



# Comparative Political Economy

Seminar, 2<sup>nd</sup> term 2015-2016

Organised by **Pepper D. Culpepper** and **Philipp Genschel**

Please register [online](#)

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## Description

This seminar surveys the literature in the comparative political economy of the advanced capitalist countries. To what extent do differences in partisanship of institutional choice create fundamentally different models of democratic capitalism? What is the relative role of institutions, interest groups, and ideas in determining the different arrangements we find in the contemporary world? And which variables are most likely to influence the future direction of policy-making and institutional evolution in the advanced industrial societies? These are the major questions the course addresses.

The course also has a pragmatic goal: to familiarize you with literature that any scholar of political economy must know (the list is in that sense necessary but not sufficient, of course). Many of the course sessions are structured around reading a classic text and some of the pieces that develop the insights associated with these classic texts. By choosing to take this class you are taking on the obligation to do all the reading.

## Requirements

For each session, we ask students to post 2-3 questions about readings (or the relationship among the readings), with each question accompanied by an expository paragraph or two explaining the origin and context of the question. Over the course of the seminar, students must submit questions for 5 of the 10 course sessions (you may choose the sessions for which you post questions, though we ask you not to post questions for the first session). You are expected to post questions to the course webpage by 5 pm the previous day, and these guide our discussion in the next day's class. These brief 'question papers' are fundamental for the holding of a good discussion of the materials, as is a thorough reading of the assigned readings.

Writing a term paper is encouraged. Your term paper should draw on the literature covered in the course but go well beyond it. The goal of any term paper should be an eventually publishable article. Those who wish to write a term paper should submit it to us by email and in paper copy, with a cc to Adele Battistini.

This seminar is worth 20 credits.

## Schedule

The seminar takes place on **Tuesdays at 15:00-17:00**, in Seminar Room 2 in the Badia, and will run **from Thursday 12 January to Thursday 15 March**. The full list of the seminar sessions is the following:

Session 1:	Tuesday 12 January	15:00 – 17:00	Seminar Room 2
Session 2:	Tuesday 19 January	15:00 – 17:00	Seminar Room 2
Session 3:	Tuesday 26 January	15:00 – 17:00	Seminar Room 2
Session 4:	Tuesday 2 February	15:00 – 17:00	Seminar Room 2
Session 5:	Tuesday 9 February	15:00 – 17:00	Seminar Room 2
Session 6:	Tuesday 16 February	15:00 – 17:00	Seminar Room 2
Session 7:	Tuesday 23 February	15:00 – 17:00	Seminar Room 2
Session 8:	Tuesday 1 March	15:00 – 17:00	Seminar Room 2
Session 9:	Tuesday 8 March	15:00 – 17:00	Seminar Room 2
Session 10:	<b>Monday 14 March</b>	<b>10:00 – 12:00</b>	<b>Seminar Room 3</b>

## SYLLABUS

### 1. Introduction (Tuesday 12 January 2016)

Peter Hall, “The Role of Interests, Institutions and Ideas in the Political Economy of Industrialized Nations” In Lichbach and Zuckerman ed., *Comparative Politics: Rationality, Culture and Structure* (1997), pp. 174-207.

Peter Hall and David Soskice, eds, 2001, *Varieties of Capitalism*, pp. 1-68.

Pablo Beramendi, Silja Häusermann et al. 2015. “Introduction: The Politics of Advanced Capitalism” in Beramendi, P., Häusermann, S., et al. (eds.) *The Politics of Advanced Capitalism*. Cambridge: CUP, 1-64.

### 2. Coalitions in Political Economy (Tuesday 19 January 2016)

Peter Gourevitch. 1986. *Politics in Hard Times*. Cornell University Press.

Peter Swenson, 1991. “Bringing Capital Back In or Social Democracy Reconsidered,” *World Politics* 43(4), pp. 513-44.

Jeffrey A. Frieden (1991). “Invested Interests: The Politics of National Economic Policies in a World of Global Finance”. *International Organization* Autumn 1991, 425-451.

### 3. Welfare States and Social Policy Reform (Tuesday 26 January 2016)

Gösta Esping-Andersen. 1990. *The Three Worlds of Welfare Capitalism*.

Jacob S. Hacker, “Privatizing Risk without Privatizing the Welfare State: The Hidden Politics of Social Policy Retrenchment in the United States,” *The American Political Science Review*, Vol. 98, No. 2 (May, 2004), pp. 243-260.

Kathleen Thelen, “Varieties of Capitalism: Trajectories of Liberalization and the New Politics of Social Solidarity,” *Annual Review of Political Science*, 2012, 15, 137-159.

#### **4. Institutionalism and Capitalism (Tuesday 2 February 2016)**

Peter Katzenstein, *Small States in World Markets*, (Cornell University Press, 1985).

Hall, Peter and Taylor, Rosemary. (1996). "Political Science and the Three New Institutionalisms," *Political Studies* vol.44: 936-57.

Kathleen Thelen, 1999, "Historical Institutionalism in Comparative Politics." *Annual Review of Political Science*.

#### **5. Ideas in Politics and Policies (Tuesday 9 February 2016)**

Peter Hall, "Policy Paradigms, Social Learning, and the State," *Comparative Politics* 25:3, 1993.

Pepper D. Culpepper, "The Politics of Common Knowledge," *International Organization*, January 2008.

Blyth, Mark "The Transformation of the Swedish Model," *World Politics*, 2001.

Blyth et al, Chapter on 'Ideas and HI' for the Oxford Handbook of HI, forthcoming: available here <http://www.markblyth.com/wp-content/uploads/2014/07/Ideas-and-HI-Handbook-Chapter.pdf>

#### **6. Long Term Growth and Its Origins (Tuesday 16 February 2016)**

Acemoglu, Daron, Simon Johnson, and James A. Robinson (2005). "Institutions as a Fundamental Cause of Long-Run Growth." *Handbook of Economic Growth*.

North, Douglass C. And Barry R. Weingast, 1989. "Constitutions and Commitment: The Evolution of Institutional Governing Public Choice in Seventeenth-Century England," *The Journal of Economic History* 49, (December): 803-832.

David Stasavage. 2002. "Credible Commitment in Early Modern Europe: North and Weingast Revisited," *Journal of Law, Economics and Organization* 18(1): 155-186.

#### **7. Capitalism and Business Power (Tuesday 23 February 2016)**

Charles Lindblom, *Politics and Markets*, 1977, Basic Books, pp. 170-214 (Private Enterprise and Democracy).

Peter Bachrach and Morton Baratz, "Two Faces of Power," *American Political Science Review*, Volume 56, Issue 4 (Dec., 1962), 947-952.

Pepper D. Culpepper (2016), "Capitalism, Institutions, and Power in the Study of Business". In: Orfeo Fioretos, Tulia G. Falletti, and Adam Sheingate, eds., *Oxford Handbook of Historical Institutionalism*, in press 2016.

Jacob Hacker and Paul Pierson, "Business Power and Social Policy: Employers and the Formation of the American Welfare State," *Politics and Society* 30:2, June 2002.

Gilens, Martin, and Benjamin I. Page. (2014) “Testing theories of American politics: Elites, interest groups, and average citizens.” *Perspectives on Politics* 12.03: 564-581.

## **8. Inequality and Politics in Advanced Economies (Tuesday 1 March 2016)**

Pontusson, Jonas and Lane Kenworthy, ‘Rising Inequality and the Politics of Redistribution in Affluent Countries’, *Perspectives on Politics*, 2005.

Nolan McCarty and Jonas Pontusson. 2009. “The Political Economy of Inequality and Redistribution.” In *The Oxford Handbook of Economic Inequality*, Ed. by Wiemer Salverda. Oxford University Press, pp. 665-692.

Scheve, Kenneth and David Stasavage. “Institutions, Partisanship, and Inequality in the Long Run,” *World Politics*, 2009.

Evelyne Huber, Jingjing Huo and John Stephens. 2015. “Politics, Markets, and Top Income Shares.” Manuscript UNC (forthcoming *World Politics?*).

## **9. Inequality and Democratization (Tuesday 8 March 2016)**

Ben W. Ansell, David J. Samuels, *Inequality and democratization : an elite-competition approach*. New York: Cambridge University Press, 2014

Martin Ardanaz and Isabela Mares. 2014. “Labor Shortages, Rural Inequality, and Democratization” *Comparative Political Studies* 47:12: 1639-1669.

## **10. The Great Recession (Monday 14 March 2016)**

J. Lawrence Broz (2013). “Partisan Financial Cycles”. In Miles Kahler and David A. Lake (eds.) *Politics in the New Hard Times. The Great Recession in Comparative Perspective*. Ithaca: Cornell University Press.

Peter A. Hall (2013). “The Political Origins of Our Economic Discontents: Contemporary Adjustment Problems in Historical Perspective”. In Miles Kahler and David A. Lake (eds.) *Politics in the New Hard Times. The Great Recession in Comparative Perspective*. Ithaca: Cornell University Press.

Klaus Armingeon and Lucio Baccaro, (2012), “The Sorrows of Young Euro: The Sovereign Debt Crises of Ireland and Southern Europe,” in Nancy Bermeo and Jonas Pontusson, eds, *Coping with Crisis: Government Reactions to the Great Recession* (2012): 162-198.

Pepper D. Culpepper and Aidan Regan, (2014) “Why Don’t Governments Need Trade Unions Anymore? The Death of Social Pacts in Ireland and Italy.” *Socio-Economic Review* 12:4: 723-745.

Wolfgang Streeck (2014). “How will Capitalism end?” *New Left Review* 87 (3): 35-64

*Last updated 19.02.2016*