

Political Science 569  
American Politics Research Seminar  
Fall 2002

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## **Institutions and Social Science**

The central focus of this research seminar is the study of institutions and institutionalization. While institutionalism is very much in vogue in current literatures in political science, sociology, economics, and organizational theory, there is little, if any, agreement on what an institution is and how one should study it. This course will examine the several dominant approaches to the study of institutions in the social sciences. As such it will cover material from various subfields within political science and from outside political science to more clearly understand the breadth and depth of the study of institutions. Although the class is listed in the American politics subfield, it also counts toward the theme field “Institutions and Processes.”

The course is organized in three parts. In the first third of the semester, the course will consider the leading literatures in sociology, economics, and organizational theory as they discuss institutionalism. It will also take one week to examine the study of institutionalization in political science, which largely grows out of a traditional sociological approach. In the second portion of the semester, the course covers the leading literature on what is typically called the “new institutionalism” in political science, which has, in many ways, grown out of these other disciplines (both knowingly and unwittingly). The political science work covers research on American institutions, comparative politics, international relations, and urban affairs. Third, and most importantly, the last third of the course serves as a focal point for the research on institutions offered by members of the class.

The purpose of the class is two-fold. First, it is designed to give students an opportunity to explore current theoretical and empirical research on institutionalism. Second, it provides the vehicle for students’ own research in the field. The goal is for students to write **THE MANUSCRIPT**—the draft of a publishable-quality paper that can be presented at a conference or eventually sent out to a journal.

### **COURSE WORK**

There are three course requirements:

1. **CLASS PARTICIPATION.** This involves three components. First, each student will serve as a co-discussion leader with me for one of the week’s readings. As discussion leader, the student will come armed with thoughtful questions and ideas about the week’s material to generate discussion, debate, and

queries during the seminar. Second, there will be two roundtable discussion during which everyone is **required** to speak unceasingly about their research ideas and critique the research of others. Third, every student must add to general classroom discussion. Silence is forbidden and you miss class at your peril. Total participation accounts for 20 percent of the final grade.

2. **THE FIRST DRAFT.** There will be a written exercise based on the reading for one week (or perhaps more) of people's choosing. Papers involve three aspects. First, an insightful, cogent, concise critique and analysis of major work in the area selected should be presented. This is otherwise known as the "Literature Review," but it is not a summary of the studies. Instead it analyzes them with an eye toward what is good, bad, ugly, and/or missing on conceptual, empirical, or methodological grounds. Second, an original idea or argument of your own about where this literature should go next. In other words, develop a central research question based on your own redirection, extension, new conceptualization, new data, new method, etc. needed in the area. This research idea becomes the "point" of the paper and the thing that will make you a rich and famous political scientist. Third, spell out how you will bring the research idea to fruition.

Suggested initial length: 15 pages, double-spaced 12 pitch font. The **FIRST DRAFT IS DUE OCTOBER 28.** Please supply two copies. **NO EXTENSIONS UNDER ANY CIRCUMSTANCES OR WITH ANY EXCUSES.** An extension will not help you in this case, in fact it will make it more difficult rather than less. So don't even think about it. I will make extensive comments on this draft, identify problems, and provide suggestions. In addition, an "anonymous referee" from the class will also be assigned to read the first drafts. They, too, will provide written comments and criticisms to the author about the paper. My comments and those of the referee are designed to show you the pitfalls of what you have done thus far. This becomes the crucial launching point for **THE MANUSCRIPT**, spelled out below. The **FIRST DRAFT** is worth 30 percent of the total grade.

3. **THE MANUSCRIPT.** This is not a term paper; it is not a research paper; it is an unpublished conference paper or soon to be published journal article. What this means is that it must have a beginning, a middle, and an end. It must be relatively complete, although I do not expect them to be fully complete (especially if there is some data gathering and/or analysis involved). **THE MANUSCRIPT** is worth the remaining 50 percent of the total grade and is due on December 2.

**FINAL NOTE:** There will be no (None, Zero, Not a one) incompletes for the course. Yes, No means No. Incompletes are very bad for your academic health and it is my job to make sure that you do not come down with any. I will submit a grade next to your name no matter what.

## READINGS

Richard Scott, *Institutions and Organizations*

Packet of readings

Note: The sections Suggested for Further Reading is to aid in literature review for the manuscript; they are **not** required reading.

## SUMMARY OF CLASS SCHEDULE

<u>DATE</u>	<u>TOPIC</u>
August 26	Introduction
September 4?? (if possible)	Defining Institutions and Traditional Approaches in Sociology
September 9	Institutionalization in Political Science
September 16	Approaches in Economics and Organizational Theory
September 23	New Institutionalism in Sociology
September 30	Roundtable 1: Where are we?
October 7	New Institutionalism in American Politics
October 14	Institutionalism in Comparative Politics
October 21	Institutionalism in International Relations
October 28	Institutionalism in Urban Affairs and Summing Up <b>FIRST DRAFT DUE;</b> <b>Circulated to referees</b>
November 4	Roundtable 2: Paper presentations
November 11	Research break
November 18	Research break
November 25	Research break
December 2	Final Class: <b>THE MANUSCRIPT</b>

## COURSE OUTLINE

### Week of:

August 26 Introduction: The Development of Institutionalism

September 4 Defining Institutions and Traditional Institutions  
In Sociology

1. Scott, W. Richard. 1995. *Institutions and Organizations*. Thousand Oaks, CA: Sage. Introduction and Chapters 1-3.
2. Selznick, Philip. 1957. *Leadership in Administration*. Evanston, IL: Row, Peterson. Introduction, pp. 56-74, 90-107 (packet)

September 9 The Study of Institutionalization in Political Science

1. Huntington, Samuel. 1965, "Political Development and Political Decay." *World Politics* 17: 386-430 (packet)
2. Polsby, Nelson. 1968. "The Institutionalization of the House of Representatives." *American Political Science Review* 62: 144-168 (packet)
3. Keohane, Robert. 1969. "Institutionalization in the United Nations General Assembly." *International Organization* 23: 859-896. (packet)
4. Gerlich, Peter. 1973. "The Institutionalization of European Parliaments," in *Legislatures in Comparative Perspective*. Ed. A. Kornberg. New York: David McKay, 94-113 (packet)
5. Squire, Peverill. 1992. "The Theory of Legislative Institutionalization and the California Assembly." *Journal of Politics* 54: 1026-1054 (packet)
6. Ragsdale, Lyn and John J. Theis. 1997. "The Institutionalization of the American Presidency, 1924-1992." *American Journal of Political Science* 41: 1280-1318. (packet)

### Suggested for Further Reading

Burke, John. 1992. *The Institutional Presidency*. Baltimore: Johns Hopkins University Press.

Canon, David. 1989. "The Institutionalization of Leadership in the U.S. Congress." *Legislative Studies Quarterly* 14: 415-453.

- Haeberle, Steven. 1978. "The Institutionalization of the Subcommittee in the U.S. House of Representatives." *Journal of Politics* 40: 1054-1065
- Hibbing, John. 1988. "Legislative Institutionalization with Illustrations from the British House of Commons." *American Journal of Political Science* 32: 681-712.
- Hill, Larry. 1974. "Institutionalization, the Ombudsmen, and the Bureaucracy." *American Political Science Review* 68: 1075-1085.
- Huntington, Samuel. 1968. *Political Order in Changing Societies*. New Haven: Yale University Press.
- Walcott, Charles and Karen Hult. 1987. "Organizing the White House: Structure, Environment, and Organizational Governance." *American Journal of Political Science* 31: 109-125.

September 16

Approaches in Economics and Organizational Theory

1. North, Douglass. 1990. *Institutions, Institutional Change, and Economic Performance*. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press. Chapters 1-3, 8-10 (packet)
2. Simon, Herbert. 1980. "Theories of Bounded Rationality." In H. Simon, *Models of Bounded Rationality* vol. 2. Cambridge, MA: MIT Press, 408-423 (packet)
3. Lindblom, Charles. 1959. "The Science of Muddling Through." *Public Administration Review* 19: 79-99 (packet)
4. March, James and Johan Olsen. 1984. "The New Institutionalism: Organizational Factors in Political Life." *American Political Science Review* 78: 734-749 (packet)
5. Cohen, Michael, James March, and Johan Olsen. 1972. "A Garbage Can Model of Organizational Choice." *Administrative Science Quarterly*. 17: 1-25 (packet)

Suggested for Further Reading

- March, James and Johan Olsen. 1989. *Rediscovering Institutions*. New York: Free Press.
- Williamson, Oliver. 1985. *The Economic Institutions of Capitalism* New York: Free Press.

September 23

New Institutionalism in Sociology

1. DiMaggio, Paul and Walter Powell. 1991. "Introduction" in W. Powell and P. DiMaggio, *The New Institutionalism in Organizational Analysis* Chicago: University of Chicago Press, 1-40 (packet)
2. DiMaggio, Paul and Walter Powell. 1991. "The Iron Cage Revisited: Institutionalism Isomorphism and Collective Rationality" in W. Powell and P. DiMaggio, *The New Institutionalism in Organizational Analysis* Chicago: University of Chicago Press, 63-82 (packet)
3. DiMaggio, Paul and Walter Powell. 1991. "Constructing an Organizational Field as a Professional Project: U.S. Art Museums, 1920-1940" in W. Powell and P. DiMaggio, *The New Institutionalism in Organizational Analysis* Chicago: University of Chicago Press, 267-292 (packet)
4. Christopher Ellison and Darren Sherkat. 1995. "The 'Semi-involuntary Institution' Revisited: Regional Variations in Church Participation among Black Americans" *Social Forces* 73: 1415-1437.

Suggested for Further Reading

Powell, Walter and Paul DiMaggio. 1991. *The New Institutionalism in Organizational Analysis*. Chicago: University of Chicago Press.

September 30

Roundtable 1: Where are We?

October 7

New Institutionalism in American Politics

1. Shepsle, Kenneth and Barry Weingast. 1987. "The Institutional Foundations of Committee Power." *American Political Science Review* 81: 85-104 (packet)
2. Shepsle, Kenneth. 1989. "Studying Institutions: Some Lessons from the Rational Choice Approach." *Journal of Theoretical Politics* 1: 131-147 (packet)
3. Brace, Paul and Melinda Gann Hall. 1990. "Neo-institutionalism and Dissent in State Supreme Courts." *Journal of Politics* 52 (February): 54-70. (packet)
4. Orren, Karen and Stephen Skowronek. 1995. "Order and Time in Institutional Study: A Brief for the Historical Approach." In *Political Science in History: Research Programs and Political Traditions* ed. J. Farr, J. Dryzek, and S. Leonard. New York: Cambridge University Press, 296-317 (packet)

5. Cook, Timothy. 1998. *Governing with the News: The News Media as a Political Institution*. Chicago: University of Chicago Press. Introduction (packet)
6. Hansen, John Mark. 1998. "Individuals, Institutions, and Public Preferences over Public Finance." *American Political Science Review* 92: 513-531.

Suggested for Further Reading

Binder, Sarah and Steven Smith. 1998. "Political Goals and Procedural Choice in the Senate." *Journal of Politics* 60: 398-416.

Crawford, Sue and Elinor Ostrom. 1995. "A Grammar of Institutions." *American Political Science Review* 89: 582-600.

Kessel, John. 1984. "The Structure of the Reagan White House." *American Journal Of Political Science* 28: 231-258.

Krehbiel, Keith. 1987. "Why are Congressional Committees Powerful?" *American Political Science Review* 81: 929-935 (packet)

Lowery, David and Virginia Gray. 1998. "The Dominance of Institutions in Interest Representation." *American Journal of Political Science* 42: 231-255.

Salisbury, Robert. 1984. "Interest Representation: The Dominance of Institutions." *American Political Science Review* 78: 64-76.

Shepsle, Kenneth and Barry Weingast. 1987. "Reflections on Committee Power." *American Political Science Review* 81: 935-945.

Skowronek, Stephen. 1981. *Building a New American State*. New York: Cambridge University Press.

\_\_\_\_\_. 1993. *The Politics Presidents Make*. New Haven: Yale University Press.

Wooley, John. 1991. "Institutions, the Election Cycle, and the Presidential Veto." *American Journal of Political Science* 35: 279-304.

October 14

Institutionalism in Comparative Politics

1. Steinmo, Sven and Kathleen Thelen. 1992. "Introduction," in S. Steinmo, K. Thelen, and F. Longstreth, *Structuring Politics: Historical Institutionalism in Comparative Analysis* New York: Cambridge University Press (packet)

2. Skocpol, Theda. 1985. "Bringing the State Back in: Strategies of Analysis in Current Research." In *Bringing the State back in.* ed. P. Evans et. al. New York: Cambridge University Press, 3-43 (packet)
3. Pierson, Paul. 1996. "The Institutions of the European Union." *Comparative Political Studies* (packet) **CITE**
4. Shugart, Matthew. 1995. "The Electoral Cycle and Institutional Sources of Divided Government." *American Political Science Review* 89: 327-343 (packet)
5. McFaul, Michael. 1995. "State Power, Institutional Change, and the Politics of Privatization in Russia." *World Politics* 47: 210-243.

### Suggested for Further Reading

Epstein, David, et. al. 1997. "A Comparative Approach to Legislative Organization: Careerism and Seniority in the United States and Japan." *American Journal of Political Science* 41: 965-998.

Jackman, Robert. 1987. "Political Institutions and Voter Turnout in the Industrial Democracies." *American Political Science Review* 81: 405-424

Lijphart, Arend. 1984. *Democracies: Patterns of Majoritarian and Consensus Government in Twenty-One Countries*. New Haven: Yale Press.

Powell, G. Bingham. 1986. "American Voter Turnout in Comparative Perspective." *American Political Science Review* 80: 17-43.

Remington, Thomas and Steven Smith. 1998. "Theories of Legislative Institutions and The Organization of the Russian Duma." *American Journal of Political Science* 42: 545-572.

Tsebelis, George. 1995. "Decision Making in Political Systems: Veto Players in Presidentialism, Parliamentarism, Multicameralism and Multipartyism." *British Journal of Political Science* 25: 289-325.

October 21

Institutionalism in International Relations

1. Krasner, Stephen. 1983. "Structural Causes and Regime Consequences: Regime as Intervening Variable." In *International Regimes*. Ed. S. Krasner. Ithaca: Cornell University Press, 1-22, 335-368. (packet)
2. Strange, Susan. 1983. "Cave! Hic Dragones: A Critique of Regime Analysis. ." In *International Regimes*. Ed. S. Krasner. Ithaca: Cornell University Press, 337-354. (packet)



3. Martin, Lisa. 1993. "Credibility, Costs, and Institutions: Cooperation on Economic Sanctions." *World Politics* 45: 406-433. (packet)
4. Keohane, Robert. 1993. "Institutional Theory and the Realist Challenge After the Cold War." In *Neorealism and Neoliberalism* ed. D. Baldwin. New York: Columbia University Press, (packet) **CITE**
5. Keohane, Robert and Lisa Martin. 1995. "The Promise of Institutional Theory." *International Security* 20: 39-52. (packet)
6. Barnett, Michael. 1995. "Sovereignty, Nationalism, and Regional Order in the Arab State System." *International Organization* 49: 479-510.
7. Gibson, James and Gregory Caldiera. 1995. "The Legitimacy of Transnational Legal Institutions: Compliance, Support and the European Court of Justice." *American Journal of Political Science* 39: 459-489.
8. Mansfield, Edward and Rachel Bronson. 1997. "Alliances, Preferential Trading Arrangements, and International Trade." *American Political Science Review* 91: 94-107.

#### Suggested for Further Reading

- Abbott, Kenneth and Duncan Snidal. 1998. "Why States Act Through Formal International Organizations." *Journal of Conflict Resolution* 42: 3-32.
- Allison, Graham. 1971. *Essence of Decision: Explaining the Cuban Missile Crisis*. Boston: Little Brown.
- Bodansky, Daniel. 1999. "The Legitimacy of International Governance: A Coming Challenge for International Environmental Law." *American Journal of International Law* 93: 596-624.
- Cortrell, Andrew and James Davis. 1996. "How do International Institutions Matter? The Domestic Impact of International Rules and Norms." *International Studies Quarterly* 40: 451-478.
- Haas, Ernst. 1983. "Words Can Hurt You; Or Who Said What to Whom about Regimes." In *International Regimes*. Ed. S. Krasner. Ithaca: Cornell University Press, 141-172.
- Hasenclever, Andreas, Peter Mayer, and Volker Rittberger. 1996. "Interests, Power, Knowledge: The Study of International Regimes." *Mershon International Studies Review* 40: 177-228.

Keohane, Robert. 1989. *International Institutions and State Power*. Boulder, CO: Westview Press.

Keohane, Robert, Joseph Nye, and Stanley Hoffman. 1993. *After the Cold War*. Cambridge, MA: Harvard University Press.

Krasner, Stephen. 1983. *International Regimes*. Ithaca: Cornell University Press.

McCalla, Robert. 1996. "NATO's Persistence after the Cold War" *International Organization* 50: 445-475.

Pahre, Robert. 1997. "Endogenous Domestic Institutions in Two-Level Games and Parliamentary Oversight of the European Union." *Journal of Conflict Resolution* 41: 147-174.

October 28

Institutionalism in Urban Affairs and  
Summing Up

1. Lineberry, Robert and Edmund Fowler. 1967. "Reformism and Public Policies in American Cities." *American Political Science Review* 61: 701-716 (packet)
2. Morgan, David and John Pelissero. 1980. "Urban Policy: Does Political Structure Matter?" *American Political Science Review* 74: 999-1006 (packet)
3. Welch, Susan. 1990. "The Impact of At-Large Elections on Black and Hispanic Representation." *Journal of Politics* 52: 1050-1076.
4. Schneider, Mark and Paul Teske. 1992. "Toward a Theory of Political Entrepreneur: Evidence from Local Government." *American Political Science Review* 86: 737-747 (packet)
5. Ruhil, Ani. 2002. **CITE** (packet)

Suggested for Further Reading

Welch, Susan and Timothy Bledsoe. 1988. *Urban Reform and its Consequences: A Study in Representation*. Chicago: University of Chicago Press.

\*\*\*\*\*THREE COPIES OF FIRST DRAFT DUE\*\*\*\*\*

November 4

Roundtable 2: Paper Presentations

November 11-November 25

Research Break

December 2

Final Class

\*\*\*\*\***THE MANUSCRIPT DUE**\*\*\*\*\*