Course Overview
This course is designed to offer an overview [survey] of major theories and literature in political sociology, and to connect them to contemporary debates. We review the fundamental paradigms in Political Sociology, and students will have an opportunity to link those with their own research interests be it policy studies, social movements, or regional studies. The readings begin at the micro level and work their way up to the macro/global.

Learning Objectives
Students should become familiar with the major theoretical traditions and be comfortable in summarizing, synthesizing, and presenting their interpretation of the readings.

Grading
I think the most useful preparation for seminar discussion is a brief paper (2-4 pages) that 1) briefly summarizes the argument(s) of the author(s) and 2) suggests a question(s) raised by the readings and/or offers a reaction to the readings. The question can be a more elaborated version of the one listed on the syllabus or another of your own choosing. You should do ten of these which will be 75% of the grade.

Attendance and Participation: The seminar only works well if students attend and participate.

The final paper comes closer to the beginning of a research paper. Take an idea, concept, etc. from the reading, offer some critical perspective reviewing how multiple readings speak to the topic, or/and translate into a possible research question. It could, but does not need to, include a small amount of data. This will not be a full-fledged research proposal but the beginning of one. For those with a project already under way, we will decide on a paper that best advances your ongoing work. I think 10 pages is appropriate. This will be 25% of the grade.

University Policies
Plagiarism is not tolerated. For further information on the Student Code of Academic Integrity, see: Plagiarism http://deanofstudents.arizona.edu/codeofacademicintegrity

Accessibility and Accommodations are guaranteed by the University.

Required Readings

D2L All remaining readings
• Readings in the boxes are not assigned readings
Week 2.1 - introduction

AMERICAN EXCEPTIONALISM?


Vogel, David. 1978. 'Why Businessmen Distrust their State: The political Consciousness of American Corporate Executives. reprinted in Skopole and Campbell: 247-271. [lies in the unique role of the state at their institution’s birth.]

Week 2.2

INDIVIDUALS, CIVIL SOCIETY, AND POLITICAL PARTICIPATION


Goldfarb, Jeffrey. 1991. The cynical society;
Texeira, Rui. The disappearing american voter;
Fox-Piven, Frances. 1988, Why Americans don’t vote.

Week 3.1

What’s the correct unit of analysis?


**Week 3.2**


---

**Week 4.1**

**IS THERE A REPRESENTATION GAP?**


---

**Week 4.2**

**THEORIES OF VOTING NEED THEORIES OF THE STATE/**


---

**Week 5.1.**


**Week 5.2**  
*Organization of Classes & Voting*

**Week 6.1**

**Week 6.2**  
*Goldthorpe, John H. 2001. ‘Class and Politics in Advanced Industrial Societies’ Chapter*


5:105-120 in *The Breakdown of Class Politics. Edited by Terry Clark and Seymour Martin Lipset. Woodrow Wilson Center Press. DC.*

**LOGIC OF DEMOCRATIC CAPITALISM**
Przeworski. Chap. 4.

**Week7.1**
Przeworski. Chap 5

**Week 7.2**  
*WHAT ACCOUNTS FOR THE CONTENT OF STATE POLICIES?*

*Do ruling elites shape public policy in their own interests?*

**Week 8.1 [STATE POLICIES CONTD]**


---


---

**Week 8.2**


---

**Week 9.1**

**WHY WOULD A RULING CLASS PERMIT REDISTRIBUTION TO LOWER CLASSES.**


Week 9.2


Week 10.1

Week 10.2
**DO SOCIAL MOVEMENTS [OR PARTIES] MATTER?**

Goldfield, Michael. 'Worker Insurgency, Radical Organization, and New Deal Legislation.' *APSR*. 3:1257-1282.


**Occupy Wallstreet**
[Main Website: http://bjsonline.org/2011/12/understanding-the-occupy-movement-perspectives-from-the-social-sciences/]

meets-its-nemesis

Lakoff.  http://www.alternet.org/story/152800/lakoff%3A_how_occupy_wall_street%27s_moral_vision_can_beat_the_disastrous_conservative_worldview

Wright, Eric O.  http://www.newleftproject.org/index.php/site/article_comments/occupy_wall_street_and_transformational_strategy

**Week 11.1**

**WHY DOES THE STATE TAKE THE FORM THAT IT DOES (democratic, authoritarian)?**


Is industrialization a sufficient condition for democracy?


-----

**Is there an affinity between capitalism and democracy?**


-----


-----

**Week 11.2**

**REGIME TRANSITIONS IN AN INTERNATIONAL CONTEXT**


**Week 12.1**

Domhoff. Chaps 5& 6
Week 12.2

PUTTING THE WORLD-SYSTEM BACK INTO GLOBALIZATION


Week 13.1

WHAT'S THE FUTURE FOR THE STATE?


Week 13.2

Block, Fred. Vampire State, Chap 5: 38-45.


WEEK 14.1

GLOBALIZATION, DEVELOPMENT AND DEMOCRACY IN EMERGING NATIONS.
