

MIR 563— HISTORY OF THE MODERN STATE IN WESTERN EUROPE

Fall 2019

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Course Description

This course explores the evolution of the modern state in Western Europe. From a historical and theoretical perspective, we will discuss the questions of why the modern state emerged and has become the dominant form, how it relates to the rule of law and democracy, and how it has performed in the face of societal demands for rights and freedom. The first part uses political science theories to clarify the state's relationship to political regime, democracy, and democratization. The second part focuses on the modern state. Specifically, we will discuss what separates the modern state from other state types and whether this political form was inevitable. In the final part of the course, we will explore how the modern state evolved with respect to changing societal demands over time. We will focus on the cases of social democracy, Christian democracy, and the far right.

The course has no prerequisites. Although I will be lecturing, the course will essentially be run as a discussion seminar, where students will be taking on progressively greater responsibility as the semester proceeds for structuring the discussion and initiating debate. By the end of the semester, each student will be familiar with major works of political science research in European politics. Additionally, students will have developed a sense of the (a) what makes a state a modern state, (b) why the modern state looks different across European societies, and (c) how the modern state in Europe changed as a result of interactions between governments and society.

Course Requirements

- Paper: 25%
- Class presentation: 25%
- Midterm exam: 25%
- Class participation: 25%

Paper: Students are required to write one 3,000-word paper during the course (double-space, 12 font). This paper will address a question that will be announced **in class** one week before the due date. Students are expected to make an argument and elaborate on it using the theories and empirical examples discussed in class. Citations will follow the Chicago Manual of Style 16th Edition (full note). No outside material is required for the papers. The paper is due by Week 7. Lateness policy: minus 5 points for each day after the submission deadline.

Class presentation: Students are required to do a group presentation of 15 minutes in class. Presenters are to email to class a handout of their presentation the night before. The use of

power point is optional but recommended.

Midterm: The final exam covers all topics covered throughout the course. It will consist of short questions and a short essay.

Class participation: Informed, active participation is a requirement of the course. While a variety of lesson formats offer opportunities for different kinds of participation (oral and written, individual and collaborative, large and small group), you will be graded on both the quality and quantity of your required contributions to the seminar.

Required books

Tilly, Charles. 2007. *Democracy*. (Cambridge: Cambridge University Press).

Berman, Sheri. 2006. *The Primacy of Politics: Social Democracy and the Making of Europe's Twentieth Century*. New York: Cambridge University Press.

Kalyvas, Stathis. 1996. *The Rise of Christian Democracy in Europe*. Ithaca, NY: Cornell University Press.

Academic integrity

Cheating and plagiarism during the midterm and the final exam will not be tolerated. Students should work on their exams independently. The Department of Political Science and International Relations at Bogazici University has the following rules and regulations regarding academic honesty.

1. Copying work from others or giving and receiving answers/information during exams either in written or oral form constitutes cheating.

2. Submitting take-home exams and papers of others as your own, using sentences or paragraphs from another author without the proper acknowledgement of the original author, insufficient acknowledgement of the consulted works in the bibliography, all constitute plagiarism. For further guidelines, you can consult.
<http://www.buowl.boun.edu.tr/students/favoidingplagiarism.htm>

3. Plagiarism and cheating are serious offenses and will result in:
a) an automatic F for the assignment or the exam
b) an oral explanation before the Departmental Ethics Committee
c) losing the opportunity to request and receive any references from the entire faculty
d) losing the opportunity to apply in exchange programs
e) losing the prospects of becoming a student assistant or a graduate assistant in the department

The students may further be sent to the University Ethics committee or be subject to disciplinary action.

Schedule of Topics, Readings, and Assignments

Part I: Nuts and bolts of studying political processes

Week 1: Introduction & concepts

- What is a state? political regime?
- Methods: Studying political processes

Week 2: Democracy & the state

- Democracy, democratization, and de-democratization
- Trust networks
- Inequality

Required reading

Tilly, Charles. 2007. *Democracy*. (Cambridge: Cambridge University Press). pp. 51-161.

Week 3: Democracy: An end or a means?

- Prerequisites for democracy
- Democracy & classes
- Democracy as a bargain

Required reading

Michael McFaul, The Fourth Wave of Democracy and Dictatorship: Noncooperative Transitions in the Postcommunist World, *World Politics* 54, no. 2 (January 1, 2002): 212-44.

Rustow, Dankwart A. 1970. Transitions to Democracy: Toward a Dynamic Model. *Comparative Politics* 2 (3): 337-363.

Part II: Foundations of the modern state

Week 4: Monopoly of Violence

- State as a socially optimal outcome
- State as domination by a group

Required reading

Charles Tilly. 1990. *Coercion, Capital, and European States, AD 990-1990*. Cambridge, Mass.: B. Blackwell. Chapters 1 and 3.

Douglass C. North, Barry Weingast, and Joseph Wallis *Violence and Social Orders: A Conceptual Framework for Interpreting Recorded Human History*. (Cambridge University Press, 2009), introduction & pp. 148-190.

Week 5: The rise of the modern state in Europe

Required reading

Spruyt, H. (1994) *The Sovereign state and its competitors*. Princeton: Princeton University Press. pp.130-150; 151-181.

Week 6: Midterm

Week 7: Government by consent

Midterm scheduled

Required reading

Stasavage, David. 2016. Representation and Consent: Why They Arose in Europe and Not Elsewhere. *Annual Review of Political Science*.

Barry R. Weingast, The Political Foundations of Democracy and the Rule of Law, *The American Political Science Review* 91, no. 2 (June 1, 1997): 24563, <https://doi.org/10.2307/2952354>.

Part III: Demands for rights & freedoms

Week 8: Fin de siècle in Europe

- German and Italian unifications
- Social question, new demands

Required reading

Polanyi, K. (1944) *The Great Transformation: The Political and Economic Origins of Our Time* Beacon Press.

Week 9: Christian democracy

Required reading

Kersbergen, Kees van. 1995. *Social Capitalism: A Study of Christian Democracy and the Welfare State*. New York: Routledge. Chapter 8.

Kalyvas, Stathis. 1996. *The Rise of Christian Democracy in Europe*. Ithaca, NY: Cornell University Press.

Week 10: Social democracy & Interwar Europe

Required reading

Berman, Sheri. 2006. *The Primacy of Politics: Social Democracy and the Making of Europe's Twentieth Century*. New York: Cambridge University Press.

Week 11: European integration & European nation states

Required reading

Alan Milward, *The Rescue of the Nation State*. Routledge; 2 edition (February 2, 2000), pp. 104–197.

Week 12: The New radical right

Required reading

Mudde, Cas. 2007. *Populist Radical Right Parties in Europe*. New York: Cambridge University Press.

Berman, Sheri. 2004. The Three Faces of Fascism. *World Policy Journal* 2004 (Fall): 95- 100.

Week 13: the Future of democracy in Europe & wrap-up

Paper due date