Comparative Political Parties and Electoral Systems
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1. Course Introduction:

The course will introduce political parties and the electoral system in the United States and other established democratic countries on a comparative basis. The readings and class discussions will introduce students to the fundamental questions and approaches to the study of political parties and their role in, and contribution to, democratic societies. The course will also acquaint students with basic readings in the area. Areas of concern include the functions of parties in a political system, who they represent, how they mobilize voters and influence policy, leadership selection, party evolution over time, differences among parties, and how electoral arrangements affect political outcomes. The focus is on party systems in advanced industrial democracies.

2. Course requirements:

The course will include:

- Assigned readings for each class. Students are required to have done the readings prior to the class meetings and come prepared to discuss these.
- A midterm and a final exam - the midterm will cover all class lectures and discussion and all assigned readings. The final exam will cover the entire course.
- Each student will be required to read a total of four articles of his/her selection from the Handbook of Party Politics, eds. R. Katz and W. Crotty, to write a brief synopsis and critique of two of the four articles by the midterm quiz and the last two by the final exam. Two of the written critiques will be passed in by the midterm and the final two by the last class session. The students will also report in class on the articles as scheduled by the instructor.

Class attendance is mandatory.
3. Required Readings:

- Alan Ware. *Political Parties and Party Systems*


Recommended Readings:

- E. E. Schattschneider. *The Semi-Sovereign People*
- Arend Lijphart, *Electoral Systems and Party Systems*
- Russell J. Dalton and Martin Wattenberg, eds., *Parties Without Partisans*
- Larry Diamond and Richard Gunther, eds., *Political Parties and Democracy.*

4. Course Schedule:

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Session</th>
<th>Topic and Assignment</th>
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| 1       | *The Study of Comparative Political Parties*  
  Course Organization and Objectives  
  Review of Requirements  
  Introduction to Assigned Readings |

Required Readings:  
Ware, “Introduction”  
Dalton, Ch 1

Recommended:  
Richard S. Katz, “Party in Democratic Theory”, Katz and Crotty  
John Kenneth White, “What is a political party?”, Katz and Crotty

2 Parties, Ideology and Supporters

Required:
Ware, Chs. 1, 2

Recommended:
F. Vassallo and C. Wilcox, “Party as Carrier of Ideas”, Katz and Crotty
M. Hershey, “Political Parties as Mechanisms of Social Choice”, Katz and Crotty

3 Party Organization and Non-Liberal Regimes

Required:
Ware, Chs. 3, 4

Recommended:
W. Crotty “Party Origin and Evolution in the United States”, Katz and Crotty
K. Deschouwer, “Political Parties as Multi-Level Organizations”, Katz and Crotty

4 Party Systems

Required:
Ware, Chs. 5, 6

Recommended:
S. Wolinetz, “Party Systems…”, Katz and Crotty
J. Johnson, “Political Parties and Deliberative Democracy?”, Katz and Crotty

5 Party Change and Non-Liberal States

Required:
Ware, Chs. 7, 8

Recommended:
P. Mair, “Party System Change”, Katz and Crotty
W. Crotty, “Party Transformations…”, Katz and Crotty

6 Candidate Selection and Campaigns

Required Readings:
Ware, Chs. 9, 10

Recommended:
R. Hazan and G. Rahat, “Candidate Selection…”, Katz and Crotty
P. Norris, “Recruitment”, Katz and Crotty

7 Party Voting and Party-in-Government

Required:
Ware, Chs. 11, 12

Recommended:
H. Keman, “Parties and Government…”, Katz and Crotty
L. De Winter and P. Dumont, “Parties Into Government…”, Katz and Crotty

8 Overseeing Party Systems /Midterm Quiz

Required:
Ware: “Conclusions”

Recommended:
V. Randall, “Political Parties Structure…”, Katz and Crotty
T. Poguntke, “Political Parties and Other Organizations, “ Katz and Crotty

There will be a one-hour quiz covering all materials in class and required readings followed by an in-class review of the quiz.

9 Mass Beliefs and Political Participation

Required:
Dalton, Chs. 2, 3
Recommended:
S. Mainwaring and M. Torcal, “Party System Institutionalization...”, Katz and Crotty
A. Krouwel, “Party Models”, Katz and Crotty

10 Who Participates and Political Orientations

Required:
Dalton, Chs. 4, 5

Recommended:
A. Ware, “American Exceptionalism”, Katz and Crotty
N. Rae, “Exceptionalism in the United States”, Katz and Crotty
J. Endersby et. al., “Electoral Mobilization”, Katz and Crotty

11 Issues, Ideology and Elections

Required:
Dalton, Chs. 6, 7

Recommended:
E. Uslaner, “Political Parties and Social Capital...”, Katz and Crotty
J. Hopkin, “Clientelism....”, Katz and Crotty
D. Dulio, “Party Crashers?...”, Katz and Crotty

12 Social Context of Party Support and Partisanship

Required:
Dalton, Chs. 8, 9

Recommended:
H. Kitschelt, “Movement Parties”, Katz and Crotty
P. Siavelis, “Party and Social Structure”, Katz and Crotty

13 Attitudes and Political Representation

Required:
Dalton, Chs. 10, 11

Recommended:
I. Budge, “Identifying Dimensions...”, Katz and Crotty
P. Mair, “Cleavages”, Katz and Crotty
Course Conclusion: Parties, Citizens and the Democratic Process

Review for Final Exam -- to cover all course materials, lectures, discussions, required readings and recommended readings read during semester

Required:
Dalton, Ch. 12

Recommended:
K. Lawson, “The International Role....”, Katz and Crotty
H. Semetko, “Parties in the Media Age”, Katz and Crotty
H. Margetts, “Cyber Parties”, Katz and Crotty

Final Exam

5. Recommended Readings


Maurice Duverger, Political Parties.

Robert Harmel and Kenneth Janda, Parties and their Environments.

Samuel P. Huntington, The Third Wave: Democratization in the Late Twentieth Century.

Hans-Dieter Klingemann, Richard Hofferbert, and Ian Budge, Parties, Policies and Democracy.
Joseph LaPalombra and Myron Weiner, *Political Parties and Political Development*.


Arend Lijphart, *Patterns of Democracy*.

Seymour Martin Lipset and Stein Rokkan, *Party Systems and Voter Alignments*.

Sigmund Neumann, *Modern Political Parties*.

G. Bingham Powell Jr., *Contemporary Democracies*.


Stefano Bartolini, *The Political Mobilization of the European Left*.


Andrew Carstairs, *A Short History of Electoral Systems in Western Europe*.

Gary Cox, *The Efficient Secret*.


Jesse Macy, *Party Organization and Machinery*.

Robert Michels, *Political Parties*.

Moisei Ostrogorski, *Democracy and the Organization of Political Parties*.

Austin Ranney, *The Doctrine of Responsible Party Government*.


Angus Campbell, Phillip E. Converse, Warren E. Miller, and Donald E. Stokes, *The American Voter*.


V.O. Key Jr., *Southern Politics in State and Nation.*

M. Laakso and R. Taagepera, “Effective number of parties: A measure with application to West Europe”, Comparative Political Studies, 12: 3-27.

Jan-Erik Lane and Svante O. Ersson, *Politics and Society in Western Europe.*

Arend Lijphart, “Typologies of Political Systems”, *Comparative Political Studies*, 1: 3-44.


Arend Lijphart, *Democracy in Plural Societies.*


Douglas Rae, *The Political Consequences of Electoral Laws.*


Alan Ware, *Political Parties and Party Systems.*


Peter Mair, Party System Change: Approaches and Interpretations.


Ian Budge and Hans Keman, Parties and Democracy: Coalition Formation and Government Function in Twenty States.


Gerald M. Pomper, Passions and Interests: Political Party Concepts of American Democracy.


Thomas Ferguson, Right Turn: The Decline of the Democrats and the Future of American Politics.


Joseph A. Schlesinger, Political Parties and Winning of Office.

Steven J. Rosenstone and John Mark Hansen, Mobilization, Participation, and Democracy in America.

Michael Laver and W. Ben Hunt, Policy and Party Competition.

S. M. Milkis, The President and the Parties.

M. Seligson and J. Booth, eds., Elections and Democracy in Central America Revisited.
M. Weiner and E. Ozbudun, *Competitive Elections in Developing Countries*.

D. Bennett, *The Party of Fear*.

Theodore Low, *The End of the Republican Era*.

B. Grofman and A. Lijphart, eds., *Electoral Laws and Their Political Consequences*.