

## **Section “Questions of the Day”**

### Week 2: The Politics of Economic Development

#### **Why does Weber turn to Protestantism to explain the rise of the capitalist spirit?**

- A close reading of the opening
- What is the spirit of capitalism?
- What did each sect of Protestantism contribute to the spirit of capitalism?
  - Luther, Calvin, Puritans
- Where do we stand in 1905?
- What does the future look like, and what does Weber want?

### Week 3: The Politics of Economic Development II

#### **How useful are the examples of Japan, Taiwan, and Korea to us?**

- For state-led development: Johnson and Wade
- Against state-led development: Bates and Chaudhry
- Is a strong state the same as a state with an authoritarian regime?
  - What makes a strong state?

### Week 4: Democracy and Democratization

#### **What is the relationship between democracy and democratization?**

- There are specific paths to democracy (Dahl, Moore, Lipset, Huntington)
- Democratization is arbitrary (Przeworski, Di Palma)
- The issue of legitimacy

### Week 5: Democracy and Authoritarianism in the Developing World

#### **What is the effect of the international context on democratization?**

- The international context has a positive effect on democratization
  - Huntington, Levitsky and Way
- The international context has insufficient or no effect on democratization
  - Levitsky and Way cont'd, Fish.
  - What would Varshney say?
- The international context has a negative effect on democratization
  - Bellin, Ross

### Week 6: Explaining Social Revolution: Competing Approaches

#### **“Revolutions are not made; they come.” – Wendell Philips. Discuss.**

- Marx
- Davies
- Skocpol

### Week 7: Explaining Social Revolution: Russia and Third World Revolutions

#### **“Revolutions are not made; they come.” Discuss. (continued)**

- Russia vs. Iran
- Skocpol vs. Skocpol and Goodwin
- The future of revolutions?

### Week 8: Ethnicity and Ethnic Conflict: Competing Approaches

#### **Why is ethnicity sometimes salient, sometimes not?**

- Primordialists (Geertz, Horowitz (?) )
  - In what way is Horowitz a primordialist?
- Constructivists
  - Instrumental: Bates

Social / institutional: Posner, [Nagel], Wilkinson

What is the difference between instrumentalists and institutionalists?

What fundamental assumption do they have in common?

#### Week 9: The Politics of Ethnic Violence: The Cases of Rwanda and Yugoslavia

##### **Is there a limit to the extent to which ethnic violence can be prevented?**

Underlying factors (Brown)

Triggers

Leaders

What if's

Had international intervention come sooner to Yugoslavia / Rwanda, could it have prevented mass-scale ethnic violence?

Does controlling the breakout of violence get rid of the problem? (Wilkinson and Straus on the role of the state)

Rwanda today

#### Week 10: Do Institutions Matter? (I) Presidentialism vs. Parliamentarism

##### **What makes good institutions?**

The Perils of Presidentialism (Linz, Mainwaring)

Who does the president represent?

How do parliamentary systems avoid the problems of presidentialism?

Why are presidential systems bad in combination with multiparty systems?

The defense of presidentialism (Mainwaring and Shugart)

How can presidentialism be improved?

Alternate contributing factors (Mainwaring and Shugart: wealth, size, British colonial history)

(no section during Week 11 – Veterans Day)

#### Week 12: Civil Society and Social Capital

##### **Do all kinds of civic organizations produce the same kind of social capital?**

Yes (Putnam, *Making Democracy Work*)

Putnam and DiPalma: crafting and rational choice

Overcoming collective action problems: vertical vs. horizontal association)

Yes, but... (Berman)

Putnam and Berman on the relationship between civic and state associations

No (Varshney)

New Modes of Organization (Putnam, *Bowling Alone*)

What's so bad about bowling alone?

Technology / The Internets

(no section during Week 13 – Thanksgiving)

#### Week 14: Pulling Things Together

##### **Evaluate Max Weber's definition of a state in light of the readings we've done for GOV20.**

A set of permanent....

(5) ... administrative, legal, and coercive systems ( Centeno (Tilly, Bates) )

(2) ....with a monopoly (Reno, Iraq)

(4) ... over the legitimate (Bates, Tilly)

(1) .... use of force (Tilly)

(3) ... in a given territory (Herbst, Centeno)

Application to the welfare state

## **Cases used in GOV20**

### Week 2: The Politics of Economic Development

Protestant Europe and America (Weber)  
England, Germany, Japan (Gerschenkron)  
Latin America (dependency theory)  
the Middle East (Lerner)

### Week 3: The Politics of Economic Development II

Taiwan, South Korea (Johnson, Wade, Chaudhry)  
Chile (lecture)  
Sub-Saharan Africa (Bates)

### Week 4: Democracy and Democratization

Singapore, China (lecture, Huntington)  
England, Russia, France, India (Moore)  
United States (Lipset on George Washington)  
Sweden (lecture)

### Week 5: Democracy and Authoritarianism in the Developing World

India (lecture and Varshney), South Africa (lecture)  
Russia (Levitsky and Way, Fish, lecture)  
the Middle East (Bellin, Ross, lecture)  
Turkey (lecture, in passing)

### Week 6: Explaining Social Revolution: Competing Approaches

Russia, France, China (Skocpol)  
Cuba, Bolivia (lecture, in passing in connection to Che Guevara)

### Week 7: Explaining Social Revolution: Russia and Third World Revolutions

Russia (obviously), Germany (lecture)  
Iran (lecture)

### Week 8: Ethnicity and Ethnic Conflict: Competing Approaches

Zambia and Malawi (Posner), India (Wilkinson)  
Rwanda (lecture)

### Week 9: The Politics of Ethnic Violence: The Cases of Rwanda and Yugoslavia

Rwanda, Yugoslavia (duh)

### Week 10: Do Institutions Matter? (I) Presidentialism vs. Parliamentarism

Bolivia, Mexico, Italy (lecture, in passing)  
Chile, Brazil (lecture), Spain (Linz)

Week 11: Do Institutions Matter? (II) Electoral Design, Party Systems, and Ethnic Conflict

Netherlands (Lijphart, lecture)

Lebanon (Horowitz, lecture), Nigeria, Sri Lanka, Guyana (Horowitz)

India (Lijphart)

Week 12: Civil Society and Social Capital

Italy (Putnam), India (Varshney), Germany (Berman), United States (Putnam)

Week 13: States, State-Building, and State Weakness

Medieval Europe (Tilly), Latin America (Centeno), Africa (Herbst and Bates)

– in particular Liberia and Zaire/Congo (Reno)

Korea, Taiwan, Sweden, US, Chile, Argentina, Afghanistan, Congo (lecture, in passing)

Week 14: Pulling Things Together

United States vs. Europe – in particular Sweden, Germany (Alesina and Glaeser, lecture)

Iraq (Bellin, Dawisha and Dawisha, Galbraith, Diamond, and also lecture)