

Dr. Benjamin Nyblade (Gastprofessor)

Term Name: Sommersemester 2014

210329: The Internationalization of Elections (M7)

Introductory Session: 25 March 2014, 17.00 (s.t.), Universität Wien, Institut für Staatswissenschaft/AUTNES, Pramergasse 9, Seminarraum

Block Seminar: May 12-13 and 15-16, 2013, 9.00-16.00, Universität Wien, Institut für Staatswissenschaft/AUTNES, Pramergasse 9, Seminarraum

Contact

I will not be in Vienna before the sessions in May. In case of questions, you can contact me by email. I will email the class regularly as a group, and individual students as well. You will be asked to provide your preferred email address at the Introductory Session.

My preferred email for students in this course is: bnyblade@gmail.com

Content

Traditionally elections have been as solely a matter of domestic politics. However, elections are increasingly influenced by and conducted on the international stage. This course provides an overview of recent developments in the internationalization of elections, focusing on how elections are influenced by international apolitical events, international economic ties and international actors (particularly super-national organizations, NGOs and migrants).

Requirements and Grading

- Preparation for and active participation in all class sessions (20%)
- Oral presentation (20%)
- Outline for the term paper due on **15 July 2014**
- Final term paper due on **15 September 2014** (60%)

Active Participation

This is an intensive seminar in which the participants are expected to work hard both in the classroom and beyond. A successful seminar rests on the active participation of its members, and students are expected to come to class prepared and ready to engage with the material and their classmates at a high level.

Attendance at the introductory and all sessions of the block seminar, and students will sign in for each session. You are expected to have read all required texts thoroughly before the session in which they are discussed. Try to understand the main structure and arguments of the texts and consider the nature of the evidence they use to support the main arguments. The syllabus includes discussion questions (marked with \diamond) which you should think about as you read and prepare for each session. If participation in the block sessions is lacking, we will need to supplement the discussion with online participation subsequent to the block sessions.

Don't be afraid to participate actively in the seminar! Ask questions, make arguments, discuss, debate, have fun. Active participation is the key to learning this material.

Your participation will be graded and makes up 20% of your final grade.

This seminar is held in English, and indeed all your communication with me must be in English. I know that this may present an additional hurdle for you. But take this as an opportunity to improve your spoken and written English. I do not expect anybody to speak or write perfect English. You will find that I don't either. Nobody will be criticized for language mistakes. I will only be disappointed if you don't try.

Oral Presentation

Each student must give one oral presentation. The presentations deal with predefined topics from the syllabus based on supplementary readings and expanded upon by the student. The list of supplementary readings will be distributed at the introductory session. The goal of these presentations is to 'introduce' your fellow classmates about the topic covered in a session beyond the core required readings. The presentation must provide an overview of key research and debates in the area, including the supplementary readings and other research identified by the presenter. The presentations should provide material for class discussion, by highlighting opposing views in the literature, alternative explanations, recent developments and trends. While presentations should demonstrate knowledge of relevant readings, they should not merely be summaries of the field: they should provide a springboard for further discussion.

After the initial session of the seminar, students will email the instructor a self-introduction and a rank-order listing of their preferences over topics for presentation. After receiving all the preferences from students, the instructor will assign students to which oral presentation they will do.

All presentations must be in English and should be 15 minutes long. Each presentation should be supported by useful media such as Powerpoint slides or handouts. Your presentation will be graded based on the content, the supporting materials, and the quality of presentation, and counts for 20% of your final grade.

Term Paper

All students must hand in a written term paper both in print and electronically via email by **30 September 2014**. Together with the term paper you have to submit a signed declaration that you wrote the paper yourself and adhered to all relevant rules of citation. Once handed in, the papers may not be corrected or changed. The paper must represent your individual effort, and all papers will be examined for plagiarism. In cases of plagiarism you will fail the class.

The term paper for this course is a research design paper. You must identify an interesting research question, review possible answers to the question, and present a research design that would allow you to assess the validity of potential answers to your research question. The paper should be between 4000 and 6000 words in length inclusive of notes, but excluding bibliography and any tables or figures. The paper's mark is based on its clarity, structure and the quality of its content. The grade of the paper will not be influenced by grammatical errors as long as overall clarity is not impaired.

Your grade on the term paper will make up 60% of your final grade. We will devote the 3rd Block of class on Monday, May 12th to reviewing instructor-created handouts concerning research design papers and to discussion of the research design papers.

Writing a good research design paper is an involved process. Thus, you have to start working on the paper well before **30 September 2014**! I encourage you to not only talk to me about your ideas for the paper during the week of classes in May, but also to correspond with me via email about your progress and your ideas. At a minimum, you are required to submit an outline of about two pages by email by **30 July 2014**. The outline presents an overview of the purpose and structure of the paper you write. Obviously, the earlier you submit the outline the more time you will have for actually writing the paper. I will give you individual feedback on your outline by email.

Readings and Literature

For most sessions there are two to three required readings (marked with a • in the detailed syllabus), typically articles from academic journals. A list of supplementary readings that form the core of the material for the oral presentations by students will be provided at the introductory session. The internationalization of elections is a multidisciplinary subject of study, and as such the articles are published in diverse venues, take diverse approaches and use many different research methodologies. It is to be expected that you will be more comfortable with some readings than others, I simply ask that you do your best to work through readings that are beyond your comfort zone as well as those from perspectives you are more familiar with.

Note that the list of readings is not sufficient for either the oral presentations or for your term papers. There is no substitute for exploring the field yourself. The listed readings are merely to get you started in the right direction.

DETAILED SYLLABUS

Note: The precise timing of blocks may change depending on the flow of discussion and the scheduled presentations. However, the starting (9.00) and ending (16.00) times will be strictly adhered to. We will typically have about a 30 minute break between the two morning sessions and an hour-long break for lunch.

MONDAY, MAY 12: INTRODUCTION

1st block (9.00-10.30): Introduction and Organization

- ◇ Why did you choose to take this seminar?
- ◇ What is your view of the nature of international influences on elections?
- ◇ What do you hope to learn more about this class?

2nd block (11.00-13.00) Overview of Internationalization of Elections

- Kayser, Mark Andreas. "How domestic is domestic politics? Globalization and elections." *Annu. Rev. Polit. Sci.* 10 (2007): 341-362.
- Pastor, Robert A. "The third dimension of accountability: The international community in national elections." *The Self-Restraining State: Power and Accountability in New Democracies* (1999): 123-142.

- ◇ In what ways might the structure of the international environment affect elections?
- ◇ What international actors might influence elections (purposively or not)?
- ◇ How does internationalization influence our domestically-focused understandings of elections?

3rd block (14.00-16.00) Basics on Research Design Papers

- Nyblade Handout on Research Design and Research Design Papers
- ◇ What makes for a good research question?
- ◇ What makes for a good research design?
- ◇ What steps do you need to take to do a good research design paper for this class?
- ◇ **Be prepared to discuss your initial ideas for a research design question for this class.**

TUESDAY, MAY 13: INTERNATIONAL VOTERS

1st block (9.00-10.30): Who Should Vote?

- Blais, André, Louis Massicotte, and Antoine Yoshinaka. "Deciding who has the right to vote: a comparative analysis of election laws." *Electoral Studies* 20.1 (2001): 41-62.
- Schlenker, Andrea, and Joachim Blatter. "Conceptualizing and evaluating (new) forms of citizenship between nationalism and cosmopolitanism." *Democratization* ahead-of-print (2013): 1-26.

◇ **Come to class prepared to discuss your own views on:** Who do you think should be able to vote in (local, national, supra-national elections)? What constraints should there be on voting rights?

◇ On what dimensions do election laws vary around the world?

◇ What links are possible to competing understandings of citizenship and voting rights?

2nd block (11.00-12.30): Non-Citizen Voting

- Beckman, Ludvig. "Citizenship and voting rights: Should resident aliens vote?." *Citizenship studies* 10.2 (2006): 153-165.
- Earnest, David C. "'Neither Citizen Nor Stranger.'" *World Politics* 58.2 (2006): 242-275.

◇ What are the normative arguments for and against non-citizen voting? What arguments are most compelling to you?

◇ What might influence the adoption of non-citizen voting rights?

◇ What are the likely consequences of extending voting rights to non-citizens (in various contexts)?

3rd block (13.30-16.00): Non-Resident Voting

- López-Guerra, Claudio. "Should Expatriates Vote?*" *Journal of Political Philosophy* 13.2 (2005): 216-234.
- LaFleur, Jean-Michel. "Why do states enfranchise citizens abroad? Comparative insights from Mexico, Italy and Belgium." *Global Networks* 11.4 (2011): 481-501.
- Ciornei, Irina and Eva Østergaard-Nielsen. "Competing for the Emigrant Vote. A Comparison of Transnational Electoral Campaigns in Spain and France." (2013) Working Paper.

◇ What are the normative arguments for and against non-resident voting? What arguments are most compelling to you?

◇ What might influence countries' decisions to adopt non-resident voting rights?

◇ What are the likely consequences of extending voting rights to non-residents (in various contexts)?

+++ NO CLASS ON WEDNESDAY, MAY 14 +++

THURSDAY, MAY 15: INTERNATIONAL EVENTS AND ACTORS

1st block (9.00-10.30): War & Terrorism

- Baum, Matthew A. "The Constituent Foundations of the Rally-Round-the-Flag Phenomenon." *International Studies Quarterly* 46.2 (2002): 263-298.
- Rose, William, Rysia Murphy, and Max Abrahms. "" Correspondence: Does Terrorism Ever Work? The 2004 Madrid Train Bombings." *Journal Article* 32.1 (2007): 185-192.
- Montalvo, Jose G. "Voting after the bombings: A natural experiment on the effect of terrorist attacks on democratic elections." *Review of Economics and Statistics* 93.4 (2011): 1146-1154.

- ◇ In what ways could involvement in wars or international conflict influence elections?
- ◇ If rally-round-the-flag effects are real, how might electoral factors influence states' involvement in conflict?
- ◇ When might violence (or threat of violence) be an effective tool for non-state international actors to influence elections?

2nd block (11.00-12.30): International Election Monitors

- Hyde, Susan D. "The Observer Effect in International Politics: Evidence from a Natural Experiment." *World Politics* 60.01 (2007): 37-63.
- Simpson, Alberto, and Daniela Donno. "Can international election monitoring harm governance?." *The Journal of Politics* 74.02 (2012): 501-513.
- (Skim Pastor chapter from Monday also)

- ◇ What are the range of possible consequences of international election monitors on elections?
- ◇ Why would governments who wish to 'cheat' still invite election monitors?
- ◇ What could make election monitoring more or less effective?

3rd block (13.30-16.00): Foreign Aid & Remittances

- Faye, Michael, and Paul Niehaus. "Political aid cycles." *The American Economic Review* 102.7 (2012): 3516-3530.
- O'Mahony, Angela. "Political Investment: Remittances and Elections." *British Journal of Political Science* 43.04 (2013): 799-820.

- ◇ What international actors might try to influence elections through financial influence?
- ◇ Under what conditions might we expect international actors to be more or less involved in elections?
- ◇ What are the normative implications of international financial involvement in elections?

FRIDAY, MAY 16: INTERNATIONAL STRUCTURAL CONDITIONS

1st block (9.00-10.30): Elections in Multi-level Systems

- Van der Eijk, Cees, and Mark N. Franklin. "Potential for contestation on European matters at national elections in Europe." In Marks and Steenbergen, eds. *European integration and political conflict* (2004): 32-50.
- Hix, Simon, and Michael Marsh. "Punishment or protest? Understanding European parliament elections." *Journal of Politics* 69.2 (2007): 495-510.

◇ In which ways might the existence of supra-national political organization and supra-national elections influence national (and sub-national?) elections?

◇ When (under what conditions) should supra-national politics be more likely to influence national elections?

◇ What are the implications of multi-level politics on elections as mechanisms for accountability?

2nd block (11.00-13.00): International Economic Conditions

- Hellwig, Timothy. "Globalization, policy constraints, and vote choice." *The Journal of Politics* 70.04 (2008): 1128-1141.
- Kayser, Mark Andreas, and Michael Peress. "Benchmarking across borders: electoral accountability and the necessity of comparison." *American Political Science Review* 106.03 (2012): 661-684.

◇ In which ways might economic interdependence influence national elections?

◇ To what extent might the effects of economic interdependence be conditional on (1) voter knowledge/competence, (2) countries' position in the global economy, (3) government policy-making, (4) parties' campaign strategies, (5) other factors?

◇ What are the challenges to disentangling the effects of economic interdependence on elections?

3rd block (14.00-16.00): Review

◇ What stands out to you most in what you've learned in this course so far?

◇ How has your views about the internationalization of elections changed?

◇ What do you think are promising frontiers for researching the internationalization of elections?