exams.

Clemens, Elisabeth. 2016. *What is Political Sociology?* Cambridge, UK: Polity.

De Leon, Cedric. 2014. *Party & Society*. Cambridge, UK: Polity.

Lachmann, Richard. 2010. *States and Power*. Cambridge, UK: Polity.

Morgan, Kimberly J. and Ann Shola Orloff. 2017. "Introduction," in *The Many Hands of the State. Theorizing Political Authority and Social Control*. New York: Cambridge University Press.

Steinmetz, George. 1999. "Introduction: Culture and the State," in *State/Culture: State Formation after the Cultural Turn*. Ithaca: Cornell University Press.