

SYLLABUS – SPRING 2016

Professor Dylan Riley
Political Sociology, Soc 140.
Time: Tuesdays and Thursdays 3:30–5:00
Venue: 2 Leconte
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Office Hours:

Course Description

Sociology 140 offers an introduction to political sociology. It focuses on two key questions: how should we explain the emergence of the "modern state" and how should we understand the various political regimes through which these states are governed? Students are introduced to three classic perspectives on these issues: Marxism, the Tocquevillian approach, analytic elitism, and governmentality. The second half of the class examines some empirical work that uses one or a combination of these approaches.

Assessment:

Course Participation: 10%
Mini Exams (3): 30%
Mid Term: 25%
Final Exam: 35%

Course Requirements

Students are required to attend and participate in class and do all the readings. I will pass out a sign in sheet at the beginning of every class. You will receive points toward this portion of your grade if you sign the sign-in sheet and demonstrate preparation for the class. The mini exams each count for 10% of the grade, the midterm 25% and the final 35%.

I do not give make-up examinations nor do I give incompletes except in medical emergencies and only with a doctor's note.

Course Materials

Anderson, Perry. *Lineages of the Absolutist State*.
Burchell, Graham, Colin Gordon and Peter Miller. *The Foucault Effect*.
De Tocqueville, Alexis. *Democracy in America*.
Durkheim, Emile. *Professional Ethics and Civic Morals*.
Engels, Friedrich. *The Origin of the Family, Private Property and the State*.
Gorski, Philip S. *The Disciplinary Revolution: Calvinism and the Rise of the State in Early Modern Europe*.
Lenin, Vladimir Il'ich. *The Lenin Anthology*.
Marx, Karl. *Later Political Writings*.

Moore, Barrington. *Social Origins of Dictatorship and Democracy: Lord and Peasant in the Making of the Modern World*.
Mosca, Gaetano. *The Ruling Class*.
Putnam, Robert D. *Making Democracy Work*.
Schumpeter, Joseph A. *Capitalism, Socialism and Democracy*.
Skocpol, Theda. *States & Social Revolutions: A Comparative Analysis of France, Russia, and China*.
Tilly, Charles. *Coercion, Capital, and European States*.
Weber, Max. *From Max Weber*.

Marxism

January 19

Marx, Karl. "Manifesto of the Communist Party." Pp. 1–30 in *Marx Later Political Writings* (Hereafter *MLPW*).

January 21

Marx, Karl. "The Eighteenth Brumaire of Louis Bonaparte." Pp. 31–127 in *MLPW*.

January 26

Engels, Friedrich. "Chapter IX: Barbarism and Civilization." Pp. 142–153, 195–217 in *The Family, Private Property and the State*.

January 28

Lenin, V.I. *The State and Revolution*. Pp. 311–398 in *The Lenin Anthology*. Edited by Robert C. Tucker.

February 2

Exam

The Tocquevillian Approach

February 4

Tocqueville. *Democracy in America* (Hereafter *DA*). Pp. 1–20, 31–98.

February 9

Tocqueville. *DA*. Pp. 278–315.

February 11

Durkheim. *Professional Ethics and Civic Morals* (Hereafter *PECM*). Pp. 42–84.

February 16

Durkheim. *PECM*. Pp. 85–109.

February 18

Exam

Elitist Approaches

February 23

Weber, Max. *From Max Weber* (Hereafter FMW) Pp. 77–128.

February 25

Weber, Max. *FMW*. Pp. 196–252.

March 1

Mosca, Gaetano. *The Ruling Class* (Hereafter *RC*). Pp. 50–119.

March 3

Mosca, Getano. *RC*. Pp. 120–162, 360–393.

March 8

Schumpeter. *Capitalism, Socialism, and Democracy*. Pp. 235–302.

March 10

Exam

Governmentality

March 15

Gordon, Colin. "Governmental rationality: an introduction." Pp. 1–51 in *The Foucault Effect* (Hereafter *TFE*).

Foucault, Michel. *TFE*. Pp. 87–104.

March 17

Wrap Up Lecture

March 29

Mid-Term

Substantive Work: The Debate on Democracy and the Debate on the State

The Debate on State Formation

March 31

Anderson, Perry. *Lineages of the Absolutist State* (Hereafter *LAS*). Pp. 15–59, 85–142.

April 5

Anderson, Perry. *LAS*. Pp. 236–278

April 7

Tilly, Charles. *Coercion, Capital and European States* (Hereafter *CCES*). Pp. 1–37

April 12

Tilly, Charles. *CCES*. Pp. 67–160.

April 14

Skocpol, Theda. *The State and Social Revolution*. Pp. 3–43, 47–57, 112–128, 161–205.

April 19

Gorski, Philip. *The Disciplinary Revolution: Calvinism and the Rise of the Modern State in Europe* (Hereafter *DR*). Pp. 1–72, 79–113.

The Debate on Democracy

April 21

Reading Break

April 26

Moore, Barrington Jr. *Social Origins of Dictatorship and Democracy (SODD)*. Pp. 3–110, 413–483

April 28

Putnam, Robert. 1993. *Making Democracy Work* (Hereafter *MDW*) Pp 3–16, 83–120, 163–185.

May 5

Course Wrap Up.

Final Exam, Friday May 13th