

Northwestern University
Political Science 490
Winter 2006

TERRITORIAL POLITICS

Time: Wednesdays 9:00-12:00
Place: Ripton Room, 201 Scott Hall

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Office Hours: Wednesdays 2-4

This graduate seminar is an exploration of the territorial bases of politics. We will analyze the ways in which politics is fought out across territory, as well as how the territorial organization of actors, polities, and societies shapes institutional development and key political outcomes. Power, conflict, and territory have been intertwined since the beginning of politics, yet until recently the Comparative Politics field gave surprisingly little theoretical attention to these relationships. The real world, however, has once again overtaken our discipline, and is forcing us to return to age-old theoretical questions to understand recent developments in the modern world. Among the specific questions we will be analyzing in this course will be how state formation and state disintegration, institutional development, ethnic conflict, political domination, and democratization are shaped by (and also shape) the territorial organization of politics and institutions.

Weekly requirements: Timely reading of weekly assignments and active participation in seminar discussion. Students will also turn in a written commentary on the weekly readings at the beginning of each class. The commentaries are intended to help you unify the readings and raise questions for class discussion. They can consist of 2 or more questions on the readings, or a more general set of comments. The commentaries should reflect a critical analysis of the readings. As the semester progresses, they should reflect a 'cumulated wisdom,' that is, issues raised in earlier weeks should be brought in to challenge or analyze the current week's readings. Each student will turn in 5 commentaries in the quarter (including the week(s) for which oral presentations are made). They should be no more than one to two pages double-spaced (and in a font that is legible to the average middle-aged professor). These will be evaluated by the instructor on a scale of "excellent, good, fair, poor."

Student presentations: Five minute oral presentations on selected readings to initiate class discussion (the number of presentations for each student will depend on class size). Note: the presentations are not to be a summary of the readings (everyone will have read the assigned pieces), but a set of comments or questions to get discussion rolling. This norm will be enforced ruthlessly by the instructor.

Paper: A 10-15 page paper relevant to the issues covered in the course, **due Friday, March 10**. This can be an analytical paper based on the readings or topics addressed in the course (which would give you the opportunity to develop ideas that came up in your short papers or class discussion), or a research paper dealing with these issues but applying them to a particular context. Paper topics, the questions to be addressed, the country case or cases to be analyzed, sources and tentative hypotheses, should be discussed ahead of time with the instructor.

Approximate grade distribution: class participation, weekly questions, oral presentations: 50 percent.
Paper: 50 percent.

Readings: Many readings will be accessible (directly or via web links) from a “Blackboard Courseinfo” website established for this course and open to registered students. In addition, the following books have been ordered for purchase from the Norris Bookstore and placed on Library Reserve:

Catherine Boone, *Political Topographies of the African State: Territorial Authority and Institutional Choice* (Cambridge, 2003).

Jeffrey Herbst: *States and Power in Africa*. (Princeton, 2000).

Edward L. Gibson, editor: *Federalism and Democracy in Latin America* (Johns Hopkins, 2004).

Pradeep Chhibber and Ken Kollman: *The Formation of National Party Systems : federalism and party competition in Canada, Great Britain, India, and the United States*. (Princeton, 2004).

Course Schedule:

Week 1: Introduction to the Course

Week 2: Rediscovering the Territorial Roots of Politics and the “Subnational”

Ronan Paddison, *The Fragmented State: The Political Geography of Power* (1983). Chapters 1-3.

Seymour Martin Lipset and Stein Rokkan, “Cleavage Structures, Party Systems, and Voter Alignments: An Introduction.” Pages 1-33 of *Party Systems and Voter Alignments: Cross-National Perspectives* (1967).

Sidney Tarrow, “Introduction,” in Sidney Tarrow, et al., *Territorial Politics in Industrial Nations* (1978).

Richard Snyder, “Scaling Down: The Subnational Comparative Method,” forthcoming in *Studies in Comparative International Development*, 2001.

Week 3: Territorial Cleavages and Political Development

Richard F. Bense, *Sectionalism and American Political Development, 1880-1980* (Madison: University of Wisconsin Press, 1984). Chapters 1, 2, and 9.

Catherine Boone, *Political Topographies of the African State: Territorial Authority and Institutional Choice* (Cambridge, 2003). Chapters 1, 2 and 6.

Edward L. Gibson, “The Populist Road to Market Reform: Policy and Electoral Coalitions in Mexico and Argentina, in *World Politics* 49 (April 1997).

Mick Moore, “Leading the Left to the Right: Populist Coalitions and Economic Reform in Sri Lanka,” *World Development* 25 (July 1997).

Week 4: Territorial Politics and State Formation

Jeffrey Herbst: *States and Power in Africa*. (Princeton, 2000). Entire book.

Week 5: Debates about Decentralization

Kent Eaton, *Politics Beyond the Capital: The Design of Subnational Institutions in South America* (Stanford, 2004). Chapters 1, 2, and 8.

Tulia Falletti, "A Sequential Theory of Decentralization: Latin American Cases in Comparative Perspective," *American Political Science Review*, August 2005, pp 327-346.
Christopher Garman, Stephan Haggard, Eliza Willis: "Fiscal Decentralization: A political theory with Latin American Cases," *World Politics* January 2000.
Paul Hutchcroft, "Centralization and Decentralization in Administration and Politics: Assessing Territorial Dimensions of Authority and Power," *Governance*, January 2001.
Al Montero and David J. Samuels, "The Political Determinants of Decentralization in Latin America."

Week 6: Democracy and Territorial Politics

Edward L. Gibson, "Boundary Control: Subnational Authoritarianism in Democratic Countries."
Robert Mickey, "Paths out of Dixie: The Decay of Authoritarian Enclaves in America's Deep South, 1944-1972." Manuscript, University of Michigan.
Jeffrey Kopstein and David A. Reilly, "Geographic Diffusion and the Transformation of the Postcommunist World," *World Politics* 53, October 2000.
Rebecca Bill Chavez, "The Construction of the Rule of Law in Argentina: A Tale of Two Provinces," *Comparative Politics* August 2004
Kelly McMann, "Economic Autonomy and Democracy: Hybrid Regimes in Russia and Kyrgyzstan." Manuscript.
Alan Knight, "Hardball Politics, Softball Politics: Reflections on Contemporary Mexican Political Culture," manuscript.

Week 7: Comparative Federalism I: Federalism in Mono-National States

Edward L. Gibson, editor: *Federalism and Democracy in Latin America* (Johns Hopkins, 2004). Chapters 1-4, 7, and 10. Also read either chapter 6 or 8.

Week 8: Comparative Federalism II: Multinationalism and Subnational Institutions

Daniel Ziblatt, "Rethinking the Origins of Federalism: Puzzle, Theory, and Evidence from Nineteenth Century Europe." *World Politics* Oct 2004 v57 i1 p70-98.
Henry Hale, "Divided We Stand: Institutional Sources of Ethnofederal State Survival and Collapse," *World Politics*, Jan 2004 v56 p165-193.
Carol Skalnik Leff, "Democratization and Disintegration in Multinational States: The Breakup of the Communist Federations," in *World Politics* 51, January 1999.
Juan Linz and Alfred Stepan, "Political Identities and Electoral Sequences: Spain, the Soviet Union, and Yugoslavia," *Daedalus*, 121/2 (Spring 1992).
Jones, Mark, Sebastián Saieg, Tomás Spiller, and Mariano Tomasi. 2002. "Amateur Legislators-Professional Politicians: The Consequences of Party Centered Electoral Rules in a Federal System." *American Journal of Political Science*. Vol. 46, 3 (July). 656-669.
Calvo, Ernesto, and María Victoria Murillo. 2004. "Who Delivers? Partisan Clients in the Argentine Electoral Market." *American Journal of Political Science* 48, no. 4, pp. 742-757 (October).

Week 9: Territory and Party Systems

Pradeep Chhibber and Ken Kollman: *The formation of national party systems: federalism and party competition in Canada, Great Britain, India, and the United States*. (Princeton, 2004). Entire Book.

