

## The Rise and Fall of the State

Political Science 303  
Spring 2014  
Tuesdays 1:30-3:50 pm  
Hodson 313

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OH: Tuesdays 10-12 pm,  
Mergenthaler 275D

This course examines a central institution in politics, that of the state. We will examine the concept of the state, what it means and what it does not mean. Then we will examine the rise of the modern state over the last several centuries: what political, social and economic factors contributed to its emergence, what leads to variation between states and how have states developed and transformed relationships to their subjects and citizens? In the last part of the course, we will examine some external and internal threats to the power and viability of the state. Can states cope with challenges from globalization, retrenchment and conflict? Are some states better equipped to handle these challenges than others?

### Assignments and Grading

- Eight page midterm (2000 word) paper (30%)
- Twelve page (2500 word) final research paper (40%)
- Class participation / weekly reading responses (30%)

### Policies

*Class participation:* Students are expected to come to class having done the readings and ready to fully participate in class discussions. As this course is designed as a seminar based on active discussion rather than passive lecturing, student preparation and participation is vital. Participation is graded by how well the student contributes to a productive class discussion of the readings and topics at hand, not how often the student speaks in class. Students are encouraged to not use laptops, as this inhibits actively engaging in class.

*Weekly Reading Responses:* Students are expected to write reading responses for seven weeks. Responses should be about one to two pages (250-500 words) and can address either prompts I will provide or your own reaction to the readings. Responses are due 24 hours before class, and should be pasted into the body of an email message and sent to anaseem1@jhu.edu.

*Diversity and Collegiality:* One of the most enriching aspects of a liberal arts education is participating in a classroom with students from a wide variety of ethnic and cultural backgrounds and from variety of diverse perspectives and experiences. In order to ensure optimum learning and participation within such a diverse environment, students are expected to listen, analyze and draw upon a diversity of views. To this end, I expect collegial dialogue across cultural and personal boundaries.

*Late Papers:* Papers will have 1/3 a letter grade deducted (from B+ to B, for example) for each day that they are late. This starts from the time the papers are due. For example, papers due at 5 pm that are turned in at 7 pm on the same day are deducted 1/3 grade, and papers turned in at 7 pm the next day are deducted 2/3 grade.

*Grade Challenges:* Students are entitled to a fair review and evaluation of their work. If you believe you received an unfair grade and wish to challenge it, please come to my office at least one day after you have received your grade with a typed statement of why you believe the grade you were assigned is inaccurate. Please note, upon re-evaluation of your paper, your grade may increase, stay the same, or decrease based on my judgment.

*Incompletes:* Incompletes will not be given without prior consultation with me and only under extraordinary circumstances. In order for an incomplete to be given, the student must contract with me when the work is to be completed, after which time the student's grade on the incomplete work will become an F if it is not received.

*Academic Honesty:* Students are expected to complete their own work, using their own ideas. Academic dishonesty will not be tolerated: the consequences may range from a 'zero' on an assignment to an F for the class. Academic dishonesty means plagiarizing; cheating on assignments or examinations; engaging in unauthorized collaboration on academic work; taking, acquiring, or using test materials without faculty permission; submitting false or incomplete records of academic achievement; acting alone or in cooperation with another to falsify records or to obtain dishonestly, honors, awards or professional endorsement; altering forging, or misusing a University academic record; or fabricating or falsifying data, research procedures, or data analysis. Please note, while students are encouraged to consult with each other and form study groups, the work turned in by each student should be his or her own. Plagiarism consists of using another person's words or ideas without proper attribution. If you have any questions about what constitutes plagiarism, please ask me.

*Accommodations for Students with Disabilities:* Students with special needs are strongly encouraged to talk to me as soon as possible to gain maximum access to course information. All discussions will remain confidential.

### **Course Schedule & Readings (available on Electronic Reserves)**

#### **Week 1 – Jan 28<sup>th</sup> – Introduction**

#### **Week 2 – Feb 4<sup>th</sup> – What is the state? Classical Perspectives**

Max Weber, "Politics as a Vocation," Gerth and Mills, ed. *From Max Weber: Essays in Sociology*.

Stephen Krasner, "Approaches to the State," *Comparative Politics* 16:2, 1984.

Michael Mann. 1984. "The Autonomous Power of the State: Its Origins, Mechanisms, and Results." *European Journal of Sociology* 25 (2): 185-213.  
<http://www.sscnet.ucla.edu/soc/faculty/mann/Doc1.pdf>

#### **Week 3 – Feb 11<sup>th</sup> – Marxist, Critical and Liberal Perspectives on the State**

Karl Marx, "the Eighteenth Braumaire of Louis Napoleon" from Tucker, ed. *The Marx-Engels Reader*.

James Scott, *Seeing like the State* (New Haven: Yale University Press, 1998), 1-9, 87-102.

Timothy Mitchell. 1991. "The Limits of the State: Beyond Statist Approaches and Their Critics." *The American Political Science Review* 85(1): 77-96.

Maurice Cranston, "Locke and Liberty," *The Wilson Quarterly*, 10:5 (Winter, 1986), pp. 82-93.

Milton Friedman, "Why Government is the Problem," in Milton Friedman, *Why Government is the Problem* (Palo Alto: Hoover Institution, 1993).

#### **Week 4 – Feb 18<sup>th</sup> – Sovereignty and Classical State Formation in Europe**

Charles Tilly, "War-Making and State-Making as Organized Crime," in P. Evans, D. Rueschemeyer, and T. Skocpol (eds.) *Bringing the State Back In* (Cambridge: 1985): 169-191.

Charles Tilly, *Coercion, Capital, and European States: AD 990-1990* (Basil Blackwell 1990), 127-160.

Barrington Moore, *Social Origins of Dictatorship and Democracy* (1966), Chapter 1 (England and the Contributions of Violence to Gradualism).

Karen Barkey, *Bandits and Bureaucrats* (Ithaca: Cornell University Press, 1994), 1-24.

Hendrik Spruyt. 1994. "Institutional Selection in International Relations: State Anarchy as Order." *International Organization* 48(4): 527-557.

### **Week 5 - Feb 25<sup>th</sup> - Revolution and the Rise of Modern States**

Theda Skocpol, "France, Russia, China: A Structural Analysis of Social Revolutions," *Comparative Studies in Society and History* 18: 2 / April 1976, pp 175-210.

Philip S. Gorski, "The Protestant Ethic Revisited: Disciplinary Revolution and State Formation in Holland and Prussia." *American Journal of Sociology* (1993): 265-316.

Stephen Kotkin, *Magnetic Mountain: Stalinism as Civilization* (Berkeley: University of California Press, 1995), 198-237.

James Scott, *Seeing Like the State*, pp. 147-179; 193-222.

### **Week 6 - March 4<sup>th</sup> - American State Formation**

Richard Bensall, *Yankee Leviathan* (New York: Cambridge University Press, 1990), 1-17, 366-417.

Stephen Skarownek, *Building a New American State* (New York: Cambridge University Press, 1982), pp. 1-84, 177-211.

### **Week 7 - March 11<sup>th</sup> - Post-Colonial State Formation**

Sudipto Kaviraj. "The Modern State in India". Zoya Hasan, ed. *Politics and the State in India* (Delhi, Oxford University Press, 2000): 37-63.

Miguel Angel Centeno. "Blood and Debt: War and Taxation in Nineteenth-Century Latin America." *American Journal of Sociology* 102.6 (1997): 1565-1605.

Nazih Ayubi, *Over-Stating the Arab State* (London: IB Tauris, 2006), 1-37.

Mahmood Mamdani, "Historicizing Power and responses to Power: Indirect Rule and Its Reform," *Social Research*, Vol. 66, No. 3 (Fall 1999), 859-886.

Naseemullah and Staniland, "Varieties of Governance outside Weberian Sovereignty." Working Paper.

\*\*\* Mid-term papers due Friday, March 14th, 5 pm, by email \*\*\*

### **March 18<sup>th</sup> - Spring Break (no classes)**

### **Week 8 - March 25<sup>th</sup> - Democracy and the Rise of the Welfare State**

Gosta Esping-Anderson, *Three Worlds of Welfare Capitalism* (Cambridge: Polity), 1-34.

Allan Meltzer and Scott Richard, "Why Government Grows (and Grows) in a Democracy," *The Public Interest*, 1976.  
<http://repository.cmu.edu/cgi/viewcontent.cgi?article=1764&context=tepper>

Asa Briggs, "The Welfare State in Historical Perspective," *European Journal of Sociology* 2:2 (December 1961), pp 221-258.

Walter Korpi. "Power, politics, and state autonomy in the development of social citizenship: Social rights during sickness in eighteen OECD countries since 1930." *American Sociological Review* (1989): 309-328.

### **Week 9 - April 1<sup>st</sup> - Sources of Decline and Challenge**

Samuel Huntington, *Political Order in Changing Societies* (New Haven: Yale, 1968), pp. 1-32.

Mancur Olson, *the Rise and Decline of Nations* (New Haven: Yale, 1982), pp. 1-76.

Atul Kohli, *Democracy and Discontent* (New York: Cambridge, 1990), pp. 1-20, 205-237.

### **Week 10 - April 8<sup>th</sup> - Globalization and International Organizations**

Susan Strange, *the Retreat of the State* (New York: Cambridge, 1996): 1-91, 183-199

Stephen D. Krasner. "Compromising Westphalia." *International Security* 20.3 (1995): 115-151.

**\*\*\* Abstracts and Bibliography for Final Paper Due April 11<sup>th</sup> \*\*\***

**Week 11 - April 15<sup>th</sup> - Retrenchment and Austerity**

Paul Pierson, "The New Politics of the Welfare State," *World Politics* 48:2 (1996), 143-179.

Jacob S. Hacker, "Privatizing risk without privatizing the welfare state: The hidden politics of social policy retrenchment in the United States." *American Political Science Review* 98, no. 2 (2004): 243-260.

Marc Blyth, *Austerity* (Oxford: Oxford UP, 2013), 1-96.

**Week 12 - April 22<sup>nd</sup> - State Failure and Civil War**

Stephen Krasner, "Addressing State Failure" *Foreign Affairs*, July/August 2005.

James Fearon and David D. Laitin. "Neotrusteeship and the problem of weak states." *International security* 28, no. 4 (2004): 5-43.

Zachariah Cherian Mampilly. *Rebel Rulers: Insurgent Governance and Civilian Life During War*. Ithaca: Cornell University Press, 2011), pp. 1-47.

Will Reno, *Warlord Politics and African States* (Boulder: Lynne Rienner), pp. 1-44.

Jon Lee Anderson, "Gangland: Who Controls the Streets of Rio de Janeiro," *the New Yorker* (October 5<sup>th</sup>, 2009).

**Week 13 - April 29<sup>th</sup> - Wrap-up: the Future of the State?**

**Final papers due Wednesday, May 14<sup>th</sup> by email.**