

**Political Science 9567  
Comparative Politics of the Global South  
The University of Western Ontario  
2016**

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Office hours: Wednesdays 1-3 p.m. or by appointment

All knowledge that is about human society, and not about the natural world, is historical knowledge, and therefore rests upon judgment and interpretation. This is not to say that facts or data are nonexistent, but that facts get their importance from what is made of them in interpretation... for interpretations depend very much on who the interpreter is, who he or she is addressing, what his or her purpose is, at what historical moment the interpretation takes place.

Edward W. Said

What is not named largely remains unnoticed.

Giovanni Sartori

### **Course Objectives**

This course analyzes the nature of power and politics in the Global South. More specifically, it examines: the political and cognitive dimensions of the knowledge construction process in Comparative Politics; the ontological and epistemological assumptions of dominant theoretical interpretations of conflict, order, and change in South Asia, Africa and Latin America; the conceptual vocabulary of Comparative Politics and its capacity to represent/misrepresent the historical specificities of the societies of the Global South; the cognitive obstacles to, and opportunities for, the construction of “common horizons of significance” in Comparative Politics; and, the emergence and consolidation of non-Western interpretations of power and politics in the Global South.

### **Course Evaluation**

Participation: 30%  
Book Review: 20%  
Essay: 50%

### **Books recommended for purchase**

Howard Wiarda, ed., Grand Theories and Ideologies in the Social Sciences. New York: Palgrave, 2010.

Séverin Deneulin and Masoooda Bano, Religion in Development: Rewriting the Secular Script. London: Zed Books, 2009.

J. Timmons Roberts, Amy Bellone, and Nitsan Chorev, The Globalization and Development Reader: Perspectives on Development and Change. Malden, MA: Wiley Blackwell, 2015.

Anthony Petros Spanakos and Francisco Panizza, eds. Conceptualizing Comparative Politics. New York: Routledge, 2016.

### **Assignments**

#### Book review:

Participants in this course will review the novel The Illegal, by Lawrence Hill (Toronto: Lawrence Hill, 2015). Guidelines for this assignment will be provided by the instructor in class. The book review is due on January 28<sup>th</sup> **IN CLASS**.

#### Essay:

A research essay (17-20 double-spaced pages) will be due on March 31<sup>st</sup> **IN CLASS**. Students will determine the objective/focus and structure of their essays within one of the following general topics:

- Political and cognitive dimensions of the knowledge construction process in Comparative Politics.
- Ontological and epistemological assumptions of the dominant theoretical interpretations of conflict, order, and change in the Global South.
- The conceptual vocabulary of Comparative Politics and its capacity to represent/misrepresent the historical specificities of the societies of the Global South; and,
- Cognitive obstacles to, and opportunities for, the identification/articulation of “common horizons of significance” in Comparative Politics.
- The emergence and consolidation of non-Western interpretations of power and politics in the Global South.

Additional guidelines for this assignment will be provided by the instructor in class.

Participation:

Students in this course will be expected to master the assigned readings and to actively participate in the discussions that will take place every week. Moreover, they will be required to post a short critical assessment of the assigned readings on the Comparative Politics Bulletin Board that has been created for this purpose. Critical assessments must be posted no later than 12:00 noon on the Tuesday of each week. One student will formally introduce the assigned readings each week having read the other students' critical comments on the bulletin board. To visit the Comparative Politics Bulletin Board on the web, go to:

<http://ca.groups.yahoo.com/group/uwocomparativepolitics>

**Note: There is a penalty of 3% a day for late essays and written assignments, including weekends.**

## Course Outline

### I: INTRODUCTION

#### **January 7: Comparative Politics of the Global South: Do we Compare or do we Translate?**

Klaus von Beyme, "The Historical Development of Comparative Politics." Comparative Governance and Politics, Vol. 15, No. 4, 2010, 1-15.

Fred Dallmayr, "Beyond Monologue: For a Comparative Political Theory." Perspectives on Politics, Vol. 2, No. 2, 2004, 249-257.

Michael Dutton, "The Trick of Words: Asian Studies, Translation, and the Problems of Knowledge," in George Steinmetz, ed., The Politics of Method in the Social Sciences. Durham: Duke University Press, 2005, 89-125.

Walter Mignolo, "Yes, we can", foreword to Hamid Dabashi, Can Non-Europeans Think? London: Zed Books, 2015, viii-xlii.

### **II. COMPARATIVE POLITICS AND YOUR BRAIN: COGNITIVE OBSTACLES TO, AND OPPORTUNITIES FOR, THE GENERATION OF COMPARATIVE KNOWLEDGE OF THE GLOBAL SOUTH.**

#### **January 14: The Primacy of Perception and the Embodied Mind**

Josh Dix, "Neuropolitics: The Brainy Approach to Political Science," in Howard J. Wiarda, ed., Grand Theories and Ideologies in the Social Sciences. New York: Palgrave, 2010, 171-190.

Maurice Merleau-Ponty, "The Primacy of Perception and its Philosophical Consequences," in Alden L Fisher, ed., The Essential Writings of Merleau-Ponty. New York: Harcourt, 1969, 47-63.

George Lakoff, "Philosophy in the Flesh," in John Brockman, The Mind. New York: Harper Perennial, 2011, 11-30.

Andy Clark, "Embodied, embedded, and extended cognition," in Keith Frankish, ed., The Cambridge Handbook of Cognitive Science. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, 2012, 275-291.

Edward W. Said, "Language, History, and the Production of Knowledge," in Gauri Viswanathan, Power, Politics and Culture: Interviews with Edward W. Said. New York: Vintage, 2001, 262-283.

**January 21: Cognitive Ethnocentrism and the Politics of Method in Comparative Politics**

Bruce E. Wexler, Brain and Culture: Neurobiology, Ideology, and Social Change. Cambridge, MA: The MIT Press, 2006, 1-18; 141-182.

Adam Etinson, "Some Myths About Ethnocentrism." Presentation at the Social Theory Workshop, University of Chicago, October 15, 2015.

<http://www.adametinson.com/Some%20Myths%20About%20Ethnocentrism%20-%20DRAFT%20PAPER.pdf>

Milton Bennett and Ida Castiglioni, "Embodied Ethnocentrism and the Feeling of Culture," in Dan Landis, Janet M. Bennett and Milton J. Bennett, Handbook of Intercultural Training, Third Edition. Thousand Oaks, CA: 2004, 249-265.

Elliot W. Weisner, "The Primacy of Experience and the Politics of Method," Educational Researcher, June 1988, Vol. 17, No. 5, 15-20.

George Steinmetz, "Positivism and Its Others in the Social Sciences," in George Steinmetz, ed., The Politics of Method in the Social Sciences. Durham: Duke University Press, 2005, 1-56.

Dipesh Chakrabarty, Provincializing Europe: Postcolonial Thought and Historical Difference. Princeton: Princeton University Press, 2000, 27-46.

<http://jan.ucc.nau.edu/~sj6/dipesh%20postcoloniality%20artifice.pdf>

**III. ORDER, CONFLICT AND CHANGE IN THE GLOBAL SOUTH**

**January 28: Western Social Science and the Global South**

Ann P. Kryzanek, "Sociological Approaches: Old and New in Political Sociology". In Howard J. Wiarda, ed., Grand Theories and Ideologies in the Social Sciences. New York: Palgrave, 2010, 81-96.

Dipesh Chakrabarty, "Universalism and Belonging in the Logic of Capital," Public Culture, Vol. 12, No. 3, 2000, 653-678

<https://libcom.org/files/Capital.pdf>

Samir Amin, "Contemporary Imperialism," Monthly Review, Vol. 67, No. 3, 2015.

<http://monthlyreview.org/2015/07/01/contemporary-imperialism/>

Michael Burawoy, "Open the social sciences: To whom and for what?" Portuguese Journal of Social Science, Vol. 6, No. 3, 137-146.

<http://burawoy.berkeley.edu/PS/Open%20the%20Social%20Sciences.pdf>

#### **February 4: From Modernization Theory to Globalization**

Kelley Johnson, "Developmentalism Then and Now: The Origins and Resurgence of an Enduring Grand Theory," in Howard J. Wiarda, ed., Grand Theories and Ideologies in the Social Sciences. New York: Palgrave, 2010, 19-40.

Rolando Cordera Campos, "Development Then and Now: Idea and Utopia," CEPAL Review, August 2014, No. 113, 7-20.

[http://repositorio.cepal.org/bitstream/handle/11362/37416/RVI113Cordera\\_en.pdf?sequence=1](http://repositorio.cepal.org/bitstream/handle/11362/37416/RVI113Cordera_en.pdf?sequence=1)

Walter D. Mignolo, "Coloniality: The Darker Side of Modernity," in Walter D. Mignolo, The Darker Side of Western Modernity: Global Futures, Decolonial Options. Duke University Press, 2011, 39-49.

[http://www.macba.cat/PDFs/walter\\_mignolo\\_modernologies\\_eng.pdf](http://www.macba.cat/PDFs/walter_mignolo_modernologies_eng.pdf)

Farzana Naz, "Arturo Escobar and the Development Discourse: An Overview," Asian Affairs, Vol. 28, No. 3, 2006, 64-84

<http://courses.arch.vt.edu/courses/wdunaway/gia5524/Naz06.pdf>

Achille Mbembe, On the Postcolony. Berkeley: University of California Press, 2001, 1-23.

<https://archivocienciasociales.files.wordpress.com/2012/09/a-mbembe-on-the-postcolony.pdf>

#### **February 11: Modernization, Globalization, and Political Democracy**

Matt Clary, "Transitions to Democracy: Grand Theory or Grand Idea?" In Howard J. Wiarda, ed., Grand Theories and Ideologies in the Social Sciences. New York: Palgrave, 2010, 213-226,

Kavous Ardalan, "Globalization and Democracy: Four Paradigmatic Views," Transcience Journal, Vol. 2, No. 1, 2011, 26-53.

M. Schamsul Haque, "Global Rise of Neoliberal State and Its Impact On Citizenship: Experiences In Developing Nations," Asian Journal of Social Science, No. 36, 2008, 11-34.

Jeremy Seekings, "South Africa: Democracy, Poverty and Inclusive Growth since 1994," Conference Paper. Voices from the South. Center for Development and Enterprise, Johannesburg, South Africa, 2014.

<http://www.cde.org.za/wp-content/uploads/2014/04/democracy-works---south-africa-conference-paper---democracy-poverty-inclusive-growth-since-1994---by-jeremy-seekings-pdf-.pdf>

Samir Amin, "The Democratic Fraud and the Universalist Alternative," Monthly Review, Vol. 63, No. 5, 2011.

<http://monthlyreview.org/2011/10/01/the-democratic-fraud-and-the-universalist-alternative/>

Ernesto Laclau, On Populist Reason. London: Verso, 2005, 3-20.

### **February 25: From Dependency Theory to Neo-Structuralism**

Braden Stone, "Marxism, Dependency and the World Systems Approach: Are they making a come back?" in Howard J. Wiarda, ed., Grand Theories and Ideologies in the Social Sciences. New York: Palgrave, 2010 41-58

Ricardo Bielschowsky, "Sixty years of ECLAC: structuralism and neo-structuralism," CEPAL Review, No. 97, 2009, 171-192.

[http://repositorio.cepal.org/bitstream/handle/11362/11325/97171192I\\_en.pdf?sequence=1](http://repositorio.cepal.org/bitstream/handle/11362/11325/97171192I_en.pdf?sequence=1)

Dhammika Herath, "Development Discourse of the Globalists and Dependency Theorists: do the globalization theorists rephrase and reword the central concepts of the dependency school?" Third World Quarterly, Vol. 29, No. 4, 2008, 819-834.

Hans Jürgen Burchardt, "Political participation and social exclusion: Latin American's paradox convergence," Revista FORUM, Vol. 1, No. 1, 2011,

[http://library.fes.de/pdf-files/ipg/ipg-2010-3/2010-3\\_burchardt\\_us.pdf](http://library.fes.de/pdf-files/ipg/ipg-2010-3/2010-3_burchardt_us.pdf)

Mushtaq H. Khan, "Markets, States and Democracy: Patron-Client Networks and the Case for Democracy in Developing Countries," Democratization, Special Issue: On the State of Democracy, Vol. 12, No. 5, 2005, 704-724.

### **March 3: The Search for Alternatives**

Jean Grugel, Pia Riggirozzi and Ben Thirkell-White, "Beyond the Washington Consensus? Asia and Latin America in Search of More Autonomous Development," International Affairs, Vol. 84, No. 3, 2008, 499-517.

Gordon McCord, Jeffrey D. Sachs and Wing Thye Woo, "Understanding African Poverty: Beyond the Washington Consensus to the Millennium Development Goals Approach," Paper presented at the conference "Africa in the Global Economy: External Constraints, Regional Integration, and the Role of the State in Development and Finance" organized by FONDAD, held at the South African Reserve Bank, Pretoria, 13-14 June 2005.

<http://www.fondad.org/uploaded/Africa%20in%20the%20World%20Economy/Fondad-AfricaWorld-Chapter2.pdf>

Kroessin, Mohammad R., "Concepts of development in Islam: a review of contemporary literature and practice." RAD Working Papers Series, 2008.

[http://epapers.bham.ac.uk/1501/1/Kroessin\\_2008\\_Concepts.pdf](http://epapers.bham.ac.uk/1501/1/Kroessin_2008_Concepts.pdf)

Unai Villalba, "Buen Vivir vs. Development: a paradigm shift in the Andes?" Third World Quarterly, Vol. 34, No. 8, 2013, 1427-1442.

Achille Mbembe, "Africa and the Future: An Interview," Africasacountry.com, 2013

<http://africasacountry.com/2013/11/africa-and-the-future-an-interview-with-achille-mbembe/>

Jennifer Leigh Disney and Virginia S. Williams, "Latin American Social Movements and a New Left Consensus: State and Civil Society Challenges to Neoliberal Globalization," New Political Science, Vol. 36, No. 1, 2014, 1-31.

## **IV. THE SILENCES OF COMPARATIVE POLITICS: DEEP CULTURE, EMOTIONS AND IDEAS OF GOD**

### **March 10: Lost in Translation: Deep Culture**

Holger Meyer, "Political Culture: Explanatory Variable or Residual Category?" In Howard J. Wiarda, ed., Grand Theories and Ideologies in the Social Sciences. New York: Palgrave, 2010, 59-80

Sonal Sahu, Institutions and Institutionalism. In Howard J. Wiarda, ed., Grand Theories and Ideologies in the Social Sciences. New York: Palgrave, 2010, 113-126.



Ali A. Abdi, "Globalization, Culture and Development: Perspectives on Africa," Journal of Alternative Perspectives in the Social Sciences, Vol. 2, No. 1, 2010, 1-26.

<http://www.uv.es/garzon/psicologia%20politica/N46-3.pdf>

Jean- François Bayart, The State in Africa: The Politics of the Belly. London: Polity, 2009, 119-272.

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Howard Wiarda, "Historical Determinants of the Latin American State: The Tradition of Bureaucratic-Patrimonialism, Corporatism, Centralism, and Authoritarianism," in Howard J. Wiarda and Margaret MacLeish Mott, eds. Politics and Social Change in Latin America: Still a Distinct Tradition? Westport: Praeger, 2003, 129-150.

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### **March 17: Lost in Translation: Emotions**

J.D.J. Nakaska, "Rational Choice Theory: Why Irrationality Makes More Sense for Comparative Politics," in Howard J. Wiarda, ed., Grand Theories and Ideologies in the Social Sciences. New York: Palgrave, 2010, 127-140.

Monica Greco and Paul Stenner, "Emotion and Social Science", in Monica Greco and Paul Stenner, eds., Emotions: A Social Science Reader. New York: Routledge, 2008, 1-21.

Anthony Petros Spanakos, "Institutionalities and Political Change in Bolivarian Venezuela," in Anthony Petros Spanakos and Francisco Panizza, Conceptualizing Comparative Politics. New York: Routledge, 2016, 215-241.

Suzanne Oosterwijk and Lisa Feldman Barrett, "Embodiment in the Construction of Emotion Experience and Emotion Understanding," in Lawrence Shapiro, ed., The Routledge Handbook of Embodied Cognition. New York: Routledge, 2014, 250-260.

L. M. Hartling, E. Lindner, U. Spalthoff and M. Britton, "Humiliation: A Nuclear Bomb of Emotions?" Psicología Política, N<sup>o</sup> 46, 2013, 55-76.

Gayatri Chakravorty Spivak, "Terror: A Speech After 9-11," Boundary 2, Vol. 31, No. 2, 2004, 81-111.

Matthew Mahler, "Politics as a Vocation: Notes Toward a Sensualist Understanding of Political Engagement," in Lauren Joseph, Matthew Mahler, Javier Auyero, New Perspectives in Political Ethnography, New York: Springer, 2007, 224-246.

<http://link.springer.com/article/10.1007%2Fs11133-006-9032-y#/page->

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### **March 24: Lost in Translation: Ideas of God in the Global South**

Séverin Deneulin and Masoooda Bano, Religion in Development: Rewriting the Secular Script. London: Zed Books, 2009.

Wole Soyinka, "The Spirituality of a Continent," in Wole Soyinka, Of Africa. New Haven, Yale University Press, 2012, 129-168.

Andrés Pérez-Baltodano, "God and Power in the Global North and Latin America," in John Dyck, Paul Rowe, Jens Zimmermann, eds. Whose Will be Done: Essays on Sovereignty and Religion. Lexington Books, 2015, 155-172.

Birol Başkan, "The Secular State: Proposing a New Perspective," in Anthony Petros Spanakos and Francisco Panizza, Conceptualizing Comparative Politics. New York: Routledge, 2016, 68-81.

### **March 31: Conclusions: Can Western Political Scientists Listen?**

Jeremiah O. Arowosegbe, "Decolonizing the Social Sciences in the Global South: Claude Ake and the Praxis of Knowledge Production in Africa," African Studies Center, Working Paper 79, 2008.

Dipesh Chakrabarty, Provincializing Europe: Postcolonial Thought and Historical Difference. Princeton: Princeton University Press, 2000, 3-26.

Judith Butler and Gayatri Chakravorty Spivak, Who Sings the Nation State? Language, Politics, Belonging. Chicago: Seagull Books, 2011.

Abdul Rashid Moten, "Islamization of Knowledge: Challenges and Achievements," in International Journal of Islamic Thought, Vol. 4, No. 1, 2015, 7-18.

Arturo Escobar, "Latin America at a Crossroads: Alternative modernizations, post-liberalism, or post-development?" Cultural Studies, Vol. 24, No. 1 January 2010, 1-65

<https://creativeecologies.ucsc.edu/wp-content/uploads/sites/196/2015/10/Escobar-Latin-America-Crossroads.pdf>

Uday Chandra, "The Case for a Postcolonial Approach to the Study of Politics," New Political Science, Vol. 35, No. 3, 2013, 479-491.

Charles W. Mills, "Decolonizing Western Political Philosophy," New Political Science, Vol. 37, No. 1, 2015, 1-24.