

PSC 160. Campaigns and Elections: A Global Perspective

SUMMER 2016

Monday-Thursday 9:00 AM-12:00 PM
Harkness 329

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Office: Department of Political Science, Harkness Hall 338
Office Hours: Wednesday, 2:00 PM – 4:00 PM

Overview. What factors influence vote choice? Why do voters around the world face such different options at the ballot box? Do campaigns matter? In this course, we will explore the social, political and institutional determinants of voting behaviour, and of variation in the number and types of political parties that exist. We will also discuss the different electoral strategies available to politicians around the world – from ‘priming’ to vote-buying – and discuss the efficacy and prevalence of each. Examples will be drawn from the United States, Western Europe, South Asia, Sub-Saharan Africa, and Latin America.

Grading. Your grade in this class will be composed of

- Class Participation: 20%
- Assignment #1 (annotated bibliography, to be submitted in class on May 23): 10%
- Midterm Exam (May 26): 20%
- Assignment #2 (short essay, to be submitted in class on May 31): 10%
- Assignment #3 (5-10 page essay, to be submitted in class on June 9): 20%
- Final Exam (June 9): 20%

The class participation component of your grade will hinge on your attendance and your participation in class discussion.

Readings. Since this is in part a seminar course, it is essential that students complete the assigned readings prior to each class. I understand that there is only so much time that you will have each day to complete the readings, given that the class will be meeting four days each week. Therefore, the course schedule (below) indicates which readings are to be completed before coming to class. In other words, some articles/chapters will be read *in class* to help students manage the reading load.

Academic articles are all available online, either directly or through the library’s website. Students are not required to purchase any books for this class. Any book chapters or excerpts that are required reading will be provided by the instructor, either through Blackboard or via email.

Attendance. Attendance is not compulsory, but is strongly encouraged given the structure of the course and the grading scheme.

Assignments and Exams. There will be a closed book, closed notes midterm and final exam. Both exams will include a combination of multiple-choice questions and short essays, and will take place during regular class hours. The midterm and final exam dates are firm. Missed exams

may only be re-taken under the following circumstances: (1) a death in the family, and (2) unforeseen medical emergency. In such cases, I may ask for supporting documentation to ensure fairness to other students.

Hard copies of take-home assignments must be turned in at the start of class on the due date. As with exams, extensions will only be granted in the event of unforeseen emergency. In the case of such an emergency, please let me know as soon as possible; in some cases, supporting documentation may be requested. Unsubstantiated requests for extensions will be denied summarily.

Academic Honesty. While I encourage students to discuss the course readings and assignments with each other, all written work must be done independently and not in collaboration with one another. All sources used in the preparation of written assignments must be cited, and both exams will be closed book, closed note, and closed Internet (no cell phones). All class activities must be performed in accordance with the University of Rochester's Academic Honesty Policy (<http://www.rochester.edu/honesty>). Under UR rules, I must report possible policy violations to the Board of Academic Honesty, and the penalties may be severe. If students are unsure whether they are using any resource 'fairly', they are welcome to discuss their concerns with me before submitting any written work.

Course Schedule

Note: Readings marked with a * are to be completed before coming to class. Please bring *all* the readings assigned for each day to class, since we will be discussing the readings in relation to each other. I reserve the right to make any changes to this syllabus throughout the semester as necessary.

Week 1: The Emergence and Evolution of Party Systems

May 16: Why Elections?

- Bernard Manin, Adam Przeworski and Susan C. Stokes. 1999. 'Elections and Representation,' *Democracy, Accountability, and Representation*, ch. 1.

May 17: Sociological Origins of Party Systems

- *Seymour M. Lipset and Stein Rokkan, 1967. 'Cleavage Structures, Party Systems, and Voter Alignments: An Introduction,' in *Party Systems and Voter Alignments: Cross-National Perspectives*, ch. 1.
- Ronald F. Inglehart. 2008. 'Changing Values among Western Publics from 1970 to 2006.' *West European Politics* 31(1-2): 130-146.

May 18: Institutional Origins of Party Systems I

- *Pippa Norris. 2002. 'Classifying Electoral Systems', in *Electoral Engineering: Voting Rules and Political Behavior*, ch. 2.
- Octavio A. Neto and Gary W. Cox. 1997. 'Electoral Institutions, Cleavage Structures and the Number of Parties.' *American Journal of Political Science* 41(1): 149-174.

May 19: Institutional Origins of Party Systems II

- *Arendt Lijphart. 1999. *Patterns of Democracy: Government Forms and Performance in Thirty-Six Countries*, ch. 7.
- Scott Mainwaring and Matthew S. Shugart. 1997. 'Presidentialism and the Party System', in *Presidentialism and Democracy in Latin America*, ch. 10.

We will start work on Assignment #1 in class today.

Week 2: Cleavage Voting and Party Systems

May 23: Class Voting in Industrial Democracies

Assignment #1 due in hard copy at start of class. Assignment #2 will be distributed in class.

- George Orwell. 1937. *The Road to Wigan Pier*, chs. 8-10.
- *Russell Dalton. 1996. 'Political Cleavages, Issues, and Electoral Change', in LeDuc, Niemi and Norris (eds.), *Comparing Democracies: Elections and Voting in Global Perspective*, ch. 13.
- Martin Elff. 2007. 'Social Structure and Electoral Behavior in Comparative Perspective: The Decline of Social Cleavages in Western Europe Revisited.' *Perspectives in Politics* 5(2): 277-294.

May 24: Ethnic Voting I

- *Paul Hainsworth. 2008. 'Success at the Polls: From Marginalisation to Ascendancy to Outcomes', in *The Extreme Right in Western Europe*, ch. 2.
- Daniel Oesch. 2008. 'Explaining Workers' Support for Right-Wing Populist Parties in Western Europe: Evidence from Austria, Belgium, France, Norway, and Switzerland.' *International Political Science Review* 29(3): 349-373.

May 25: Ethnic Voting II

- *Kanchan Chandra. 2012. 'What Is Ethnic Identity and Does It Matter?' *Annual Review of Political Science* 9: 397-424.
- Daniel Posner. 2005. *Institutions and Ethnic Politics in Africa*, ch. 4-5.

May 26: In-Class Midterm Exam

Assignment #3 will be distributed in class.

Week 3: Theories of Voting Behavior I

May 30: NO CLASS (Memorial Day)

May 31: Partisanship and Other Theories of Voting Behavior

Assignment #2 due in hard copy at start of class.

- *Harold D. Clarke et al. 2004. 'Theories and Models of Party Support', in *Political Choice in Britain*.
- Russell Dalton. 2005. 'The Decline of Party Identifications', in Dalton and Wattenberg (eds.), *Parties without Partisans: Political Change in Advanced Industrial Democracies*.

June 1: The Economic Vote

- *Michael S. Lewis-Beck and Mary Stegmaier. 2000. 'Economic Determinants of Electoral Outcomes.' *Annual Review of Political Science* 3: 183-219.
- Alberto Alesina et al. 1997. 'Political Cycles in the United States', in *Political Cycles and the Macroeconomy*, ch. 4.

June 2: Voting for Public Goods in Poor Democracies

- *Miriam Golden and Brian Min. 2013. 'Distributive Politics Around the World', in *Annual Review of Political Science* 16: 73-99.
- Robin Harding. 2015. 'Attribution and Accountability: Voting for Roads in Ghana.' *World Politics*, 67(4): 656-689.

Week 4: Theories of Voting Behavior II

June 6: In-Class Film Screening

Screening of 'Well Done Abba', directed by Shyam Benegal (India, 2009).

June 7: Vote-Buying

- *Frederic C. Shaffer & Andreas Schedler. 2007. 'What Is Vote Buying?' in Schaffer (ed.), *Elections for Sale: The Causes and Consequences of Vote Buying*, ch. 2.
- Valeria Brusco et al. 2004. 'Vote Buying in Argentina.' *Latin American Research Review* 39(2): 66-88.

June 8: Review Session

June 9: In-Class Final Exam.

Assignment #3 due in hard copy at start of class.