



Department of Political Science

Comparative Politics Comprehensive Examination Reading List

This is a listing of important books in various areas of the field of comparative politics. A capable graduate student be well versed with these books. The list is exhaustive though not definitive and will be updated biennially.

A few words on textbooks and scholarly works. A textbook is a compilation of generally acknowledged facts and concepts compiled in essays used to explain various political science topics. While they may occasionally be used in selected graduate courses, they are generally geared to introductory courses. Consequently, they are inappropriate for use in graduate level comprehensive examinations. Such examinations are designed to ascertain your knowledge of the original work found in scholarly books.

Canonical Works in Comparative Politics¹

Democratic Performance

Robert D. Putnam, Raffaella Y. Nanetti, and Robert Leonardi. *Making Democracy Work: Civic Traditions in Modern Italy*. Princeton University Press, 1993.

Elections and Electoral Systems

Gary W. Cox et al. *Making Votes Count: Strategic Coordination in the World's Electoral Systems*. Cambridge University Press, 1997.

Anthony Downs (1957), *An Economic Theory of Democracy*. Addison-Wesley, 1957.

Giovanni Sartori. *Parties and Party Systems: A Framework for Analysis, Volume 1*. Cambridge University Press, 1978.

Ethnicity, Identity Politics, and Nationalism

Benedict Anderson. *Imagined Communities: Reflections on the Origin and Spread of Nationalism*. New Left Books, 1991.

Ernest Gellner. *Nations and Nationalism*. Cornell University Press, 1983.

Harris Mylonas. *The Politics of Nation-Building: Making Co-Nationals, Refugees, and Minorities*. Cambridge University Press, 2013.

Edward W. Said. *Orientalism*. Vintage Books, 1979.

Formal Theory

Robert H. Bates. *Markets and States in Tropical Africa: The Political Basis of Agricultural Policies*. University of California Press, 2014.

Robert Bates et al. *Analytic Narratives*. Princeton University Press, 1998.

Gary W. Cox et al. *Making Votes Count*. 1997.

Anthony Downs. *An Economic Theory of Democracy*. 1957.

Mancur Olson. *The Logic of Collective Action: Public Goods and the Theory of Groups*. Harvard University Press, 1965.

Institutions

Douglass C. North. *Institutions, Institutional Change, and Economic Performance*. Cambridge University Press, 1990.

Interest Groups

Mancur Olson. *The Rise and Decline of Nations: Economic Growth, Stagflation, and Social Rigidities*. Yale University Press, 1982.

Mancur Olson. *The Logic of Collective Action*.

Methodology

Robert Bates et al. *Analytic Narratives*. 1998.

Peter Evans, Dietrich Rueschemeyer, and Theda Skocpol. *Bringing the State Back In*. Cambridge University Press, 1985.

Gary King, Robert O. Keohane, and Sidney Verba. *Designing Social Inquiry: Scientific Inference in Qualitative Research*. Princeton University Press, 1994.

Arend Lijphart. "Comparative Politics and the Comparative Method," *American Political Science Review*, (1971) volume 45: 682-93.

Adam Przeworski and Henry Teune. *The Logic of Comparative Social Inquiry*. Krieger Publishing Company, 1970.

Charles C. Ragin (1987). *The Comparative Method: Moving Beyond Qualitative and Quantitative Strategies*. University of California Press, 1987.

Participation, Collective Action, Social Movements

Manuel Castells. *Networks of Outrage and Hope: Social Movements in the Internet Age*, 2nd edition. Polity, 2015.

Hanspeter Kriesi, Rudd Koopmans, Jan Willem Duyvendak, and Marco Guigni. *New Social Movements in Western Europe: A Comparative Analysis*. University of Minnesota Press, 1995.

Gustave Le Bon. *The Crowd: A Study of the Popular Mind*. 1895.

Doug McAdam, Sidney Tarrow & Charles Tilly, *Dynamics of Contention*. Cambridge University Press, 2001.

Mancur Olson. *The Logic of Collective Action*. 1965.

Francesca Polletta, *It Was Like a Fever: Storytelling in Protest and Politics*. University of Chicago Press, 2006.

Sidney Tarrow. *Power in Movement: Social Movements and Contentious Politics*. 3rd edition. Cambridge University Press, 2011.

Dingxin Zhao. *The Power of Tiananmen: State–Society Relations and the 1989 Beijing Student Movement* (University of Chicago Press, 2001).

Parties and Party Systems

Gary W. Cox et al. *Making Votes Count*. 1997.

Anthony Downs. *An Economic Theory of Democracy*. 1957

Giovanni Sartori. *Parties and Party Systems*. 1957.

Political Culture and Mass Behavior

Gabriel Almond and Sidney Verba. *The Civic Culture*. Scott, Foresman and Company, 1963.

Ronald Inglehart & Pippa Norris. *Rising Tide: Gender Equality and Cultural Change Around the World*. Cambridge University Press, 2003.

James C. Scott. *Weapons of the Weak*. Yale University Press, 1990.

Sidney Tarrow. *Power in Movement: Social Movements and Contentious Politics*. 3rd edition. Cambridge University Press, 2011.

Max Weber. *The Protestant Ethic and the Spirit of Capitalism*. Penguin Group, 2002.

Political Development

Samuel Huntington. *Political Order in Changing Societies*. Yale University Press, 1968.

Barrington Moore, Jr. *Social Origins of Dictatorship and Democracy: Lord and Peasant in the Making of the Modern World*. Beacon Press, 1966.

Robert D. Putnam et al. *Making Democracy Work: Civic Traditions in Modern Italy*. 1993.

Political Economy

Frederick Engels, "Anti-Dühring," *Karl Marx and Frederick Engels Collected Works*, Volume 25 (Progress Publishers, 1987), p. 1-309 ff.

Fernando Henrique Cardoso and Enzo Faletto. *Dependency and Development in Latin America*. University of California Press, 1979.

Alexander Gerschenkron. *Economic Backwardness in Historical Perspective, a Book of Essays*. Harvard University Press, 1962.

Peter Hall. *Governing the Economy: The Politics of State Intervention in Britain and France*. Oxford University Press. 1986.

Seymour Martin Lipset. *Political Man: The Social Bases of Politics*. Johns Hopkins University Press, 1960.

Douglass C. North. *Institutions, Institutional Change, and Economic Performance*. 1990.

Mancur Olson (1982), *The Rise and Decline of Nations*. 1980.

Adam Przeworski. *Democracy and the Market: Political and Economic Reforms in Eastern Europe and Latin America*. Cambridge University Press, 1991.

Dietrich Rueschemeyer, Evelyn Huber Stephens, and John D. Stephens. *Capitalist Development and Democracy*. University of Chicago Press, 1992.

Rebellion, Revolution, and Violence

Susan Eva Eckstein. *Back from the Future: Cuba Under Castro*, 2nd ed. Princeton University Press, 2004.

John Foran. *Taking Power: On the Origins of Third World Revolutions*. Cambridge University Press, 2005.

Jeff Goodwin. *No Other Way Out: States and Revolutionary Movements, 1945–1991*. Cambridge University Press, 2001.

Samuel Huntington. *Political Order in Changing Societies*. 1968.

Karen Kampwirth. *Woman and Guerrilla Movements: Nicaragua, El Salvador, Chiapas, Cuba*. Pennsylvania State University Press, 2002.

George Lambie. *The Cuban Revolution in the 21st Century*. Pluto Press, 2010.

Misagh Parsa. *States, Ideologies and Social Revolutions: A Comparative Analysis of Iran, Nicaragua and the Philippines*. Cambridge University Press, 2000.

Eric Selbin. *Revolution, Rebellion, Resistance: The Power of Story*. Zed Books, 2010.

Theda Skocpol. *States and Social Revolutions: A Comparative Analysis of France, Russia and China*. Cambridge University Press, 1979.

Charles Tilly & Sidney Tarrow. *Contentious Politics*, 2nd ed. Oxford University Press, 2015.

Leon Trotsky. *The History of the Russian Revolution*. Pathfinder Press, 1932.

Regimes and Democratization

Daron Acemoglu & James A. Robinson. *Economic Origins of Dictatorship and Democracy*. Cambridge University Press, 2009.

Robert Dahl. *Polyarchy: Participation and Opposition*. Yale University Press, 1971.

Samuel Huntington. *The Third Wave: Democratization in the Late Twentieth Century*. University of Oklahoma Press, 1991.

Seymour Martin Lipset. *Political Man*. 1960.

Barrington Moore, Jr. *Social Origins of Dictatorship and Democracy*. 1966.

Guillermo O'Donnell, Phillippe Schmitter, and Laurence Whitehead. *Transitions from Authoritarian Rule: Tentative Conclusions About Uncertain Democracies*. Johns Hopkins University Press, 1986.

Adam Przeworski. *Democracy and the Market*, 1991.

Dietrich Rueschemeyer, Evelyn Huber Stephens, and John D. Stephens. *Capitalist Development and Democracy*. 1992.

States and State-Building

Robert Bates. *Markets and States in Tropical Africa*. 1981.

Jean-François Bayart. *The State in Africa: The Politics of the Belly*. 2nd edition. Polity Press, 2009

Peter Evans, Dietrich Rueschemeyer & Theda Skocpol, *Bringing the State Back In*. 1985.

Alexander Gerschenkron. *Economic Backwardness in Historical Perspective*. 1962.

Theda Skocpol. *States and Social Revolutions: A Comparative Analysis of France, Russia and China*. Cambridge University Press, 1990.

Subnational Politics

Robert D. Putnam et al. *Making Democracy Work: Civic Traditions in Modern Italy*. 1993.

African Politics

Gretchen Bauer and Hannah E. Britton, (eds). *Women in African Parliaments*. Lynne Rienner, 1999.

Gyimah Boadi, (ed). *Democratic Reform in Africa: The quality of progress*. Lynne Rienner Publishers, 2004.

Naomi Chazan, Peter Lewis, Robert A. Mortimer, Donald Rothchild, and Stephen John Stedman. *Politics and Society in Contemporary Africa*. Lynne Rienner, 1999.

Myra Marx Ferree, Aili Mari Tripp, (eds). *Global Feminism: Transnational Women's Activism, Organizing, and Human Rights*. New York University Press, 2006.

Jeffrey Herbst. *States and Power in Africa: Comparative Lessons in Authority and Control*. Princeton University Press, 2000.

Goran Hyden. *African Politics in Comparative Perspective*. Cambridge University Press, 2006.

Mahmood Mamdani. *Citizen and Subject: Contemporary Africa and the Legacy of Late Colonialism*. Princeton University Press, 1996.

Rachel Murray. *Human Rights in Africa: From the OAU to the African Union*. Cambridge University Press, 2004.

Makau Mutua. *Human Rights: A Political and Cultural Critique*. University of Pennsylvania Press, 2011.

Walter Rodney. *How Europe Underdeveloped Africa*. Howard University Press, 1972.

Caribbean Politics & Political Economy

V. Eudine Barriteau, editor. *Love and Power: Caribbean Discourses on Gender*. University of the West Indies Press, 2012.

Richard L. Bernal. *Dragon in the Caribbean: China's Global Re-Dimensioning – Challenges and Opportunities for the Caribbean*. Ian Randle Publishers, 2014.

Neil A. Burron. "Michel Martelly: Haiti's New Caesar and the Prospects for Democracy," *New Political Science* 35:2 (June 2013): 161-181.

James L. Dietz. *Puerto Rico: Negotiating Development and Change*. Lynne Rienner, 2003.

Susan Eva Eckstein. *The Immigrant Divide: How Cuban Americans Changed the US and Their Homeland*. New York: Routledge, 2009.

Obika Gray. *Demeaned but Empowered: The Social Power of the Urban Poor in Jamaica*. University of the West Indies Press, 2004.

Cindy Hahamovitch. *No Man's Land: Jamaican Guestworkers in America and the Global History of Deportable Labor*. Princeton University Press, 2011.

Aaron Kamugisha, editor. *Caribbean Political Thought: Theories of the Post-Colonial State*. Ian Randle Publishers, 2013.

Franklin W. Knight. *The Caribbean: The Genesis of a Fragmented Nationalism*, 3rd edition. Oxford University Press, 2011.

Carmelo Mesa-Lago & Jorge Pérez-López. *Cuba Under Raúl Castro: Assessing the Reforms*. Lynne Rienner Publishers, 2013.

Justin Podur. *Haiti's New Dictatorship: The Coup, the Earthquake and the UN Occupation*. Pluto Press, 2012.

Kimberly Eison Simmons. *Reconstructing Racial Identity and the African Past in the Dominican Republic*. University Press of Florida, 2009.

Middle East Politics

Asef Bayat. *Making Islam Democratic, Social Movements and the Post Islamist Turn*. Stanford University Press, 2007.

Asef Bayat, *Life as Politics, How Ordinary People, Change the Middle East*. Stanford University Press, 2010.

Francois Burgat, *Face to Face with Political Islam*. I. B. Tauris, 2003.

Lara Deeb. *An Enchanted Modern, Gender and Public Piety in Shii Lebanon*. Princeton University Press, 2006.

Navtej Dhillon and Tarik Yousef, eds. *Generation in Waiting*. Brookings Institution, 2009.

Sherine Hafez, *An Islam of Her Own*. New York University Press, 2011.

Dietrich Jung, Marie Juul Petersen and Sara Lei Sparre. *Politics of Modern Muslim Subjectivities, Islam, Youth and Social Activism in the Middle East*. Palgrave Macmillan, 2014.

Marc Lynch, *The Arab Uprising, the Unfinished Revolutions of the New Middle East*. Public Affairs, 2012.

Marc Lynch, ed. *The Arab Uprisings Explained, New Contentious Politics in the Middle East*. Columbia University Press, 2014.

Zachary Lockman, *Contending Visions of the Middle East, the History and Politics of Orientalism*. Cambridge University Press, 2004.

Saba Mahmood. *Politics of Piety, the Islamic Revival and the Feminist Subject*. Princeton University Press, 2005.

Mahmoud Mamdani, *Good Muslim, Bad Muslim, the Cold War and the Roots of Terror*. Pantheon Books, 2004.

Melani Mcaslister. *Epic Encounters, Culture, Media, U.S. Interests in the Middle East since 1945*. University of California Press, 2005.

Timothy Mitchell, *Colonizing Egypt*. Cambridge University Press, 1988.

Timothy Mitchell. *Carbon Democracy, Political Power in the Age of Oil*. London. Verso books, 2011.

Edward W. Said, *Orientalism*. Pantheon books, 1978.

Edward W. Said, *The Question of Palestine*. Times books 1992

Edward W. Said. *Covering Islam*. Vintage books, 1997.

Chinese Politics

Warren I. Cohen, *East Asia at the Center, Four Thousand Years of Engagement with the World*. Columbia University Press, 2000.

Dru Gladney. "Representing Nationality in China: Refiguring Majority/Minority

Identities", *Journal of Asian Studies* (1994), p. 92-123.

Melvin C. Goldstein. *The Snow Lion and the Dragon, China Tibet and the Dali Lama*. University of California Press, 1999.

Wu Guoguang. "From Post-imperial to Late Communist Nationalism: Historical change in Chinese nationalism from May Fourth to the 1990s", *Third World Quarterly*, Vol. 29:3 (2008), p. 467-482.

Ray Huang. *China: A Macro History*. M.E. Sharpe, 1997.

Andrew Nathan. "Authoritarian Resilience", *Journal of Democracy*, Vol. 14:1 (2003), p. 1-17.

Lucien Pye. *Asian Power and Politics* (Evolution of Asian Concepts of Power, Varieties of Confucian Authority, and The Illusion of omnipotence., p. 31- 89 and 182-214). Harvard University Press, 1985.

Tony Saich. *Governance and Politics of China*. Palgrave MacMillan, 2015.

Jonathan D. Spence. *The Search for Modern China*. W.W. Norton, 1999.

Gregory Veeck, Smith Christopher, Panell, Clifton and Huang Youqin. *China's Geography: Globalization and the Dynamics of Political, Economic and Social Change*. Rowman and Littlefield, 2016.

Herbert S. Yee. "Ethnic Consciousness and Identity: Research Report on Uyghur-Han Relations in Xinjiang," *Asian Ethnicity*, Vol. 6:3 (2005), p. 35-50.

Wu David Yen-ho. "Culture Change and Ethnic Identity Among Minorities in China." *Daedalus* (1991).