COMPARATIVE POLITICS: INSTITUTIONS

Objectives
This seminar is designed to help students prepare for the institutional part of the Ph.D. comprehensive examination in comparative politics and for comparative political research, including doctoral dissertations. Though it covers a wide range of subjects, the seminar only tangentially treats subjects such as political development, mass behavior, interest groups and social movements, and public policy. Students preparing for the Ph.D. comprehensive exam should therefore seek other opportunities to study these topics.

The seminar is organized around ten themes:
1. Introduction: Institutions and Institutional Analysis
2. Democracy and Autocracy
3. Federalism, Consociationalism, and Power-sharing
4. Presidentialism and Executives
5. Parliamentary Democracy and Legislatures
6. Coalitions and Coalition Bargaining
7. Elections and Political Parties
8. Bureaucracy, Delegation, Markets, and Law
9. The Social Effects of Political Institutions

Format
The seminar will meet on a weekly basis, except on legal holidays (Nov 11). Each week will introduce a new theme in the comparative study of political institutions and provide a list of required and recommended readings. Required readings will form the basis of the general seminar discussions, and all students should read them carefully and critically before class. Recommended readings are additional readings of theoretical and empirical importance. Students preparing for the comprehensive exam should gain familiarity at least with those that most closely match their own areas of specialization. These readings are also suitable for seminar presentations and literature review papers.

Assignments
All students must do the assigned readings, write two discussion papers (6-8 pages in length), participate actively in the seminar discussions, and give regular presentations on the readings. Each week, students will be assigned specific readings to review. These presentations (approx. 15 minutes) should summarize a set of readings assigned for that session and relate them to other literature on that topic. The presentations should review and critique the arguments and tests made in these pieces and comment critically on their assumptions, arguments, research designs, measures, results, and implications. Finally, presentations should raise questions for discussion and future research. Students giving presentations should prepare brief outlines (electronic or hard copy) for distribution to the other seminar participants. NOTE: Students are expected to do all of the required reading and to be prepared to discuss it, not just their particular presentation assignment.

The discussion papers will be on your choice among a set of topics provided by the instructor. The papers should make an argument. The argument should be stated clearly and concisely and the rest of the paper should tie into this argument. Writing style matters! Be focused and succinct and avoid long quotations. The first of the discussion papers will be due in class on November 4 and the second one on December 9. Grades will be based on course assignments in the following way: discussion papers 40% each, presentations and class participation 20%. Extensions, incompletes, etc. will be given in accordance with UCSD policy. Except under very pressing circumstances, however, I discourage you from requesting such options.

Readings
This seminar covers a large literature, much of which you may want to have at your disposal, but I expect your purchasing decisions to be guided by your professional judgment as well as by your budget constraint. Therefore, no books have been ordered by the UCSD Bookstore for this course, but I will be happy to provide suggestions.
1. **INTRODUCTION: INSTITUTIONS AND INSTITUTIONAL ANALYSIS** (October 7).

**Required:**

John M. Carey, “Parchment, Equilibria, and Institutions.” *Comparative Political Studies* 33, 6-7 (August-September 2000), 735-61.


**Recommended:**


2. **DEMOCRACY AND AUTOCRACY** (October 14)

**Required:**


Recommended:

3. FEDERALISM, CONSOCIATIONALISM, AND POWER-SHARING (October 21)

Required:

Recommended:
4. **PRESIDENTIALISM AND EXECUTIVES** (October 28)

**Required:**


Arend Lijphart, *Patterns of Democracy,* ch. 7.


**Recommended:**


Donald L. Horowitz, Seymour Martin Lipset, and Juan J. Linz, "Debate--Presidents vs. Parliaments," *Journal of Democracy* 1, 4 (Fall 1990), 73-91.
Scott Mainwaring, "Presidentialism, Multipartism, and Democracy: The Difficult Combination." *Comparative Political Studies* 26, 2 (July 1993), 198-228.

5. **PARLIAMENTARY DEMOCRACY AND LEGISLATURES** (November 4)

**Required:**
Arend Lijphart, *Patterns of Democracy*, ch. 11.

**Recommended:**
6. COALITIONS AND COALITION BARGAINING (November 18)

Required:

Recommended:
7. **ELECTIONS AND POLITICAL PARTIES** (November 25).

**Required:**

**Recommended:**
Arend Lijphart, *Patterns of Democracy*, chs. 5 and 8.


8. BUREAUCRACY, DELEGATION, MARKETS, AND LAW (December 2)

Required:


Recommended:


Arend Lijphart, Patterns of Democracy, ch. 13.


Andrew MacIntyre, “Institutions and Investors: The Politics of the Economic Crisis in Southeast Asia.” International
9. THE SOCIAL EFFECTS OF POLITICAL INSTITUTIONS (December 9)

Required:

Recommended: