Tutorials in Political Sociology
Spring 2018

Lectures by Giulia Sandri
Tutorials by François Briatte and Felix von Nostitz

This syllabus covers your tutorials in political sociology; please refer to Giulia Sandri’s syllabus for details on the lecture. The lectures and the tutorials go together: this syllabus has been vetted by Giulia, and many of the readings are taken from the syllabus of the lectures.

The goal of this course is to continue the work that you began in your “Introduction to Political Science” course last year. Many of the concepts that you will study in this course will be similar to those that you saw last year, but the way to approach these concepts will often differ.

Your work in these tutorials will consist in taking notes on selected readings, and to take quizzes on those readings. You are also expected to be a regular participant in the course, to catch up any missed class, and to complete all required readings prior to class meetings.

Throughout the semester, you will also have to write a memo, in which you will make use of the course material as well as a personal selection of additional readings to analyze a topic of your choice. Detailed instructions on how to do so will be delivered in class through memo workshops.

All material for the tutorials will be available from a Google Drive folder.

Sessions

1. Power
2. States
3. Socialization
4. Social Capital
5. Memo Workshop
6. Protest
7. Cleavages
8. Parties
Coursework

This course requires to work between 2 and 3 hours before each session.

Your first task for each week is to read a single text, and to take detailed notes on it. The readings for this course are book chapters taken from Giulia’s syllabus, or articles of direct relevance to specific segments of her lectures.

Some of our classes will start with short quizzes to make sure that you have read and understood the texts. Importantly, you will be allowed to use your notes during the quizzes, but you will not be allowed to use the readings themselves, or to use a laptop or a mobile phone.

Grading

Please refer to the relevant section in Giulia’s syllabus to understand how your final grade for this course will be computed.

Memos

The main assessment for this course will be a research memo, to be delivered in its final form one week after our last session. To write up a successful memo before that deadline, you will have to follow the instructions on the next page in order to:

1. Choose a general research theme from any of the tutorial sessions. In practice, the most popular themes among students of this course are the last three themes of the tutorials:

   - Session 6 — Protest and Social Movements
   - Session 7 — Social Cleavages and Voting
   - Session 8 — Political Parties and Party Competition

2. Choose a case study that fits within the research theme selected at Step 1. Make sure that your case study has clear empirical boundaries in time and space.

3. Identify some relevant academic sources, including at least three academic sources, such as – but definitely not limited to – the sources cited in the next pages of this syllabus.¹

4. Identify a research question that connects your case study to a theoretical issue discussed in the academic literature. Answer that question based on (and citing) your sources.

5. Write up your memo as concisely as possible, intended for reading by an uninformed audience in need for an analytical take on the issue.

Most tutorial sessions will include short memo workshops to clarify each of the points above, and Session 5 will be entirely spent on your memos. The next page includes a summary of the memo instructions that will be delivered during those sessions.

¹ While the readings listed in this syllabus are unlikely to help you with your specific memo topic, they are very likely to help with its conceptualization, and with the formulation of a research question that will connect your topic to one of the course research themes — which is the next point down the list.
Memo instruction sheet

Early in the semester, you will be provided with a memo template. Make sure that you do not modify the formatting of the template, and that you replace all filler text in the template with your own writing. Remove the side comments before you print your final text to PDF.

Your memo will contain a maximum of 600 words over three pages. The memo itself is expected to span over something like one page and a half written in around ten short paragraphs. The rest of the paper space can host the appendix (additional figures and tables), as follows:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>page 1</th>
<th>page 2</th>
<th>appendix</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>intro</td>
<td>...</td>
<td>tables, figures, ...</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>part 1</td>
<td>part 2</td>
<td>...</td>
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<tr>
<td>coda</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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</tbody>
</table>

Your memo will include a header – title, author, group, date, and target audience, followed by a two-paragraph introduction to its topic. Parts 1 and 2 of the memo then discuss the issue empirically, using roughly balanced, fully referenced paragraphs, and ends on recommendations.

The topic of the memo should combine an empirical element, such as a specific political event or a country during a given historical period, with a theoretical element present in the course content, such as contentious politics, democratization, social cleavages or electoral behaviour.

The appendix of your memo might include figures, maps or tables. Each item should be cited somewhere in your text. Make sure to provide the source(s) and a short caption title for each item, as in: “Fig. 1. Worldwide military expenditure, 2009 (source: SIPRI Yearbook 2009)”.

Format your text like the memo template: margins at 2.5 cm top/bottom, 4 cm left/right; line spacing at 115%; Arial font size and post-paragraph spacing both at 11 pt; bold for titles and italics for emphasis. Do not use underlining, indentation, justification or color.

The reader should be able to understand your memo as a standalone document: all figures and tables should come with captions, and all sources should be listed at the end of the text in the Harvard bibliographic format or any other academic format for bibliographies.

Aim at excellent English — proofread, revise and polish your writing. Basically, write up your memo as if it were to be publicly released. Feel free to work in small student groups to proofread and comment on each other’s memos.

Last, show your ability to document your work by finding, selecting and citing academic sources (books, articles, working papers, blog posts, reports, etc.). Some of those sources will address your memo topic specifically; others will address the broader themes in which your topic is embedded.

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2 The template will be distributed through Google Drive, along with PDF copies of all readings.
3 Your memo needs to be addressed to a non-academic, contemporary (i.e. alive) real-world audience.
4 This point, as all other memo instructions, will be discussed in class during the memo workshops.
Readings

This course comes with a printed reader, with a single compulsory text to read in detail before every tutorial, including the first one.

The next pages of this syllabus also contain some additional readings listed in the “see also” section of each session. Reading a selection of these texts will help you identify the scientific references and theories relevant to your memo topic.

Several of the additional readings for this course come from the following handbooks, all of which are mentioned in Giulia’s syllabus for the lecture:


The additional readings also include some encyclopedia entries from the following sources, which are broader in scope than this course:


Last, the readings also include a few texts in French, some of which are chapters from textbooks mentioned in Giulia’s syllabus, and which you might also have been assigned in other courses:

Session 1. Power

Themes
Sociology · Political Sociology · Agency · Social Power · Political Power

Read before class

See also

5 For further details on Piven and Cloward’s approach to studying (and changing) politics, see Frances Fox Piven’s interview with Reuben Jonathan Miller (Journal of Poverty, 2013) and her address to the International Bricklayers and Allied Craftworkers (BAC, 2012; her talk takes only half of the video).
Session 2. States

Themes
States · Nationalism · Citizenship · Globalization · Multi-level Governance

Read before class

See also


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⁶ This reading is the transcript of a lecture given at the University of Stanford in 2012 under the same title. The lecture can be watched online at https://youtu.be/oByRTj9GSx0.


⁸ This URL is a permanent link to the original source created with perma.cc, a service from the Harvard Law School Library. You will be instructed to use that service to link to some of your memo sources.
Session 3. Socialization

Themes
Domination · Elites · Socialization · Education · Habitus

Read before class

See also


Session 4. Social Capital

Themes

Relationships · Trust · Capital · Social Capital · Social Networks

Read before class


See also


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9 The Google Drive folder for this course contains both the French preprint of the text and an English translation that was retrieved from the publisher website.
Session 5. Memo Workshop
This session will be spent on improving your draft memos.
By then, you should have searched and read the academic material that you will be basing your memo on. You should also have read all material distributed during the previous, shorter memo workshops, including instructions on how to use the Harvard bibliographic format.

Read before class

See also
Session 6. Protest

Themes
Violence · Collective Action · Social Movements · Political Protest · Repertoires of Contention

Read before class

See also


10 This reading is the only compulsory text that is written in French. An older version of the text is available in English as “Nineteenth-Century Origins of Our Twentieth-Century Collective-Action Repertoire,” University of Michigan, CRSO Working Paper No. 244, 1981; URL: http://hdl.handle.net/2027.42/51016.
Session 7. Cleavages

Themes
Social Cleavages · Political Cleavages · Value Cleavages · Voting · Political Parties

Read before class


See also


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11 A French translation of this text by Pascal Delwit et al., which was published in 2008 by the Éditions de l’Université de Bruxelles, is available from the Google Drive folder for this course.
Session 8. Parties

Themes
Political Parties · Electoral Competition · Party Systems · Cartel Parties

Read before class

See also

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12 For a related argument, listen to this talk by the author: “Weimar Europe? The Great Recession and the Far Right Threat” (UNC, 2013).
13 The two main authors have given several talks about this article and the related book: see Theda Skocpol’s interview (Berkeley, 2012) and book forum (WGBH, 2012), and Vanessa Williamson and Theda Skocpol’s “Obama, the Tea Party and the Future of American Politics” conference (UCTV, 2012).
Additional sources

Below are a few example sources for your memos, some of which also appear in Giulia’s syllabus. You will find more of these by using Google Scholar, Oxford Bibliographies, ISIDORE or other academic search engines.

Remember that a much broader choice of journals and other resources is available through your university library, and that if you need to borrow books from other academic libraries, you will need to make your inter-library loans well in advance, as early as possible in the semester.

### Journals

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>American Journal of Sociology</th>
<th>Mobilization</th>
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<tr>
<td>Annual Review of Sociology</td>
<td>Party Politics</td>
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<tr>
<td>American Sociological Review</td>
<td>Perspectives on Politics</td>
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<tr>
<td>Comparative European Politics</td>
<td>Politix (French)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Comparative Political Studies</td>
<td>PS: Political Science &amp; Politics</td>
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<tr>
<td>Critique internationale (French)</td>
<td>Revue française de science politique (French)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Culture &amp; Conflits (French)</td>
<td>Research in Social Movements, Conflict and Change</td>
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<tr>
<td>Electoral Studies</td>
<td>Social Forces</td>
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<tr>
<td>European Journal of Political Research</td>
<td>West European Politics</td>
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<tr>
<td>Interest Groups &amp; Advocacy</td>
<td>World Politics</td>
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### Magazines & Blogs

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<tr>
<th>Boston Review</th>
<th>Making Electoral Democracy Work</th>
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<tr>
<td>Democracy Journal</td>
<td>Violence de masse et Résistance (French)</td>
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<td>Le Monde diplomatique (French)</td>
<td>Mischiefs of Faction</td>
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<tr>
<td>London Review of Books</td>
<td>Mobilizing Ideas</td>
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<td>n + 1</td>
<td>The Monkey Cage (2007–2013)</td>
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<tr>
<td>La vie des idées (French)</td>
<td>The Monkey Cage (2013–)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Made by History</td>
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<tr>
<td>LSE EUROPP – European Politics and Policy</td>
<td>Understanding Society</td>
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Additional talks

The footnotes of this syllabus contain some links to academic talks and conferences related to the course themes. Below are a few more examples of such talks, organised by theme.

1. Power


2. States

Paul Collier, “New Rules for Rebuilding a Broken Nation” (TED, 2009), “War, Guns and Votes” (LSE, 2009), and “Building Effective States” (LSE, 2011).


3. Socialization

Kevin Philips, “American Theocracy: Radical Religion, Oil and Debt” (WGBH, 2012).


4. Social Capital


6. Protest


Daniel Little’s interviews with Doug McAdam14 (2010), Sidney Tarrow (2008) and Charles Tilly (2007), all conducted at the University of Michigan.


7. Cleavages


Peter Mair, “Governance and Party Politics” (CEU, 2011).


8. Parties


Florence Haegel, “Pourrait-on se passer des partis politiques ?” (Politeia, 2016; in French).


14 Also from Doug McAdam, see “Race, Inequality and Polarization in American Politics” (Cornell, 2013), and “The Problem of Solo Civic Engagement: An Interview with Doug McAdam” (Nonprofit Quarterly, 2010).
Selected music

The tracks listed below are complements to those listed at the end of François' tutorial slides. They are also available as a Spotify playlist.

1. Bad Religion · Let Them Eat War
2. Bérurier Noir · Petit agité
3. Boris Vian · Le déserteur
4. D.R.I. [Dirty Rotten Imbeciles] · Oblivion
5. Electrelane · I Want to Be the President
6. Exodus · A Lesson in Violence (Live)
7. Alibi Montana et al. · Unissons nos voix
8. Killing Joke · Absolute Dissent
9. La Rumeur · Pas de justice pas de paix
10. Léo Ferré · La gueuse
11. Ministry · N.W.O. [New World Order]
12. Motörhead · Orgasmatron
13. Public Enemy · Fight the Power
14. Renaud · L’Hexagone
15. Robert Wyatt · N.I.O. [New Information Order]

Selected films

Below are films and documentaries about more or less recent political events that might get briefly mentioned at some point during class.

1. Francis F. Coppola, Apocalypse Now
3. Peter Kosminsky, Warriors
4. Ken Loach, Bread and Roses
5. Steve McQueen, Hunger
6. Édouard Mills-Affif, Bassin miné (in French)
7. Dror Moreh, The Gatekeepers
8. Stan Neumann, La langue ne ment pas (in French)
9. Laura Poitras, Citizenfour
10. Gillo Pontecorvo, La Battaglia di Algeri [The Battle of Algiers]
11. Patrick Rotman, La tragédie des Brigades Internationales (in French)
12. Luchino Visconti, Il Gattopardo [The Leopard]