

## Field Course in Comparative Politics

Brightspace: <https://mycourses.eui.eu/d2l/home/16604>

First term seminar, 2025–26

11:00 – 13:00, Seminar room 2

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**Course Description:** The Field Course in Comparative Politics is designed to introduce graduate students to current topics of scholarly interest in the study of domestic politics in countries around the world. We survey a broad range of different literatures and issues. The course is not comprehensive but rather serves to introduce especially lively areas of research. We read materials that focus on contemporary countries in the world as well as some historical studies.

We have included one (or perhaps two) “big” readings each week, but have mainly oriented the syllabus towards readings that may represent inspirational examples of work on which to model your own research. This means that there are many important and perhaps even canonical readings that are not on the syllabus. For ideas about what these are, consult the comparative politics reading lists for graduate students at departments that require students to sit traditional comprehensive exams. Per departmental guidelines, each session has no more than 3–4 compulsory readings, with no additional compulsory readings for the final exam; any further readings are purely recommended.

We expect every student to be prepared to discuss any assigned reading each week. You may need to read some items more than once to be able to do that. Your goal should be to attend class prepared to summarize the main point(-s) of each reading as well as to be able to present a brief and accurate review of the approach, argument, and evidence

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— all in two to three minutes. If it takes you longer than that, you haven't mastered the material.

For guidance on how to approach the readings each week, see Macartan Humphrey's discussion.

Officially, the EUI allows you to miss two class meetings and still receive credit for the course, but we urge you to attend *all* sessions except in cases of severe illness. In addition to showing up, all students will be expected to participate actively in every class meeting, including but not limited to the "cold-call" oral summaries of the readings described above.

**Course Prerequisites:** There are no prerequisites for this course. Students from all years are encouraged to enroll.

**Course Objectives:** At the completion of this course, you will:

1. Be familiar with many major *questions* in the field of comparative politics.
2. Be familiar with important recent *studies* in comparative politics.
3. Be familiar with cutting-edge research *methods* used in the study of comparative politics.
4. Have acquired a *base of readings* that will allow you to begin to conduct independent research in comparative politics.

**Required readings:** You are responsible for locating all assigned reading materials. This serves as practice in developing research and library skills. Please let us know if you experience problems. Scanned copies of readings that are unavailable electronically will be posted on Brightspace. Note that the syllabus includes a long list of recommended readings for reference; however, you are only required to complete the readings listed as **required** each week. All recommended readings are optional and not mandatory for class discussion or the final exam.

**Requirements:** This course is graded pass/fail. To pass the course, you have two written requirements.

1. **Weekly response papers:** All students must submit a response paper on the required readings for each of the ten weeks. Each response paper should be approximately 200 words in length and engage with one or more of the required readings through reactions, questions, or critical commentary. **You will submit the response papers on Brightspace (not via email!).**
2. **Field examination:** Students taking the field exam in Comparative Politics will sit a day-long, 8-hour open-book written examination at the end of the term. This mirrors the comprehensive exams in most other graduate political science

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programs, except that you will be responsible only for the topics covered in this course and, within each topic, only for the required readings assigned. The exam is provisionally scheduled for Thursday, 18 December, 9:00–17:00, but may be moved to another day in the same week if any enrolled students have unmodifiable academic conflicts. You may take the exam anywhere, provided you submit your answers electronically with a timestamp within ten minutes of the deadline. During the exam, you will choose two questions (from a larger selection). Collaboration or discussion with anyone else is strictly prohibited. **The final exam is only mandatory for students taking the field exam in Comparative Politics, but not for students taking the course as an elective.**

### Course Policies:

- **General (for auditors as well as enrolled students)**

- Please come to class meetings each week **already having read** the assigned material.
- Please bring **written notes** to class summarizing each assigned reading, and be prepared to discuss every assigned reading.
- Research shows that **taking notes by hand** promotes learning. Please consider taking notes on the readings by hand. It will improve your mastery of the material.
- If you are auditing the course, please inform Jennifer, who can give you access to the course materials on Brightspace.

- **Credits and Requirements**

- In order to receive credit for the course, you must attend at least 8 of the 10 course meetings and submit all ten weekly response papers.
- Each response paper ( $\approx$  200 words) must be submitted to the designated Brightspace link before the start of the class meeting in which the corresponding readings are discussed.
- Students in Comparative Politics must also sit the field examination; timely submission of the exam (with a timestamp within ten minutes of the deadline) is required for course credit.

**Ethics:** All work you do will be held to the highest ethical and professional standards. You are encouraged to discuss readings amongst yourselves, but you must write your response papers and your final examination alone, and you may not discuss them with others as you work. Ethical violations will be reported to the appropriate departmental and university authorities.

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## SYLLABUS

### **Week One, 2 Oct:** Democracy and Democratization

*Instructor: Simon Hix*

#### *Required readings:*

Acemoglu, Daron and James A. Robinson. 2006. *Economic Origins of Dictatorship and Democracy*. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, chs. 2 and 6.

Dasgupta, Aditya and Daniel Ziblatt. 2022. "Capital Meets Democracy: The Impact of Franchise Extension on Sovereign Bond Markets." *American Journal of Political Science* 66(3): 630–647.

Berlinski, Samuel and Torun Dewan. 2011. "The Political Consequences of Franchise Extension: Evidence from the Second Reform Act." *Quarterly Journal of Political Science* 6(3–4): 329–376.

Kuran, Timur. 1991. "Now Out of Never: The Element of Surprise in the East European Revolution of 1989." *World Politics* 44(1): 7–48.

#### *Recommended readings:*

Adam Przeworski, Michael E. Alvarez, José Antonio Cheibub, and Fernando Limongi. 1990. *Democracy and Development: Political Institutions and Well-Being in the World, 1950–1990*. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, Chapters 1 and 2.

Boix, Carles and Susan Stokes. 2003. "Endogenous Democratization." *World Politics* 55(4): 517–549.

Boix, Carles. 2003. *Democracy and Redistribution*. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press.

Elkjaer, Mads Andres, and Torben Iversen. 2023. "The Democratic State and Redistribution: Whose Interests Are Served?." *American Political Science Review* 117(2): 391–406.

Ansell, Ben and David Samuels. 2010. "Inequality and Democratization: A Contractarian Approach." *Comparative Political Studies* 43(12) 1543–1685.

Teele, Dawn L. 2018. "How the West Was Won: Competition, Mobilization, and Women's Enfranchisement in the United States." *Journal of Politics* 80:2: 442–461.

Treisman, Daniel. 2020. "Democracy by Mistake: How the Errors of Autocrats Trigger Transitions to Freer Governments." *American Political Science Review* 114(3): 792–810.

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Ziblatt, Daniel. 2017. *Conservative Parties and the Birth of Democracy*. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press.

## **Week Two, 9 Oct: Non-Democratic and Electoral Authoritarian Regimes**

*Instructor: Simon Hix*

### *Required readings:*

Gandhi, Jennifer and Ellen Lust-Okar. 2009. "Elections Under Authoritarianism." *Annual Review of Political Science* 12: 403–422.

Mesquita, Bruce Bueno de, James D. Morrow, Randolph M. Siverson, and Alastair Smith. 1999. "Policy Failure and Political Survival: The Contribution of Political Institutions." *Journal of Conflict Resolution* 43(2): 147–161.

Kern, Holger Lutz, and Jens Hainmueller. 2009. "Opium for the Masses: How Foreign Media Can Stabilize Authoritarian Regimes." *Political Analysis* 17(4): 377–99.

King, Gary, Jennifer Pan and Margaret E Roberts. 2013. "How Censorship in China Allows Government Criticism but Silences Collective Expression." *American Political Science Review* 107(2): 1–18.

### *Recommended readings:*

Gandhi, Jennifer and Adam Przeworski. 2007. "Authoritarian Institutions and the Survival of Autocrats." *Comparative Political Studies* 40(11): 1279–1301.

Cheibub, José Antonio, Jennifer Gandhi and James Raymond Vreeland. 2010. "Democracy and Dictatorship Revisited." *Public Choice* 143(1-2): 67–101.

Gandhi, Jennifer, Ben Noble and Milan Svolik. 2020. "Legislatures and Legislative Politics Without Democracy." *Comparative Political Studies* 53(9): 1359–1379

Beazer, Quintin H. and Ora John Reuter. 2022. "Do Authoritarian Elections Help the Poor? Evidence from Russian Cities." *Journal of Politics* 84(1): 437–454.

Croke, Kevin, Guy Grossman, Horacio A. Larreguy, and John Marshall. 2016. "Deliberate Disengagement: How Education Can Decrease Political Participation in Electoral Authoritarian Regimes." *American Political Science Review* 110(3): 579–600.

Magaloni, Beatriz. 2006. *Voting for Autocracy: Hegemonic Party Survival and Its Demise in Mexico*. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press.

Mwenda, Andrew. 2007. "Personalizing Power in Uganda." *Journal of Democracy* 18(3): 23–28.

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## Week Three, 16 Oct: Democratic Backsliding

*Instructor: Sascha Riaz*

*Required readings:*

Grillo, Edoardo, Zhaotian Luo, Monika Nalepa, and Carlo Prato. "Theories of Democratic Backsliding." *Annual Review of Political Science* 27 (2024): 381–400.

Gidron, Noam, Yotam Margalit, Lior Sheffer, and Itamar Yakir. "Why masses support democratic backsliding." *American Journal of Political Science* (2025).

Graham, Matthew H., and Milan W. Svolik. "Democracy in America? Partisanship, Polarization, and the Robustness of Support for Democracy in the United States." *American Political Science Review* 114(2) (2020): 392–409.

Treisman, Daniel. "How Great Is the Current Danger to Democracy? Assessing the Risk With Historical Data." *Comparative Political Studies* 56(12) (2023): 1924–52.

*Recommended readings:*

Acemoglu, Daron, James A. Robinson, and Ragnar Torvik. "Why Do Voters Dismantle Checks and Balances." *The Review of Economic Studies* 80(3) (2013): 845–75.

Ahmed, Amel. "Is the American Public Really Turning Away from Democracy? Backsliding and the Conceptual Challenges of Understanding Public Attitudes." *Perspectives on Politics* 21(3) (2023): 967–78.

Bartels, Larry M. "Democracy Erodes from the Top: Leaders, Citizens, and the Challenge of Populism in Europe." *Princeton University Press* (2023).

Bermeo, Nancy. "Ordinary People in Extraordinary Times: The Citizenry and the Breakdown of Democracy." *Princeton University Press* (2003).

Bursztyn, Leonardo, Georgy Egorov, and Stefano Fiorin. "From Extreme to Mainstream: The Erosion of Social Norms." *American Economic Review* 110(11) (2020): 3522–48.

Capoccia, Giovanni. "Defending Democracy – Reactions to Extremism in Interwar Europe." *Johns Hopkins University Press* (2005).

Chiopris, Caterina, Monika Nalepa, and Georg Vanberg. "A Wolf in Sheep's Clothing: Citizen Uncertainty and Democratic Backsliding." *The Journal of Politics* (2025).

Cinar, Ipek, and Monika Nalepa. "Mass or Elite Polarization as the Driver of Authoritarian Backsliding? Evidence from 14 Polish Surveys (2005–2021)." *Journal of Political*

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*Institutions and Political Economy* 3(3-4) (2022): 433–48.

Claassen, Christopher. “Does Public Support Help Democracy Survive?.” *American Journal of Political Science* 64(1) (2020): 118–34.

Claassen, Christopher, Kathrin Ackermann, Eri Bertsou, Lucas Borba, Ryan E. Carlin, Amnon Cavari, Sirianne Dahlum, et al. “Conceptualizing and Measuring Support for Democracy: A New Approach.” *Comparative Political Studies* 58(6) (2025): 1171–98.

Gamboa, Laura. “Resisting Backsliding: Opposition Strategies against the Erosion of Democracy.” *Cambridge University Press* (2022).

Gratton, Gabriele, and Barton E. Lee. “Liberty, Security, and Accountability: The Rise and Fall of Illiberal Democracies.” *The Review of Economic Studies* 91(1) (2024): 340–71.

Grillo, Edoardo, and Carlo Prato. “Reference Points and Democratic Backsliding.” *American Journal of Political Science* 67, no. 1 (2023): 71–88.

Haggard, Stephan, and Robert R. Kaufman. “Backsliding: Democratic Regress in the Contemporary World.” *Cambridge University Press* (2021).

Helmke, Gretchen, Mary Kroeger, and Jack Paine. “Democracy by Deterrence: Norms, Constitutions, and Electoral Tilting.” *American Journal of Political Science* 66(2) (2022): 434–50.

Invernizzi, Giovanna M., and Michael M. Ting. “Institutions and Political Restraint.” *American Journal of Political Science* 68(1) (2024): 58–71.

Jacob, Marc S. “Citizens as a Democratic Safeguard? The Sequence of Sanctioning Elite Attacks on Democracy.” *American Journal of Political Science* 69, no. 2 (April 2025): 455–470.

Knutsen, Carl Henrik, Kyle L. Marquardt, Brigitte Seim, Michael Coppedge, Amanda B. Edgell, Juraj Medzihorsky, Daniel Pemstein, et al. “Conceptual and Measurement Issues in Assessing Democratic Backsliding.” *PS: Political Science & Politics* 57(2) (2024): 162–77.

Krishnarajan, Suthan. “Rationalizing Democracy: The Perceptual Bias and (Un)Democratic Behavior.” *American Political Science Review* 117(2) (2023): 474–96.

Levitsky, Steven, and Daniel Ziblatt. “How Democracies Die.” *Crown* (2018).

Little, Andrew T., and Anne Meng. “Measuring Democratic Backsliding.” *PS: Political Science & Politics* 57(2) (2024): 149–61.

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Little, Andrew T., Keith E. Schnakenberg, and Ian R. Turner. "Motivated Reasoning and Democratic Accountability." *American Political Science Review* 116, no. 2 (2022): 1-17.

Luo, Zhaotian, and Adam Przeworski. "Democracy and Its Vulnerabilities: Dynamics of Democratic Backsliding." *Quarterly Journal of Political Science* 18(1) (2023): 105–30.

Mazepus, Honorata, and Dimiter Toshkov. "Standing up for Democracy? Explaining Citizens' Support for Democratic Checks and Balances." *Comparative Political Studies* 55, no. 4 (2021): 1-27.

Miller, Michael K. "A Republic, If You Can Keep It: Breakdown and Erosion in Modern Democracies." *The Journal of Politics* 83(1) (2021): 198–213.

Şaşmaz, Aytuğ, Alper H. Yagci, and Daniel Ziblatt. "How Voters Respond to Presidential Assaults on Checks and Balances: Evidence from a Survey Experiment in Turkey." *Comparative Political Studies* (2022).

Svolik, Milan W. "Voting Against Autocracy." *World Politics* 75(4) (2023): 647–91.

Wallace-Goodman, Sara. "Citizenship in Hard Times: How Ordinary People Respond to Democratic Threat." *Cambridge University Press* (2022).

## **Week Four, 23 Oct: Parties and Voting Behaviour**

*Instructor: Simon Hix*

*Required readings:*

Ford, Robert and Will Jennings. 2020. "The Changing Cleavage Politics of Western Europe." *Annual Review of Political Science* 23(1): 295–314.

Turnbull-Dugarte, S. J., Bailey, J., Devine, D., Dickson, Z., Hobolt, S. B., Jennings, W., ... Lawall, K. (2025, September 1). Accommodating the Radical Right: The Electoral Costs for Social Democratic Parties. [https://doi.org/10.31235/osf.io/zbmp3\\_v1](https://doi.org/10.31235/osf.io/zbmp3_v1)

Cremaschi, Simone, Paula Rettl, Marco Cappelluti and Catherine E. De Vries. 2024. "Geographies of Discontent: Public Service Deprivation and the Rise of the Far Right in Italy." *American Journal of Political Science*, forthcoming.

Acemoglu, Daron, Giuseppe De Feo, Giacomo De Luca and Gianluca Russo. 2022. "War, Socialism, and the Rise of Fascism: an Empirical Exploration." *Quarterly Journal of Economics* 137(2) 1233–1296.

*Recommended readings:*



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Kriesi, Hanspeter, Edgar Grande, Romain Lachat, Martin Dolezal, Simon Bornschier and Timotheos Frey. 2006. "Globalization and the Transformation of the National Political Space: Six European Countries Compared." *European Journal of Political Research* 45(6): 921—956.

Evans, Geoffrey and James Tilley. 2012. "The Depoliticization of Inequality and Redistribution: Explaining the Decline of Class Voting." *Journal of Politics* 74(4): 963—976.

Hooghe, Liesbet and Gary Marks. 2018. "Cleavage Theory Meets Europe's Crises: Lipset, Rokkan, and the Transnational Cleavage." *Journal of European Public Policy* 25(1): 109—135.

Hooghe, Liesbet, Gary Marks, and Jonne Kamphorst. 2025. "Field of Education and Political Behavior: Predicting GAL/TAN Voting." *American Political Science Review* 119(2): 794—811.

Abou-Chadi, Tarik and Simon Hix. 2021. "Brahmin Left versus Merchant Right? Education, Class, Multiparty Competition, and Redistribution in Western Europe." *British Journal of Sociology* 72(1): 79—92.

Bolet, Diane. 2021. "Drinking Alone: Local Socio-Cultural Degradation and Radical Right Support—The Case of British Pub Closures." *Comparative Political Studies* 54(9): 1653—1692.

Thau, Mads. 2021. "The Social Divisions of Politics: How Parties' Group-Based Appeals Influence Social Group Differences in Vote Choice" *Journal of Politics* 83(2): 675—688.

Dassonneville, Ruth. 2022. *Voters Under Pressure: Group-Based Cross-Pressure and Electoral Volatility*. Oxford: Oxford University Press, chs. 1–2 and 11.

Lindvall, Johannes. 2017. "Economic Downturns and Political Competition Since the 1870s." *Journal of Politics* 79(4) 1302–1314.

Dewan, Torun, Jaakko Meriläinen and Janne Tukiainen. 2020. "Victorian Voting: The Origins of Party Orientation and Class Alignment." *American Journal of Political Science* 64(4) 869–886.

Aldrich, John H. 2011 *Why Parties? A Second Look*. Chicago, IL: University of Chicago Press.

Miller, Gary and Norman Schofield. 2003. "Activists and Partisan Realignment in the United States." *American Political Science Review* 97(2) 245–260.

McCarty, Nolan, Keith T. Poole and Howard Rosenthal. 2008. *Polarized America: The Dance of Ideology and Unequal Riches*. Cambridge, MA: MIT Press.

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Benedetto, Giacomo, Simon Hix and Nicola Mastrorocco. 2020. "The Rise and Fall of Social Democracy, 1918-2017." *American Political Science Review* 114(3) 928–939.

De Vries, Catherine E. and Sara B. Hobolt. 2020. *Political Entrepreneurs: The Rise of Challenger Parties in Europe*. Princeton, NJ: Princeton University Press.

Adams, James, Michael Clark, Lawrence Ezrow and Garrett Glasgow. 2004. "Understanding Change and Stability in Party Ideologies: Do Parties Respond to Public Opinion or to Past Election Results?" *British Journal of Political Science* 34(4) 589–610.

Meguid, Bonnie M. 2005. "Competition Between Unequals: The Role of Mainstream Party Strategy in Niche Party Success." *American Political Science Review* 99(3) 347–359.

Pardos-Prado, Sergi. 2015. "How Can Mainstream Parties Prevent Niche Party Success? Center-Right Parties and the Immigration Issue." *Journal of Politics* 77(2) 352–367.

Kitschelt, Herbert. 1993. "Class Structure and Social Democratic Party Strategy." *British Journal of Political Science* 23(3) 299–337.

Abou-Chadi, Tarik and Markus Wagner. 2019. "The Electoral Appeal of Party Strategies in Post-Industrial Societies: When Can the Mainstream Left Succeed?" *Journal of Politics* 81(4) 1405–1419.

Abou-Chadi, Tarik and Lukas Stoetzer. 2020. "How Parties React to Voter Transitions." *American Political Science Review* 114(3) 940–945.

## **Week Five, 30 Oct: Participation and Voter Turnout**

*Instructors: Filip Kostelka, Simon Hix*

*Required readings:*

Persson, Mikael. 2015. "Education and Political Participation." *British Journal of Political Science* 45(3) 689–703.

Kostelka, Filip and André Blais. 2021. "The Generational and Institutional Sources of the Global Decline in Voter Turnout." *World Politics* 73(4): 629–667.

Holbein, John B., Marcos A. Rangel, Rael Moore, and Michelle Croft. 2023. "Is Voting Transformative? Expanding and Meta-Analyzing the Evidence." *Political Behavior* 45(3): 1015–1044.

Dahlggaard, Jens Olav, Jonas Hedegaard Hansen, Kasper M. Hansen, and Yosef Bhatti.

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2019. “Bias in Self-Reported Voting and How It Distorts Turnout Models: Disentangling Nonresponse Bias and Overreporting Among Danish Voters.” *Political Analysis* 27(4): 590—598.

*Recommended readings:*

*Turnout*

Blais, André. 2000. *To Vote or Not to Vote?: The Merits and Limits of Rational Choice Theory*. Pittsburgh, PA: University of Pittsburgh Press, Introduction and Conclusion.

Blais, André. 2006. “What Affects Voter Turnout?” *Annual Review of Political Science* 9(1): 111–125.

Coppock, Alexander and Donald P. Green. 2016. “Is Voting Habit Forming? New Evidence from Experiments and Regression Discontinuities.” *American Journal of Political Science* 60(4): 1044–1062.

Chapter 7 (“Is Voting a Habit?”) in Blais, André, and Jean-François Daoust. 2020. *The Motivation to Vote: Explaining Electoral Participation*. Vancouver: UBC Press.

Kostelka, Filip. 2017. “Does Democratic Consolidation Lead to a Decline in Voter Turnout? Global Evidence Since 1939.” *American Political Science Review* 111(4): 653–667.

Lindgren, Karl-Oskar, Sven Oskarsson and Mikael Persson. 2019. “Enhancing Electoral Equality: Can Education Compensate for Family Background Differences in Voting Participation?” *American Political Science Review* 113(1): 108–122.

Dehdari, Sirus H., Karl-Oskar Lindgren, Sven Oskarsson, and Kåre Vernby. 2022. “The Ex-Factor: Examining the Gendered Effect of Divorce on Voter Turnout.” *American Political Science Review* 116(4): 1293–1308.

Bol, Damien, and Ria Ivandic. 2022. “Does the Number of Candidates Increase Turnout? Causal Evidence from Two-Round Elections.” *Political Behavior* 44(4): 2005—2026.

Kostelka, Filip, Eva Krejčová, Nicolas Sauger and Alexander Wuttke. 2023. “Election Frequency and Voter Turnout.” *Comparative Political Studies*, 00104140231169020. <https://doi.org/10.1177/00104140231169020>.

Kostelka, Filip. 2025. “Understanding Voter Fatigue: Election Frequency and Electoral Abstention Approval.” *British Journal of Political Science* 55: e85.

Weinschenk, Aaron C. and Christopher T. Dawes. 2022. “Civic Education in High School and Voter Turnout in Adulthood.” *British Journal of Political Science* 52(2): 934—948.

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Ahn, Chloe and Diana C. Mutz. 2023. "The Effects of Polarized Evaluations on Political Participation: Does Hating the Other Side Motivate Voters?" *Public Opinion Quarterly* 87(2): 243–266.

Geys, Benny, and Rune J. Sørensen. 2025. "The Causal Effect of Affluence on Voter Turnout: New Evidence from Lottery Winnings." *British Journal of Political Science* 55: e7.

Brännlund, Anton, and Rafael Ahlskog. 2025. "Do the Rich Ditch Politics? Evidence from Sweden." *Electoral Studies* 96: 102966.

## **Week Six, 6 Nov: Electoral Systems and Parliaments**

*Instructor: Simon Hix*

### *Required readings:*

Fiva, Jon and Simon Hix. 2021. "Electoral Reform and Strategic Coordination." *British Journal of Political Science* 51(4) 1782–1791.

Iversen, Torben and David Soskice. 2006. "Electoral Institutions and the Politics of Coalitions: Why Some Democracies Redistribute More Than Others." *American Political Science Review* 100(2) 165–181.

Tsebelis George. 1999. "Veto Players and Law Production in Parliamentary Democracies: An Empirical Analysis." *American Political Science Review* 93(3) 591–608.

Motolinia, Lucia, 2021. "Electoral Accountability and Particularistic Legislation: Evidence from an Electoral Reform in Mexico." *American Political Science Review* 115(1): 97–113.

### *Recommended readings:*

Bormann, Nils-Christian and Matt Golder. 2022. "Democratic Electoral Systems Around the World, 1946–2020." *Electoral Studies* 78: 102487.

Carey, John M. and Matthew S. Shugart. 1995. "Incentives to Cultivate a Personal Vote: A Rank Ordering of Electoral Formulas." *Electoral Studies* 14(4): 417–439.

Abramson, Paul R., John H. Aldrich, André Blais, Matthew Diamond, Abraham Diskin, Indridi H. Indridason, Daniel J. Lee, and Renan Levine. 2009. "Comparing Strategic Voting Under FPTP and PR." *Comparative Political Studies* 43(1) 61–90.

Li, Yuhui and Matthew S. Shugart. 2016. "The Seat Product Model of the Effective Number of Parties: A Case for Applied Political Science." *Electoral Studies* 41(1) 23–34.

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Huber, John D. 2012. "Measuring Ethnic Voting: Do Proportional Electoral Laws Politicize Ethnicity?" *American Journal of Political Science* 56(4) 986–1001.

Boix, Carles. 1999. "Setting the Rules of the Game: The Choice of Electoral Systems in Advanced Democracies." *American Political Science Review* 93(3) 609–624.

Carey, John M. and Simon Hix. 2011. "The Electoral Sweet Spot: Low-Magnitude Proportional Electoral Systems." *American Journal of Political Science* 55(2) 383–397.

Huber, John D. 1996. "The Vote of Confidence in Parliamentary Democracies." *American Political Science Review* 90(2) 269–282.

Hix, Simon and Abdul Noury. 2016. "Government-Opposition or Left-Right? The Institutional Determinants of Voting in Legislatures." *Political Science Research and Methods* 4(2) 249–273.

Carey, John. 2007. "Competing Principals, Political Institutions, and Party Unity in Legislative Voting." *American Journal of Political Science* 51(1) 92–107.

Dewan, Torun and Arthur Spirling. 2011. "Strategic Opposition and Government Cohesion in Westminster Democracies." *American Political Science Review* 105(2) 337–358.

Benedetto, Giacomo and Simon Hix. 2007. "The Rejected, the Ejected, and the Dejected: Explaining Government Rebels in the 2001-2005 British House of Commons." *Comparative Political Studies* 40(7) 755–778.

## **Week Seven, 13 Nov: Inequality and Redistribution**

*Instructor: David Rueda, Sascha Riaz*

*Required readings:*

Iversen, Torben and David Soskice. 2001. "An Asset Theory of Social Policy Preferences," *American Political Science Review* 95:875-893.

David Rueda and Daniel Stegmueller. 2019. *Who Wants What? Redistribution Preferences in Comparative Perspective*. New York: Cambridge University Press. Chapters 1 and 8 (rest of the book recommended).

Charlotte Cavaillé, 2024, "Fairness Reasoning and Demand for Redistribution," in Noam Lupu and Jonas Pontusson (eds), *Unequal Democracies*, CUP.

Shayo, Moses. 2009. "A Model of Social Identity with an Application to Political Economy: Nation, Class, and Redistribution." *American Political Science Review* 103 (2): 147-74.

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*Recommended readings:*

Piketty, Thomas, and Emmanuel Saez. "Inequality in the Long Run." *Science* 344, no. 6186 (2014): 838-843.

Alesina, Alberto, Armando Miano, and Stefanie Stantcheva. "Immigration and Redistribution." *The Review of Economic Studies* 90, no. 1 (2023): 1-39.

Golden, Miriam, and Brian Min. "Distributive politics around the world." *Annual Review of Political Science* 16, no. 1 (2013): 73-99.

Alesina, Alberto, and Edward Ludwig Glaeser. *Fighting Poverty in the US and Europe: A World of Difference*. Oxford University Press, USA, 2004.

Hall, Peter A., and David Soskice. *Varieties of Capitalism*. Oxford: Oxford University Press, 2001, pp. 1-68.

Holland, Alisha C. "Forebearance." *American Political Science Review* 110, no. 2 (2016): 232-246.

Iversen, T. and Soskice, D., 2006. Electoral institutions and the politics of coalitions: Why some democracies redistribute more than others. *American political science review*, 100(2), pp.165-181.

Levi, Margaret. *Of Rule and Revenue*. Berkeley: University of California, 1988.

Melzer, Allan H., and Scott F. Richard. "A Rational Theory of the Size of Government." *Journal of Political Economy* 89, no. 5 (1981): 914-927. (focus on first three pages)

Scheve, Kenneth, and David Stasavage. "The Conscription of Wealth: Mass Warfare and the Demand for Progressive Taxation." *International Organization* 64 (2010): 529-561.

Scheve, Kenneth, and Theo Serlin. "The German Trade Shock and the Rise of the Neo-Welfare State in Early Twentieth-Century Britain." *American Political Science Review* 117, no. 2 (2023): 557-574.

Scheve, Kenneth, and David Stasavage. "Democracy, War, and Wealth: Lessons from Two Centuries of Inheritance Taxation." *American Political Science Review* 106, no. 1 (2012): 81-102.

## **Week Eight, 20 Nov: Polarization**

*Instructors: Sascha Riaz*

*Required readings:*

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Iyengar, S., Lelkes, Y., Levendusky, M., Malhotra, N. and Westwood, S.J., 2019. The origins and consequences of affective polarization in the United States. *Annual review of political science*, 22(1), pp.129-146.

Iyengar, Shanto, and Sean J. Westwood. "Fear and loathing across party lines: New evidence on group polarization." *American Journal of Political Science* 59, no. 3 (2015): 690-707.

Dias, Nicholas and Yphtach Lelkes. 2022. "The Nature of Affective Polarization: Disentangling Policy Disagreement from Partisan Identity." *American Journal of Political Science* 66: 775-790.

Fishkin, James, Alice Siu, Larry Diamond and Norman Bradburn, 2021. "Is Deliberation an Antidote to Extreme Partisan Polarization? Reflections on 'America in One Room.'" *American Political Science Review* 115: 1464–81.

*Recommended readings:*

Autor, David, David Dorn, Gordon Hanson, and Kaveh Majlesi. 2020. "Importing Political Polarization? The Electoral Consequences of Rising Trade Exposure." *American Economic Review* 110: 3139–83.

Bischof, Daniel, and Markus Wagner. "Do voters polarize when radical parties enter parliament?" *American Journal of Political Science* 63, no. 4 (2019): 888-904.

Boxell, Levi, Matthew Gentzkow, and Jesse M. Shapiro. "Cross-country trends in affective polarization." *Review of Economics and Statistics* (2024): 1-9.

Draca, M., & Schwarz, C. (2024). How polarised are citizens? Measuring ideology from the ground up. *The Economic Journal*.

Druckman, J. N., Klar, S., Krupnikov, Y., Levendusky, M., & Ryan, J. B. (2022). (Mis)estimating affective polarization. *The Journal of Politics*, 84(2), 1106-1117.

Reiljan, A., Garzia, D., Da Silva, F. F., & Trechsel, A. H. (2024). Patterns of affective polarization toward parties and leaders across the democratic world. *American Political Science Review*, 118(2), 654-670.

Mason, L. (2018). *Uncivil agreement: How politics became our identity*. University of Chicago Press.

Broockman, David E., and Joshua L. Kalla. "Consuming cross-cutting media causes learning and moderates attitudes: A field experiment with Fox News viewers." *The Journal of Politics* (forthcoming). <https://www.journals.uchicago.edu/doi/10.1086/730725>

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Holliday, Derek E., Shanto Iyengar, Yphtach Lelkes, and Sean J. Westwood. "Uncommon and nonpartisan: Antidemocratic attitudes in the American public." *Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences* 121, no. 13 (2024): e2313013121.

Hübscher, Evelyne, Thomas Sattler, and Markus Wagner. "Does austerity cause polarization?" *British Journal of Political Science* 53, no. 4 (2023): 1170-1188.

Budak, C., Nyhan, B., Rothschild, D.M., Thorson, E. and Watts, D.J., 2024. Misunderstanding the harms of online misinformation. *Nature*, 630(8015), pp.45-53.

Garzia, Diego, Frederico Ferreira da Silva, and Simon Maye. "Affective polarization in comparative and longitudinal perspective." *Public Opinion Quarterly* 87, no. 1 (2023): 219-231.

Jost, John T., Delia S. Baldassarri, and James N. Druckman. "Cognitive-motivational mechanisms of political polarization in social-communicative contexts." *Nature Reviews Psychology* 1, no. 10 (2022): 560-576.

Valentim, Vicente. *The Normalization of the Radical Right: A Norms Theory of Political Supply and Demand*. Oxford: Oxford University Press, forthcoming.

## **Week Nine, 27 Nov: Nationalism**

*Instructors: Elias Dinas, Sascha Riaz*

Required readings shown with asterisk (\*).

### *Core Definitions*

- Renan, Ernest. 1995 [1882]. "What is a Nation?" in Omar Dahbour and Micheline R. Ishay (eds) *The Nationalism Reader*. Atlantic Highlands, NJ: Humanities Press, pp. 143-155.

### *Origins, Spread, and Persistence*

- \* Gellner, Ernest. 2006. *Nations and Nationalism*, pp. 1-7, 19-61, 131-136.
- Weber, Eugen. 1976. *Peasants into Frenchmen*, Stanford, CA: Stanford University Press. Chapters 6, 27, 29.
- Robinson, Amanda. "National versus ethnic identification in Africa: Modernization, colonial legacy, and the origins of territorial nationalism". *World Politics*. 2014;66(4):709-746.



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- Eric Hobsbawm, "The Social Formation of the Past: Some Questions" *Past and Present*, no. 55 (May, 1972), pp. 3 – 17.
  - \* Anderson, Benedict. 1991. *Imagined Communities: Reflections on the Origin and Spread of Nationalism*. London: Verso, p. 5-7, Ch. 3, 5.
  - Karl W. Deutsch. 1961. "Social Mobilization and Political Development," *The American Political Science Review*, Vol. 55, No. 3: 493-514.
  - Posner, Dan. "The Colonial Origins of Ethnic Cleavages: The Case of Linguistic Divisions in Zambia," *Comparative Politics* 35, 2 (January 2003), pp. 127-146.
  - Balcells, Laia. 2013. Mass schooling and Catalan nationalism. *Nationalism and Ethnic Politics*, 19(4), pp.467-486.
  - Darden, Keith A. Forthcoming. *Resisting Occupation: Mass Schooling and the Creation of Durable National Loyalties*. New York: Cambridge University Press. (Chapter 1)
  - Michalopoulos, Stelios. 2012. "The Origins of Ethnolinguistic Diversity," *American Economic Review*, 102(4): 1508-39.

### *Consequences*

- \* Shayo, Moses. "A model of social identity with an application to political economy: Nation, class, and redistribution." *American Political Science Review* (2009): 147-174.
- Bulutgil, Zeynep. 2015. "Social cleavages, wartime experience, and ethnic cleansing in Europe," *Journal of Peace Research*, Volume: 52.5: 577-590.
- Akerlof, George A., and Rachel E. Kranton. "Economics and identity." *The quarterly journal of economics* 115.3 (2000): 715-753.
- Wimmer, Andreas, Lars-Erik Cederman, and Brian Min. 2009. "Ethnic politics and armed conflict: A configurational analysis of a new global data set." *American Sociological Review* 74.2: 316-337.

## **Week Ten, 4 Dec: Immigration**

*Instructor: Sascha Riaz*

*Required readings:*

Hainmueller, Jens, and Daniel J. Hopkins. "Public Attitudes Toward Immigration." *Annual Review of Political Science* 17 (2014): 225-249.

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Choi, Donghyun Danny, Mathias Poertner, and Nicholas Sambanis. "Parochialism, social norms, and discrimination against immigrants." *Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences* 116, no. 33 (2019): 16274-16279.

Alrababa'h, Ala', William Marble, Salma Mousa, and Alexandra A. Siegel. "Can exposure to celebrities reduce prejudice? The effect of Mohamed Salah on Islamophobic behaviors and attitudes." *American Political Science Review* 115, no. 4 (2021): 1111-1128.

Dancygier, Rafaela, Naoki Egami, Amaney Jamal, and Ramona Rischke. "Hate crimes and gender imbalances: fears over mate competition and violence against refugees." *American Journal of Political Science* 66, no. 2 (2022): 501-515.

*Recommended readings:*

Alrababah, A., Beerli, A., Hangartner, D., & Ward, D. (2024). The Free Movement of People and the Success of Far-Right Parties: Evidence from Switzerland's Border Liberalization. *American Political Science Review*, 1-20.

Abdelgadir, Aala, and Vasiliki Fouka. "Political Secularism and Muslim Integration in the West: Assessing the Effects of the French Headscarf Ban." *American Political Science Review* 114, no. 3 (2020): 707-723.

Bansak, K., J. Hainmueller, and D. Hangartner. "How Economic, Humanitarian, and Religious Concerns Shape European Attitudes Toward Asylum Seekers." *Science* 354(6309) (2016): 217-22.

Charnysh, Volha. "Diversity, institutions, and economic outcomes: Post-WWII displacement in Poland." *American Political Science Review* 113, no. 2 (2019): 423-441.

Dancygier, Rafaela M. *Dilemmas of Inclusion: Muslims in European Politics*. Princeton University Press, 2018.

Fouka, Vasiliki, and Marco Tabellini. "Changing In-Group Boundaries: The Effect of Immigration on Race Relations in the United States." *American Political Science Review* 116, no. 3 (2022): 968-984.

Fouka, Vasiliki, Soumyajit Mazumder, and Marco Tabellini. "From Immigrants to Americans: Race and Assimilation During the Great Migration." *The Review of Economic Studies* 89, no. 2 (2022): 811-842.

Hangartner, Dominik, Elias Dinas, Moritz Marbach, Konstantinos Matakos, and Dimitrios Xefteris. "Does Exposure to the Refugee Crisis Make Natives More Hostile?" *American Political Science Review* 113, no. 2 (2019): 442-455.

Hopkins, Daniel J., John Sides, and Jack Citrin. "The Muted Consequences of Correct

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Information About Immigration.” *The Journal of Politics* 81, no. 1 (2019): 315-320.

Hopkins, Daniel J. “Politicized Places: Explaining Where and When Immigrants Provoke Local Opposition.” *American Political Science Review* 104, no. 1 (2010): 40-60.

Kustov, Alexander, Dillon Laaker, and Cassidy Reller. “The Stability of Immigration Attitudes: Evidence and Implications.” *The Journal of Politics* 83, no. 4 (2021): 1478-1494.

Mayda, Anna Maria. “International Migration: A Panel Data Analysis of the Determinants of Bilateral Flows.” *Journal of Population Economics* 23(4) (2010): 1249–74.

Maxwell, Rahsaan. “Cosmopolitan Immigration Attitudes in Large European Cities: Contextual or Compositional Effects?” *American Political Science Review* 113, no. 2 (2019): 456-474.

Scheve, Kenneth F., and Matthew J. Slaughter. “Labor Market Competition and Individual Preferences Over Immigration Policy.” *The Review of Economics and Statistics* 83(1) (2001): 133–45.