

Soc 21 - Introduction to Political Sociology

Spring 2023: March 27 – May 31

Lev Grinberg

Course Description: Politics exists everywhere, when certain decisions affect two or more human beings. Immediately emerge political questions: who makes the decision, and how? Is it a result of dialogue and negotiations, or unilateral imposition of the most powerful? Who benefits? Who lose? Political Sociology studies processes of decision making and power relations at larger levels of society. In this Introductory course we will study basic questions of political processes, starting with the historical formation of States in Europe during centuries of Wars, their violent expansion overseas by colonialism and settler societies, and the emergence of nationalism and democracy. We will study democratic decision-making processes, theories of power elites, pluralism and class domination. How democratic processes represent classes, ethnic groups and race, and how civil society, social movements and trade unions organize and demand representation, at local and global levels. Finally, we will discuss how globalization impacts democratic processes.

General Course Requirements: All students are expected to attend lectures, do the reading, participate in class discussions; they will write four short reports commenting on the readings, do one mid-term take home exam and one final take home exam.

Grading: Each one of the reading reports will be 5% of the final grade. The mid-term exam will be 30 % and the final exam 50%.

Honor Principle: Examinations and the research paper will be conducted in accord with the principles of academic honor detailed in Dartmouth's *Organization, Regulations and Courses* and in the *Student Handbook*.

Students with Disabilities: I encourage students with disabilities, including “invisible” disabilities like chronic diseases, learning disabilities, and psychiatric disabilities to discuss with me after class or during my office hours by the end of the second week of the term appropriate academic adjustments or accommodations that might be helpful to you. All discussions will remain confidential, although the Academic Skills Center may be consulted to verify the documentation of the disability.

Week 1. March 27 – April 2 - Classical Theories

* Marx, K. (1970). *Selected Works*, (3rd Edition) International Publishers: New York. pp. 95-185.

* Weber, M. (1968). *Economy and Society* (ed. By) Roth and Wittich, Bedminster Press: New York. (vol. 1) Pp. 241-255.

* Weber, M. (1946) *From Max Weber* ed by HH. Gerth and CW Mills (1969 reprint) Oxford University Press, New York. Pp. 180-195, 245-266.

Week 2. April 3—9 – Politics: Who Rules?

- * Weber, M. (1946) *From Max Weber* ed by HH. Gerth and CW. Mills (1969 reprint) Oxford University Press, New York. Pp. 77-128.
- * C.W. Mills, "On Politics" in *The Sociological Imagination*, Penguin Books.
- * Arendt, H. & Kohn, J. (2006). *Between past and future*. Penguin. (Ch. 3).
- * Michels, R. (2019) "The iron law of oligarchy." *Power in Modern Societies*. Routledge. 111-124.
- * C.W. Mills, (1958) "The Structure of Power in American Society", *The British Journal of Sociology*, 9:1, 29-41.

Week 3. April 10-16 - On Democracy

- * Moore, Barrington, Jr. (1966) *Social Origins of Dictatorship and Democracy*. Penguin Books: Narmondsworth. Chapters 7-8, pp. 413-452.
- * Rustow, D.A. (1970) "Transitions to Democracy: Toward a Dynamic Model". *Comparative Politics*, 2:3, pp. 337-363.
- * Tilly, C. (2018) "Where rights come from?" in Skocpol, T. (ed) *Democracy, Revolution and History*, Ithaca: Cornell UP.
- * Linz and Stepan (1996) *Problems of Democratic Consolidation and Transition*, John Hopkins University Press: Baltimore, Chapters 1-2, pp. 3-37.
- * Rueschemeyer, D., Stephens, E.H and J.d Stephens. (1992) *Capitalist Development and Democracy*. University of Chicago Press: Chicago. Chapter 7, pp. 269-302.

Week 4. April 17-23 - On Leadership and Representation Crisis

- * Weber, M. (1968). *Economy and Society* (ed. By) Roth and Wittich, Bedminster Press: New York. (vol. 1) Pp. 245-264 (Charismatic Authority).
- * Bourdieu, P. (1992) "Delegation and Political Fetishism", *Language and Symbolic Power*, Malden MA: Polity Press, Pp. 203-218.
- * O'Donnell, G. (1996) "Illusions about Democracy", *Journal of Democracy*, 7: 34-51.
- * Della Porta D (2015) "Lo Llaman la Democracia Pero no lo es: A Crisis of Political Responsibility" in *Social Movements in Times of Austerity*, Cambridge: Polity Press.

Week 5. April 24-30 – - Social Movements and Political Processes

- * McAdam, D. (1982). *Political Process and the Development of Black Insurgency, 1930-1970*. Chicago: University of Chicago Press. Pp. 36-59, 230-235.
- * Tarrow, Sidney. (1993). "Cycles of collective action: Between moments of madness and the repertoire of contention." *Social Science History* 17:281-308.
- * Melucci, (1995) "The Process of Collective Identity" in *Social Movements and Culture*. Ed by Johnston and Klandermas Minnesota University Press.
- * Gamson, WA (1995) "Constructing Social Protests" in *Social Movements and Culture*, ed by Johnston and Klandermans, Minneapolis, University of Minnesota Press, pp. 85-106.
- * Castells, M. (2012) *Networks of Outrage and Hope: Social Movements in the Internet Age*, Cambridge, Polity Press. Pp. 1-19, "Opening", 156-217 "Occupy Wall Street".
- * Grinberg, L. (2014) *Mo(ve)ments of Resistance*, Albany: Academic Studies Press, Ch. 9

Week 6. May 1-6 On Violence

- * Fanon, F. (1963) *The Wretched of the Earth*, Harmondsworth: Penguin. Ch. 1-2
- * Arendt, H. (1970), *On Violence*, HBJ Book, New York (Ch. 1-3).
- * Bourdieu, P. (1992) *Language and Symbolic Power*, Maiden MA: Polity Press, ch 9.

Week 7. May 7-13 - on Military power

- * Tilly, C. (1992) "How War Made States and Vice Versa", in *Coercion, capital, and European states, AD 990-1992*. Oxford: Blackwell.
- * Tilly C. (1985) "War Making and State Making as Organized Crime", in Evans P., Rueschemeyer D. and Skocpol, T. (eds.) *Bringing the State Back In*, New York: Cambridge University Press.
- * Mann, M. (2005) *The Dark Side of Democracy: Explaining Ethnic Cleansing*, Cambridge, Cambridge University Press, Ch. 1-3. 4 ???
- * Stepan, A. (2001) *Arguing Comparative Politics*, Oxford: Oxford University Press. Ch. 4 "Military Politics in Three Polity Arenas"
- * Grinberg, L.L. (2010) *Politics and Violence in Israel/Palestine*, London: Routledge. Ch 9.

Week 8. May 14-20 - national identity

- * Smith, A. D., Smith, A. D., Goody, J., & Hawthorn, G. (1981). *The ethnic revival*. CUP Archive. Ch. 1
- * Anderson, B. (1991) *Imagined Communities: Reflections on the Origin and Spread of Nationalism*. Revised Edition ed. London and New York: Verso. Ch. 2-4
- * Brubaker, R. (1996) *Nationalism Reframed: Nationhood and the National Question in the New Europe*, London: Cambridge UP. Ch. 4.
- * Partha Chatterjee P. (1993) *The Nation and Its' Fragments*, Princeton University Press, Ch. 1-2.

Week 9 May 21-27 Colonialism, Race and racism

- * Fanon, F. (1967) *Black Skin White Masks*, Grove Press, New York, Ch 1.
- * Rex, J. (1970) *Race Relations in Sociological Theory*, London: Weinfeld and Nicolson, Ch.2
- * Fredrickson, G. M. (1988). *The arrogance of race: Historical perspectives on slavery, racism, and social inequality*. Wesleyan University Press. Ch-15, 17.
- * Veracini, L. (2011). Introducing: Settler colonial studies. *Settler colonial studies*, 1(1), 1-12.

Week 10 May 29-31 Globalization and its opponents

- * Stiglitz, J. (2012) *The Price of Inequality*, W. W. Norton. Preface
- * Standing, G. (2011) *The Precariat, the New Dangerous Class*, London and New York: Bloomsbury Academy, Pp. 1-25.
- * Klein, N (2007) *The Shock Doctrine: The Rise of Disaster Capitalism*, Mcmillan. Introduction.