

Advanced Topics in Political Economy
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UC3M
Master in Social Sciences

Objectives:

The objective of this advanced course is to familiarize the students with the analysis and discussion of advanced topics in political economy. We will explore in detail some of the current debates on inequality, populism, failures of representation, democratic backsliding and the sources/lack of political mobilization. The students will be exposed to advanced academic research that is analyzing the sources of political polarization, the rise of authoritarianism and the challenges to the welfare state. At the same time, however, the objective is to expand the students' analytical skills. The ultimate goal is to ensure that students recognize, understand and can contribute to contemporaneous debates on the political economy of electoral democracy.

Methodology

There will be a final exam but participation in class will be also evaluated. The final exam will be 50% of the final mark and participation in class the other 50%. Moreover, during the course every student will need to do one referee report (instructions will follow) for an assigned reading and one presentation. There will be two required readings for every session. The students are expected to read the mandatory readings and to be able to discuss them.

Main Topics:

1. Failures of representation in modern democracies
2. Turnout, mobilization and disaffection
3. The role of geography and spatial politics
4. Political consequences of technological change and automation
5. The decline of social capital and political trust
6. A long-term view: economic history and authoritarianism
7. Perspectives on Brexit: exploring its' trade and fiscal origins
8. Different perspectives on the radical right in Europe
9. Polarization and democratic backsliding in advanced democracies
10. Ideology formation: norms, identity and values

Advanced Topics in Political Economy: Syllabus

Session 1: Failures of representation in modern democracies

Gidron, N. and Hall, P. 2018. *"Populism as a Problem of Social Integration"* Manuscript, Woodrow Wilson School of Public and International Affairs

Hall, P and Evans, G. 2019. *"Representation Gaps: Changes in Popular Preferences and the Structure of Partisan Competition in the Developed Democracies"* Manuscript, Harvard University.

Guiso, L. Herrera, H, Morelli, M., Sonno, T. *"Economic Insecurity and the Demand of Populism in Europe"*, Manuscript, Bocconi University

Tavits, M. and Potter, J. 2015. *"The Effect of Inequality and Social Identity on Party Strategies"* AJPS

Lupu, N. and Pontusson, J. 2011. *"The Structure of Inequality and the Politics of Redistribution"* *American Political Science Review*

Karabarbounis, L. (2011). *"One Dollar, One Vote"* *Economic Journal*

Amat, F. and Galindo-Silva, H. 2019. *"Inequality, Immigration and Party Strategies: Exploring the Rise of Authoritarianism"*, Manuscript, University of Barcelona

Session 2: Turnout, mobilization and disaffection

Boix, Carles. 2019. *Democratic Capitalism at the Crossroads. The Quest for Automation and its Past and Future Impact on Employment, Wages, and Politics*, Princeton University Press ["Dire Straits Chapter", pages 141-177]

Rueda, David and Pontusson, J. 2010. *"The Politics of Inequality: Voter Mobilization and Left Parties in Advanced Industrial States"* *Comparative Political Studies*

Beramendi, Pablo and Anderson. 2012. *"Left Parties, Poor Voters and Electoral Participation in Advanced Industrial Societies"* *Comparative Political Studies*

Becher, M. and Stegmüller, D. (2019) *"Labor Unions and Unequal Representation"*, Duke University, Manuscript

Amat, F. and Beramendi, P. (Forthcoming) *"Economic and Political Inequality: Competition, Spending, and Turnout"* Cambridge University Press [selected chapters]

Amat, F. and Beramendi, P. (2020). *"Democracy under High Inequality: Political Participation and Public Goods"*, *Journal of Politics*

Iversen, and Soskice (2016) *“Information, Inequality and Mass Polarization: Ideology in Advanced Democracies”* Comparative Political Studies

Session 3: The role of geography and spatial politics

Gingrich, J. (2018) *“Changing Labor Markets, Changing Voters?”* Manuscript, University of Oxford

Ballard-Rosa, Jensen and Scheve. 2019. *“Economic Decline, Social identity, and Authoritarian Values in the United States”* Manuscript, Stanford University

Colantone, I. and Stanig. P 2017. *“The Trade Origins of Economic Nationalism: Import Competition and Voting Behavior in Western Europe”*. American Journal of Political Science

Enos, R., Russell, A., Sands, M. *“Can Violent Protest Change Local Policy Support? Evidence from the Aftermath of the 1992 Los Angeles Riot”* (2019) American Political Science Review

Amat, F., Boix, C. Muñoz, J., Rodon. T. (2020) *“From Political Mobilization to Electoral Participation: Turnout in Barcelona in the 1930s”*, Journal of Politics

Session 4: Political consequences of technological change and automation

Autor, D. (2019). *“Work of the Past, Work of the Future”*, Richard T. Ely Lecture, American Economic Association: Papers and Proceeding

Rueda, David and Thewissen, S. 2019. *“Automation and the Welfare State: Technological Change as a Determinant of Redistribution Preferences,”* Comparative Political Studies

Kurer, Thomas *“The Declining Middle: Political Reactions to Occupational Change”*, Manuscript, Political Economy and Welfare Network, Council of European Studies

Anelli, M., Colantone, I., Stanig, PI. *“We Were the Robots: Automation and Voting Behavior in Western Europe”*, Manuscript, Bocconi University

Gallego, A., Kurer, T., Scholl, N. *“Neither Left Behind nor Superstar: Ordinary Winners of Digitalization at the Ballot Box”*, Manuscript, IBEI

Session 5: The decline of social capital and political trust

Yann Algan, Sergei Guriev, Elias Papaioannou and Evgenia Passari *“The European trust crisis and the rise of populism”* European Bank for Reconstruction and Development (ERBD)

Algan, Y., Beasley, E. Cohen, D., Foucault, M. *“The Rise of Populism and the Collapse of the Left-Right Paradigm: Lessons from the 2017 French Presidential Election”* Center for Economic Policy Research, CEPR

Chase, Foster and Frieden, Jeffrey *“Crisis of trust: Socio-economic determinants of Europeans’ confidence in government”* European Union Politics, 2017

Ananyiev, Maxim and Guriev, Sergei *“Effect of Income on Trust: Evidence from the 2009 Economic Crisis in Russia”*, Economic Journal, Forthcoming

Session 6: A Long-term view: economic history and authoritarianism

Cantoni, Hagemester and Westcott (2019) *“Persistence and Activation of Right-Wing Political Ideology”*, Manuscript, University of Munich

Acharya, Blackwell, and Sen (2016) *“The Political Legacy of American Slavery”* Journal of Politics, 2016

Satyanath, Voigtländer and Voth (2017) *“Bowling for Fascism: Social Capital and the Rise of the Nazi Party”* Journal of Political Economy

Braun, Robert (2016) *“Religious Minorities & Resistance to Genocide: The Collective Rescue of Jews in the Netherlands during the Holocaust”*, American Political Science Review, 110(1).

Dinas, E., Foucka, V. and Schlaepfer, A. (Forthcoming) *“Family history and attitudes toward outgroups: evidence from the European refugee crisis”*, Journal of Politics

Finkel, E. (2015) *“The Phoenix Effect of State Repression: Jewish Resistance during the Holocaust”* American Political Science Review

Session 7: Perspectives on Brexit: exploring its trade and fiscal origins

Colantone, I. Stanig, P. (2018) *“Global Competition and Brexit”* American Political Science Review

Fetzer, T. (2019) *“Did Austerity Cause Brexit?”* American Economic Review,

Ford, R., Jennings, W. (2020) *“The Changing Cleavage Politics of Western Europe”* Annual Review of Political Science

Margalit, Y. (2019) *“Political Responses to Economic Shocks”* Annual Review of Political Science

Fetzer, T., Srinjoy, S., Souza, P. (2019) *“Housing insecurity, homelessness and populism: evidence from the UK”*, CEPR Working Paper 14184, Cage Working Paper 444

Session 8: Different perspectives on the radical right in Europe

Schwander, H. and Manow, P. *"It's Not the Economy, Stupid! Explaining the Electoral Success of the German Right-Wing Populist AfD"*, CIS Working Paper No. 94

Dal Bo, Finan, Folke, Persson, and Rickne. *"Economic Losers and Political Winners: Sweden's Radical Right"*, 2019

Gennaioli, N. and Tabellini, G. (2019) *"Identity, Beliefs, and Political Conflict"* Manuscript, Bocconi University

Dehdari, S. (2019) *"Economic Distress and Support for Radical Right Parties"*, Stockholm University, Manuscript

Amat and Muñoz. *"Authoritarian Legacies in Contemporary Radical Right Voting in Spain"* Pre-Registered at EGAP: <http://egap.org/registration/5689>, 2019

Session 9: Polarization and democratic backsliding in advanced democracies

Rodden, J. (2018) *"Keeping Your Enemies Close: Electoral Rules and Partisan Polarization"*, Manuscript, Stanford University

Svolik, M. (2016) *"When Polarization Trumps Civic Virtue: Partisan Conflict and the Subversion of Democracy by Incumbents"*, Manuscript, Yale University

Graham, M.; Svolik, M. (2019) *"Democracy in America? Partisanship, Polarization, and the Robustness of Support for Democracy in the United States"*, Manuscript, Yale University

Luo, Z., Przeworski, A. (2019) *"Democracy and Its Vulnerabilities: Dynamics of Democratic Backsliding"*, Manuscript, University of Chicago

Bernhardt, Krasa, Shadmehr (2019) *"Demagogues and the Fragility of Democracy"*, Manuscript, University of Illinois

Session 10: Ideology formation: norms, identity and values

Bursztyn, Egorov and Fiorin. (2019) *"The Erosion of Social Norms"*, Manuscript, University of Chicago,

Dinas, E., Valentim, Martínez (2019). *"Issue Salience and Norm Change in New Democracies"*. Manuscript, European University Institute,

Breton, A. (1964) *"The Economics of Nationalism"*, Journal of Political Economy

Shayo, M. (Forthcoming) *"Social Identity and Economic Policy"*, Annual Review of Economics,

Enke, B. (2020) *"Moral Values and Voting"* (Forthcoming) Journal of Political Economy

Enke, B. (2019) *"Kinship, Cooperation, and the Evolution of Moral Systems"* Quarterly Journal of Economics

Dippel, C., Heblich, S. (Forthcoming) *"Leadership in Social Networks: Evidence from the Forty-Eighters in the Civil War"* American Economic Review

Brown, J., Enos, R., Feigenbaum, J., Mazumder, S. *"Long-Term Causes of Partisanship: Evidence from Linked Census and Voter File Data"* Manuscript, Boston University