



Course and Examination Fact Sheet: Spring Semester 2023

6,312: Comparative Political Economy

ECTS credits: 4

Overview examination/s

(binding regulations see below)

Central - Written examination (100%, 90 mins.)

Examination time: inter-term break

Attached courses

Timetable -- Language -- Lecturer

[6,312,1.00 Comparative Political Economy](#) -- Englisch -- [Emmenegger Patrick](#)

Course information

Course prerequisites

Knowledge of fundamentals of political science and economics are helpful, but not strictly necessary, as the course is largely self-contained.

Learning objectives

Students acquire the analytical tools indispensable for an understanding of the dynamic interdependencies between politics and the economy in today's world. They learn to look at key issues from a historically informed perspective comprising the main political economy regimes of the 20th and 21st centuries in advanced capitalist societies. They are able to discuss the systematic tensions inherent in market-based political regimes. Selected cases familiarize students with analytical challenges in political and economic matters. In the course, we will, amongst others, cover topics such as state capacity and taxation, the welfare state and the politics of redistribution, industrial relations and neo-corporatism, models of capitalism and rising levels of inequality, models of finance and corporate governance, and the populist backlash against globalization.

Course content

Comparative Political Economy sits at the intersection of economics and politics, as it addresses the seminal question: who gets what, when, and how? Comparative Political Economy concerns itself with the comparative study of distributional outcomes across countries and thus, albeit more indirectly, among individuals. Why are some countries wealthier than others? Why do some countries continue on an upward trajectory of economic growth, while other stagnate and decline? Why do certain countries excel at high-value-added high-quality production in high-tech electronic goods or automobiles? Why do sectors characterized by fast-moving technological development flourish in some countries, but are scarce in others? How is the wealth generated, redistributed, and reinvested? What provisions are there for individuals to prosper and advance their economic fortunes? What are the implications of national economic regulation in terms of life chances and career trajectories at the micro level? The course will discuss these questions and more. Empirically, we will focus on a comparative discussion of advanced industrialized democracies.

Course structure and indications of the learning and teaching design

The course comprises twelve sessions. Students are expected to attend each class session and participate fully in class discussions. Readings must be completed prior to each class. Further readings may be provided online. The mandatory readings as well as the other course material provided online will be in English.

Course literature

All required readings will be made available online via StudyNet. Representative readings include:

Baccaro, Lucio, Blyth, Mark, and Jonas Pontusson, 2022, *Diminishing Returns: The New Politics of Growth and Stagnation*. Oxford



University Press.

Clift, Ben, 2021, Comparative Political Economy: States, Markets and Global Capitalism. Macmillan.

Emmenegger, Patrick, Häusermann, Silja, Palier, Bruno, and Martin Seeleib-Kaiser, 2012, The Age of Dualization: The Changing Face of Inequality in Deindustrializing Societies. Oxford University Press.

Esping, Andersen, Gosta, 2009, The Incomplete Revolution: Adapting to Women's New Roles. Polity.

Garrizmann, Julian et al., 2022, The World Politics of Social Investment. Oxford University Press.

Iversen, Torben and Soskice, David, 2019, Democracy and Prosperity: Reinventing Capitalism through a Turbulent Century. Princeton University Press.

Menz, Georg, 2017, Comparative Political Economy: Contours of a Subfield, Oxford University Press.

Rathgeb, Philip, 2018, Strong Governments, Precarious Workers: Labor Market Policy in the Era of Liberalization. Cornell University Press. Streeck,

Additional course information

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Examination information

Examination sub part/s

1. Examination sub part (1/1)

Examination time and form

Central - Written examination (100%, 90 mins.)

Examination time: inter-term break

Remark

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Examination-aid rule

Closed Book

The use of aids is prohibited as a matter of principle, with the exception of pocket calculator models of the Texas Instruments TI-30 series and, in case of non-language exams, bilingual dictionaries without any handwritten notes. Any other aids that are admissible must be explicitly listed by faculty members in the paragraph entitled "Supplementary aids" of the course and examination fact sheet; this list is exhaustive.

Procuring any aids, as well as ensuring their working order, is the exclusive responsibility of students.

Supplementary aids

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Nature of examination

analog

Examination languages

Question language: English

Answer language: English

Examination content



The exam will cover the literature, information and contents of the class sessions as well as the mandatory readings. More specifically, the topics include public opinion, voting behavior, electoral systems, partisan effects, unions and corporatism, business and power, institutional effects, institutional stability, institutional change, the role of ideas, and discursive coalitions.

Examination relevant literature

The relevant literature will be provided online during the semester (as of 22 May 2023 at the latest).

Please note

Please note that only this fact sheet and the examination schedule published at the time of bidding are binding and takes precedence over other information, such as information on StudyNet (Canvas), on lecturers' websites and information in lectures etc.

Any references and links to third-party content within the fact sheet are only of a supplementary, informative nature and lie outside the area of responsibility of the University of St.Gallen.

Documents and materials are only relevant for central examinations if they are available by the end of the lecture period (CW21) at the latest. In the case of centrally organised mid-term examinations, the documents and materials up to CW 12 are relevant for testing.

Binding nature of the fact sheets:

- Course information as well as examination date (organised centrally/decentrally) and form of examination: from bidding start in CW 04 (Thursday, 26 January 2023);
- Examination information (regulations on aids, examination contents, examination literature) for decentralised examinations: in CW 12 (Monday, 20 March 2023);
- Examination information (regulations on aids, examination contents, examination literature) for centrally organised mid-term examinations: in CW 12 (Monday, 20 March 2023);
- Examination information (regulations on aids, examination contents, examination literature) for centrally organised examinations: two weeks before the end of the de-registration period in CW 15 (Monday, 10 April 2023).