
Comparative Politics

Field of Study Exam Instructions & Reading List

updated September 2019

INSTRUCTIONS FOR THE COMPARATIVE POLITICS FIELD OF STUDY EXAMINATION

I. STRUCTURE OF COMPARATIVE POLITICS POLITICAL FOS EXAMINATION

The Comparative politics FoS examination has three sections. Each section will have a number of questions that the student may choose from. Students will be expected to answer one question per section in a three-hour period.

Section 1. Theories and Methods in Comparative Politics: Section 1 will include questions on general theoretical and methodological problems.

Section 2. Themes in Comparative Politics: Section 2 will include questions on specific thematic issues in the sub-field.

For students taking the Comparative FoS Exam in their Primary Field Only:

Section 3. Area of Dissertation Research (Primary Field Only): Section 3 will consist of a specific topic related to the anticipated area of doctoral research, which may include a regional specialization. This specific topic will be selected in consultation with the Supervisor. Appropriate reading lists for this section will be developed with the Supervisor.

For students taking the Comparative FoS Exam in their Secondary Field Only:

Section 3. Thematic Specialization (Secondary Field Only): Section 3 will include a thematic specialization such as: political parties, civil-military relations, democratization, political institutions, etc. If a student chooses to specialize on one of the themes already listed in the Comparative Politics Reading List (e.g. ideas, norms, and culture; or modernization and development), he or she will be expected to master it in more depth than what the reading list contains.

II. RECOMMENDED PREPARATORY COURSE WORK

As preparation for the Comparative politics FoS examination, the Comparative Politics Field Caucus recommends the following courses:

POLI 671: The material for Sections 1 and 2 will be related to the items in this reading list and to the material covered in POLI 671.

POLI 673: The material for Sections 1 and 2 will be related to the items in this reading list and to the material covered in POLI 673.

III. ADDITIONAL INSTRUCTIONS FOR THE COMPARATIVE POLITICS FOS EXAMINATION

The student's Supervisor will be responsible for drafting a reading list for the particular specialization, in consultation with the members of the caucus and with the student, if one is not already available.

READING LIST FOR THE COMPARATIVE POLITICS FIELD OF STUDY EXAMINATION

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GENERAL REFERENCE WORKS

Boix, Carles and Susan Stokes, eds. *The Oxford Handbook of Comparative Politics* (OUP, 2007).
 Munck, Gerardo and Richard Snyder, eds. *Passion, Craft and Method in Comparative Politics* (Johns Hopkins, 2007).

I. SECTION 1: THEORIES AND METHODS IN COMPARATIVE POLITICS

A. Concepts and Methods

Sartori, Giovanni "Concept misinformation in comparative politics," *The American Political Science Review* 64:4 (Dec 1970), pp. 1033–1053.
 Collier, David and, James E. Mahon, "Conceptual 'Stretching' Revisited: Adapting Categories in Comparative Analysis," *American Political Science Review* 87:4 (December 1, 1993), pp. 845–855.

- Collier, David, "The Comparative Method," in *Political Science: The State of the Discipline II*, edited by Ada W. Finifter, 105–19, (Washington, D.C. American Political Science Association, 1993).
- Brady, Henry, and David Collier, eds. *Rethinking Social Inquiry: Diverse Tools, Shared Standards* (Rowman & Littlefield, 2010), pp. 1–200.
- Shapiro, Ian. "Problems, methods, and theories in the study of politics; or: what's wrong with political science and what to do about it," *Political Theory* 30:4 (August 2002), pp- 596–619
- Elster, Jon, *Explaining Social Behavior*, (Cambridge, 2007).
- Charles Tilly, "Mechanisms in political processes," *Annual Review of Political Science* 4 (2001), pp. 21-41; <https://www-annualreviews-org.ezproxy.lib.ucalgary.ca/doi/10.1146/annurev.polisci.4.1.21>
- Munck, Gerardo and Richard Snyder, eds., *Passion, Craft and Method in Comparative Politics*, (Johns Hopkins, 2007).
- George, Alexander and Andrew Bennett, *Case Studies and Theory Development in the Social Sciences*, (MIT Press, 2004).
- Shapiro, Ian, Rogers Smith and Tarek Masoud, eds., *Problems and Methods in the Study of Politics*, (Cambridge, 2004).
- Mahoney, James, and Dietrich Rueschemeyer, eds. *Comparative Historical Analysis in the Social Sciences*, (Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, 2003).
- Geddes, Barbara. *Paradigms and Sand Castles: Theory Building and Research Design in Comparative Politics*, (Ann Arbor: University of Michigan Press, 2003).
- Hall, Peter. "Adapting Methodology to Ontology in Comparative Politics," in *The Political Economist* 11 (2003): 1–7.
- Mahoney, James. "Strategies of Causal Inference in Small-N Research," in *Sociological Methods and Research* 28, no. 4 (May 2000): 387–424.
- Mahoney, James. "Nominal, Ordinal, and Narrative Appraisal in Macro-Causal Analysis," in *American Journal of Sociology* 104, no. 3 (January 1999): 1154–1196.
- King, Gary, Robert Keohane, and Sidney Verba. *Designing Social Inquiry*. (Especially chapters 1 and 4), (Princeton, N. J.: Princeton University Press, 1993)
- Ragin, Charles, and Howard Becker, eds. *What is a Case? Exploring the Foundations of Social Inquiry*, (Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, 1992).
- Ragin, Charles C. *The Comparative Method: Moving Beyond Qualitative and Quantitative Strategies*, (Berkeley: University of California Press, 1987).
- Skocpol, Theda, and Margaret Somers. "The Uses of Comparative History in Macrosocial Inquiry" in *Comparative Studies in Society and History* 22, no. 2 (1980): 174–97.
- Przeworski, Adam, and Henry Teune. *The Logic of Comparative Social Inquiry*, (New York: John Wiley, 1970).
- Munck, Gerardo. "Canons of Research Design in Qualitative Analysis," in *Studies in Comparative Institutional Development* 33: 18–45.

- Beland, Daniel, and Robert Henry Cox (eds.), *Ideas and Politics in Social Science Research* (Oxford University Press, 2011), chapters ...
- Della Porta, Donatella, and Michael Keating (eds.), *Approaches and Methodologies in the Social Sciences: A Pluralist Perspective* (Cambridge University Press, 2008).
- Lichback, Mark, and Alan S. Zuckerman (eds.), *Comparative Politics: Rationality, Culture, and Structure* Second Edition (Cambridge University Press, 2009).
- Lijphart, Arendt. 1971. "Comparative Politics and the Comparative Method." *American Political Science Review* 65(1971): 682–693. Available at <http://www.jstor.org/stable/pdfplus/1955513.pdf?acceptTC=true&jpdConfirm=true>
- Berman, Sheri. "Ideas, Norms, and Culture in Political Analysis: Review Article," in *Comparative Politics* 33:2 (January 2001): 231–50.
- Lieberson, Stanley. 1991. "Small N's and Big Conclusions: An Examination of the Reasoning in Comparative Case Studies Based on a Small Number of Cases." *Social Forces* 70: 307–320. Available at <http://www.jstor.org.ezproxy.lib.ucalgary.ca/stable/pdfplus/2580241.pdf?acceptTC=true&jpdConfirm=true>
- Adcock, Robert and David Collier. 2001. "Measurement Validity: A Shared Standard for Qualitative and Quantitative Research." *American Political Science Review* 95(3): 529–546. <http://journals.cambridge.org/action/displayFulltext?type=1&fid=93860&jid=PSR&volumeId=95&issueId=03&aid=93859>

B. Rationality and Decision-Making

- Ostrom, Elinor. "A Behavioral Approach to the Rational Choice Theory of Collective Action," in *American Political Science Review* 92, no. 1 (March 1998): 1–22.
- Amartya Sen, "Rational Fools: A critique of the behavioral foundations of economic theory," *Philosophy and Public Affairs* 6:4 (Summer 1977), pp. 317–344; <https://www-jstor-org.ezproxy.lib.ucalgary.ca/stable/2264946>
- Shapiro, Ian. "Can the Rational Choice Framework Cope with Culture?" in *PS: Political Science & Politics* 31, no. 1 (March 1998): 40–2.
- Bates, Robert H. "Comparative Politics and Rational Choice: A Review Essay," in *American Political Science Review* 91, no. 3 (September 1997): 699–704.
- Green, Donald P., and Ian Shapiro. *Pathologies of Rational Choice: A Critique of Applications in Political Science*, (New Haven and London: Yale University Press, 1994).
- Amos Tversky and Daniel Kahneman, "Rational Choice and the Framing of Decisions," *The Journal of Business* 59:4, Part 2 (Oct., 1986), pp. S251–S278.
- Olson, Mancur. *The Logic of Collective Action: Public Goods and the Theory of Groups*, (Cambridge, Mass., and London: Harvard University Press, 1965).
- Becker, Gary. "The Economic Approach to Human Behaviour," in Jon Elster, ed. *Rational Choice* (New York: NYU Press, 1986), Chapter 4, pp. 108–122.

Kahneman, Daniel. *Thinking, Fast and Slow*, chapter 1 only (Farrar, Strauss and Giroux, 2011).
Ariely, Dan. *Predictably Irrational* (Harper Collins, 2008).

II. SECTION 2: THEMES IN COMPARATIVE POLITICS

A. States

- Acemoglu, Daron and James Robinson, *Why Nations Fail: The Origins of Power, Prosperity, and Poverty* (Crown Business, 2012).
- Charrad, Mounira, *State and Women's Rights: The Making of Postcolonial Tunisia, Algeria, and Morocco* (University of California Press, 2001).
- Nettl, J. P. "The State as a Conceptual Variable," in *World Politics* 20 (1968): 559– 592.
- Centeno, Miguel Angel, *Blood and Debt: War and the Nation-State in Latin America* (Penn State, 2002)
- Alexis de Tocqueville, *The Old Regime and the French Revolution* (Anchor, 1955).
- Evans, Peter, Dietrich Rueschmeyer, and Theda Skocpol, eds. *Bringing the State Back In*, (Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, 1985).
- Kalyvas, Stathis, Ian Shapiro, and Tarek Masoud, eds., *Order, Conflict, and Violence*, (Cambridge, 2008).
- Rotberg, Robert I., ed. *When States Fail: Causes and Consequences*, (Princeton and Oxford: Princeton University Press, 2004).
- Krasner, Stephen. *Sovereignty: Organized Hypocrisy*, (Princeton, N. J.: Princeton University Press, 1999).
- Levi, Margaret, "The State of the Study of the State," in *Political Science: the State of the Discipline*, Ira Katznelson and Helen V. Milner (eds.) (Norton, 2002).
- Scott, James C. *Seeing Like a State: How Certain Schemes to Improve the Human Condition have Failed*, (New Haven: Yale University Press, 1998).
- Migdal, Joel. *Strong Societies and Weak States: State-Society Relations and State Capabilities in the Third World*, (Princeton, N. J.: Princeton University Press, 1988).
- Herbst, Jeffrey, *States and Power in Africa* (Princeton, 2000).
- Htun, Mala, "What it means to study gender and the state" in *Politics & Gender* 1:1, (2005), pp. 157–166.
- Poggi, Gianfranco. *The Development of the Modern State: A Sociological Introduction*, (Stanford, California: Stanford University Press, 1978).
- Michel Foucault, *Discipline and Punish* (Vintage 1977).
- Bob Jessop, "The State and State Building", in Sarah A. Binder, R.A.W. Rhodes, and Bert A. Rockman, eds. *Oxford Handbook of Political Institutions* (Oxford University Press, 2006);
- Thomas Ertman, *Birth of the Leviathan* (Cambridge, 1997).
- Francis Fukuyama, *The Origins of Political Order: From Prehuman Times to the French Revolution* (Farrar, Strauss and Giroux, 2011).

Jeffrey Herbst, "War and the State in Africa," *International Security* 14:4 (1990), pp. 117–139

Hillel Soifer and Mattias vom Hau, "Unpacking the Strength of the State: The Utility of State Infrastructural Power," *Studies in Comparative Institutional Development* 43 (2008), pp. 219–230.

Michael Mann, "The Autonomous Power of the State: Its Origins, Mechanisms, and Results," in Mann, *The Sources of Social Power* (Cambridge, 1986).

Soberg Shugart, Michael and John M. Carey, *Presidents and Assemblies: Constitutional Design and Electoral Dynamics* (Cambridge University Press, 1990).

B. Regimes

Moore, Barrington. *Social Origins of Dictatorship and Democracy: Lord and Peasant in the Making of the Modern World*, (Boston: Beacon Press, 1966).

Przeworski, Adam. *Democracy and Development*, (Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, 2000).

Schaeffer, Frederic. *Democracy in Translation: Understanding Politics in an Unfamiliar Culture*, (Ithaca, N.Y.: Cornell University Press, 1998).

Collier, David, and Steven Levitsky. "Democracy with Adjectives: Conceptual Innovation in Comparative Research," in *World Politics* 49 (April 1997): 430–51.

Linz, Juan, and Alfred Stepan. *Problems of Democratic Transition and Consolidation: Southern Europe, South America and Post-Communist Europe*, (Baltimore and London: Johns Hopkins University Press, 1996).

O'Donnell, Guillermo. "On the State, Democratization and Some Conceptual Problems," in *World Development* 27, no. 8 (1993): 1355–69.

Putnam, Robert D. *Making Democracy Work: Civic Traditions in Modern Italy*. (Princeton, N. J.: Princeton University Press, 1993).

O'Donnell, Guillermo, and Philippe Schmitter. *Transitions from Authoritarian Rule*, (Baltimore: Johns Hopkins University Press, 1986).

Dahl, Robert, *Polyarchy: Participation and Opposition* (Yale University Press, 1971).

Teele, Dawn Langan, *Forging the Franchise: The Political Origins of the Women's Vote* (Princeton, 2018)

Boix, Carles, and Milan Svoblik, "The Foundations of Limited Authoritarian Government: Institutions and Power-Sharing in Dictatorships," (September 24, 2011). Available at SSRN: <http://ssrn.com/abstract=1352065> or <http://dx.doi.org/10.2139/ssrn.1352065>

Stepan, Alfred. *Rethinking Military Politics* (Princeton).

Collier, David ed. *The New Authoritarianism in Latin America* (Princeton, 1979), Chapter 1: "Overview of the Bureaucratic Authoritarian Model," pp. 19–32.

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- Levitsky, Steven, and Lucan A. Way, "The Rise of Competitive Authoritarianism," *Journal of Democracy* 13:2 (April 2002), pp. 51–65
- Policzer, Pablo. *The Rise and Fall of Repression in Chile* (Notre Dame, 2009).
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- Gandhi, Jennifer. *Political Institutions under Dictatorship* (Cambridge, 2008).
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- Slater, Dan, "Democratic Careening," *World Politics*, Vol. 65, No. 4, pp. 729-763.

C. Institutions

- Binder, Sarah A., R.A.W. Rhodes, and Bert A. Rockman, eds. *Oxford Handbook of Political Institutions* (Oxford University Press, 2006)
- Hall, Peter A. and Rosemary Taylor, "Political Science and the Three New Institutionalism," *Political Studies*, Vol. 44, 1996, pp. 936-957.
- Helmke, Gretchen and Steven Levitsky, "Informal Institutions and Comparative Politics: A Research Agenda," *Perspectives on Politics*, Vol. 2, No. 4, 2004, pp. 725-740.
- Immergut, Ellen M. "The Theoretical Core of the New Institutionalism," in *Politics & Society* 26, no. 1 (March 1998): 5–34.
- March, James G., and Johan P. Olsen. "Institutional Perspectives on Political Institutions," in *Governance* 9, no. 3 (July 1996): 247–64.
- Steinmo, Sven, Kathleen Thelen, and Frank Longstreth, eds. *Structuring Politics: Historical Institutionalism in Comparative Analysis*, (Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, 1992).
- Tsebelis, George, "Veto Players and Institutional Analysis," in *Governance* 13 (4): 441–74.
- Pierson, Paul. *Politics in Time: History, Institutions, and Social Analysis*, (Princeton, N. J.: Princeton University Press, 2004).
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- Przeworski, Adam. "Institutions Matter?" *Government & Opposition* 39:4 (Fall 2004), pp. 527–41.
- Page, Scott E. "A complexity perspective on institutional design," *Politics, Philosophy & Economics* 11:1 (February 2012), pp. 5–25.
- Kenneth A. Shepsle, "Rational Choice Institutionalism", in Sarah A. Binder, R.A.W. Rhodes, and Bert A. Rockman, eds. *Oxford Handbook of Political Institutions* (Oxford University Press, 2006), Chapter 2.

Thelen, Kathleen, "How Institutions Evolve: Insights from Comparative Historical Analysis," in *Comparative Historical Analysis in the Social Sciences*.

Waylen, Georgina, "Informal Institutions, Institutional Change, and Gender Equality," *Political Research Quarterly*, Vol. 67, No. 1, 2014, pp. 212-223.

D. Ethnicity, Race and Indigenous Peoples

Chandra, Kanchan, *Constructivist Theories of Ethnic Politics* (Oxford University Press, 2012).

Chandra, Kanchan. "What is Ethnic Identity and Does it Matter?" in *The Annual Review of Political Science* 9 (June 2006): 397–424.

Canessa, Andrew, "Indigenous Conflict in Bolivia Explored Through an African Lens: Towards a Comparative Analysis of Indigeneity," in *Comparative Studies in Society and History*, Vol. 60, No. 2 (2018), pp. 308-337.

Forte, Maximilian C., ed. *Who is an Indian? Race, Place, and the Politics of Indigeneity in the Americas* (University of Toronto Press, 2013).

Lightfoot, Sheryl. *Global Indigenous Politics: A Subtle Revolution* (New York: Routledge, 2016).

Samson, Colin and Carlos Gigoux. *Indigenous Peoples and Colonialism: Global Perspectives* (Malden: Polity Press, 2017).

Yashar, Deborah J. *Contesting Citizenship in Latin America: The Rise of Indigenous Movements and the Postliberal Challenge* (New York: Cambridge University Press, 2005)

Marx, Anthony, *Making Race and Nation* (Cambridge, 1998).

Donna Lee Van Cott, *From Movements to Parties: The Evolution of Ethnic Politics in Latin America*. Chapters 1 & 2.

Wade, Peter, *Race and Ethnicity in Latin America* (Pluto Press, 1997), ch 1.

Fearon, James, and David Laitin. "Explaining Ethnic Cooperation," in *American Political Science Review* 90, no. 4 (December 1996): 715–35.

E. Gender and Comparative Politics

Tripp, Aili Mari, "Why so Slow? The challenges of gendering comparative politics," in *Politics & Gender*, 2:2 (2006), pp. 249–263.

Beckwith, Karen, "A Common language of gender?" in *Politics & Gender* 1:1, (2005), pp. 128–137.

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Mala Htun and S. Laurel Weldon. *The Logics of Gender Justice: State Action on Women's Rights Around the World*. Cambridge University Press, 2018.

F. Contentious Politics and Violence

- Gellner, Ernest. *Nations and Nationalism*. (Ithaca: Cornell University Press, 1983).
- Anderson, Benedict. *Imagined Communities: Reflections on the Origin and Spread of Nationalism*. Revised edition. (London and New Haven: Verso, 1991).
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- Brubaker, Rogers, and David Laitin. "Ethnic and Nationalist Violence," in *Annual Review of Sociology*, 24 (1998): 423–52.
- Stathis Kalyvas, *The Logic of Violence in Civil War* (Cambridge University Press, 2006)
- Fearon, James, and David Laitin. "Ethnicity, Insurgency, and Civil War," in *American Political Science Review* 97, no. 1 (2003): 75–90.
- Scott, James C. *The Moral Economy of the Peasant: Rebellion and Subsistence in Southeast Asia* (Yale, 1976)
- Elisabeth Jean Wood, *Insurgent Collective Action and Civil War in El Salvador* (Cambridge, 2003).
- McAdam, Doug, Sidney Tarrow, and Charles Tilly. *Dynamics of Contention* (Cambridge, 2001)

F. Development

- Peet, Richard and Elaine Hartwick. *Theories of Development: Contentions, Arguments, Alternatives*, Third Edition (New York and London: Guildford Publications, 2015).
- Pieterse, Jan Nederveen. *Development Theory: Deconstructions/Reconstructions*, Second Edition (Los Angeles and London: Sage, 2010).
- Abrahamsen, Rita. *Disciplining Democracy: Development Discourse and Good Governance in Africa* (London: Zed Books, 2000).
- Escobar, Arturo. *Encountering Development: The Making and Unmaking of the Third World* (Princeton, NJ: Princeton University Press, 2012), chapter 2.
- Cupples, Julie. *Latin American Development* (Abingdon, UK and New York: Routledge: 2013), chapters 3, 6, and 7.
- Leiva, Fernando Ignacio. *Latin American Neoliberalism: The Contradictions of Post-Neoliberal Development* (Minneapolis and London: University of Minnesota Press, 2008), chapters 1, 2, and 11.
- Connelly, M. Patricia Connelly, Tania Murray Li, Martha McDonald, and Jane L. Parpart. "Feminism and Development: Theoretical Perspectives." In Jane L. Parpart, M. Patricia Barriteau, and V. Eudine, *Theoretical Perspectives on Gender and Development*. (Ottawa: IDRC Books, 2000), chapter 3.

- Molyneux, Maxine. "The chimera of success: gender ennui and the changed international policy environment." In Andrea Cornwall, Elizabeth Harrison, and Ann Whitehead (eds.), *Feminisms in Development: Contradictions, Contestations and Challenges* (London and New York: Zed Books, 2007), pp. 227–240.
- Amin, Samir. "The Millenium Development Goals: A Critique from the South," in *Monthly Review* 57, no.10 (Mar. 2006): 1–15.
- McLaren, Duncan. "Environmental Space, Equity, and the Ecological Debt." In Julian Agyeman, Robert D. Bullard, and Bob Evans (eds.), *Just Sustainabilities: Development in an Unequal World* (London: Earthscan Publications Ltd, 2003), pp. 19–38.

G. Political Economy

- Amenta, Edwin, "What we Know About the Development of Social Policy: Comparative and Historical Research in Comparative and Historical Perspective," in *Comparative Historical Analysis in the Social Sciences*.
- Esping-Anderson, Gøsta, "The Three Political Economies of the Welfare State," *International Journal of Sociology*, Vol. 20, No. 3, 1990, pp. 92-123.
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- Hacker, Jacob, "Privatizing Risk without Privatizing the Welfare State? The Hidden Politics of Social Policy Retrenchment in the United States," *American Political Science Review*, Vol. 98, No. 2, 2004, pp. 243-260.
- Hall, Peter, and David Soskice, eds. *Varieties of Capitalism: Institutional Foundations of Comparative Advantage*. (Oxford: Oxford University Press, 2001).
- Pierson, Paul, "The New Politics of the Welfare State," in *World Politics* 48:2, (1996).
- North, Douglass C. *Institutions, Institutional Change, and Economic Performance*. (New York: Cambridge University Press, 1990).
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- Stiglitz, Joseph, *Globalization and its Discontents* (WW Norton, 2002).
- Rodrik, Dani, *The Globalization Paradox* (WW Norton, 2011).
- Weber, Max, *The Protestant Ethic and the Spirit of Capitalism* (Routledge, 2001).

H. Parties and Party Systems

- Sartori, Giovanni. *Parties and Party Systems: A Framework for Analysis*. Vol. 1. (Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, 1976).
- Duverger, Maurice. *Political Parties: Their Organization and Activity in the Modern State*. Trans. by Barbara and Robert North, with a foreword by D. W. Brogan. (London: Methuen, 1964).

Michels, Robert. *Political Parties: A Sociological Study of the Oligarchical Tendencies of Modern Democracy*. Trans. by Eden and Cedar Paul. (New York: Free Press; London: Collier-Macmillan, 1962).

Dalton, Russell J., and Martin P. Wattenburg, eds. *Parties Without Partisans: Political Change in Advanced Industrial Democracies*. (Oxford: Oxford University Press, 2000).

Russell J. Dalton, David M. Farrell, and Ian McAllister, *Political Parties and Democratic Linkage: How Parties Organize Democracy* (OUP, 2011).

Roberts, Kenneth M. *Changing Course in Latin America: Party Systems in the Neoliberal Era* (Cambridge, 2014).

Seawright, Jason. *Party System Collapse: The Roots of Crisis in Peru and Venezuela* (Stanford, 2012).