

DEPARTMENT OF POLITICAL SCIENCE // COLUMBIA UNIVERSITY

Political Science G8237x

Themes in American Political Development (2)

Fall 2016; Monday, 2.10-4PM

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This seminar follows, but is independent from, the class of the same title (G8236y) taught in the spring 2016 that focused on the meaning and consequences of the United States having been born free, born slave, and born a state. Here, we center on two connected aspects of American political development: the character of the United States as a distinctive modern state and the ways the country has dealt with what Alexander Hamilton called national exigencies.

The core of the class consists of focused conversations based on careful, timely reading. Students take turns to introduce these discussions on a rotating basis. All students participate in setting the class agenda by circulating a one-page, single-spaced thought piece the evening before each class (posted to an email distribution list) that identifies a particularly significant and vexing textual issue. These written contributions are not individually graded; rather, they form part of each student's course portfolio.

This term, members of the spring 2016 APD seminar will write an article length essay that builds on the proposal written for that class. Others will compose a proposal for further study joined to a tight literature review (limited to twenty double-spaced pages). These assignments will be discussed in detail early in the semester. They will be due on December 8.

Attendance at the 'Workshop on Politics and Society' that will be meeting on three Thursdays from 4.10-6pm is strongly encouraged, as the focus this academic year is on democratic emergencies, a theme central to our class. Course readings are on reserve in Lehman Library. Office hours will be conducted by appointment on Mondays from 4.15-5.45pm.

Syllabus

September 12: Introduction

Theda Skocpol, "Bringing the State Back In: Strategies of Analysis in Current Research," and Peter B. Evans, Dietrich Rueschemeyer and Theda Skocpol, "On the Road Toward a More Adequate Understanding of the State," in Peter B. Evans, Dietrich Rueschemeyer and Theda Skocpol, eds., *Bringing the State Back In*. New York: Cambridge University Press, 1985, chapters 1 and 11

Karen Orren and Stephen Skowronek, *The Search for American Political Development*. New York: Cambridge University Press, 2004, chapters 3-5

Charles Tilly, "Reflections on the History of European State-Making," and "Western State-Making and Theories of Political Transformation," in Charles Tilly ed., *The Formation of National States in Western Europe*. Princeton: Princeton University Press, 1975, chapters 1, 9

September 19: Analytical Concept

Frederick Mundell Watkins, *The State as a Concept of Political Science*. New York: Harper and Brothers, 1934, preface and 1-84 (entire book)

J.P. Nettl, "The State as a Conceptual Variable," *World Politics*, 20 (July 1968)

Margaret Levi, "The State of the Study of the State," in Ira Katznelson and Helen Milner, *Political Science: State of the Discipline*. New York: W.W. Norton, 2002, pp.33-55

September 26: State Formation

Charles Tilly, *Coercion, Capital, and European States, AD 990-1990*. Oxford: Blackwell, 1990, pp.67-161

John Brewer, *The Sinews of Power: War, Money and the English State, 1688-1788*. New York: Knopf, 1988, pp.xi-xxii, 29-61, 137-251.

October 3

No class: Rosh Hashanah holiday [individual meetings to discuss papers on October 5]

October 10: Democracy and War

Richard Franklin Bensel, *The American Ballot Box in the Mid-Nineteenth Century*. New York: Cambridge University Press, 2004, pp.1-25

Richard Franklin Bensel, *Yankee Leviathan: The Origins of Central State Authority in America*. New York: Cambridge University Press, 1990, chapters 1, 3, 6, 7

October 17: Progressive Era Statebuilding

Stephen Skowronek, *Building a New American State*. New York: Cambridge University Press, 1982 (select as cases chapters 3 and 6, or chapters 4 and 7, or chapters 5 and 8)

Daniel P. Carpenter, "State Building through Reputation Building: Coalitions of Esteem and Program Innovation in the National Postal System, 1883-1913," *Studies in American Political Development*, 14 (October 2000): 121-155

October 24: The Military in a Liberal State

Samuel P. Huntington, *The Soldier and the State: The Theory and Politics of Civil-Military Relations*. Cambridge: Harvard University Press, 1957, pp.143-469

October 31: A Crusading State?

Ira Katznelson, *Fear Itself: The New Deal and the Origins of Our Time*. New York: Liveright, 2013, pp.29-57, 276-363, 403-466

Harold D. Lasswell, "The Garrison State," *American Journal of Sociology*, 46 (January 1941), pp.455-468

Aaron L. Friedberg, "American Antistatism and the Founding of the Cold War State," in Ira Katznelson and Martin Shefter, eds., *Shaped by War and Trade: International Influences on American Political Development*. Princeton: Princeton University Press, 2002, pp.239-266.

November 14: Exigencies and Exceptions (1)

The Federalist, 23-29

Stephen I. Vladeck, "Emergency Power and the Militia Acts," *Yale Law Journal*, 114 (October 2004), pp.149-194

Albert L. Sturm, "Emergencies and the Presidency," *Journal of Politics*, 11 (February 1949), pp.121-144

November 21: Exigencies and Exceptions (2)

Clinton Rossiter, *Constitutional Dictatorship: Crisis Government in Modern Democracies*. Princeton: Princeton University Press, 1948, pp.3-28, 209-314

Clinton Rossiter, "Constitutional Dictatorship in the Atomic Age," *Review of Politics*, 11 (October 1949), pp.87-95

Clinton Rossiter, "War, Depression, and the Presidency, 1933-1950," *Social Research*, 17 (December 1950), pp.417-440

November 28: Exigencies and Exceptions (3)

Tyler M. Curley, "Models of Emergency Statebuilding in the United States," *Perspectives on Politics*, 13 (September 2015), pp.697-713

William E. Scheuerman, "Emergency Powers," *Annual Review of Law and Society*, 2 (2006), pp.257-277

John Ferejohn and Pasquale Pasquino, "Law of Exception: A Typology of Emergency Powers," *International Journal of Constitutional Law*, 2 (#2, 2004), pp.210-239

December 5

No class

December 12

Class Mini-Conference (2-6pm)