

## Contents

<b>1</b>	<b>Module 5</b>	<b>2</b>
1.1	Political Economy . . . . .	2
1.2	Varieties of Capitalism . . . . .	3
<b>2</b>	<b>Module 4</b>	<b>4</b>
2.1	Nations & Society . . . . .	4
2.2	Political Culture & Ideology . . . . .	5
<b>3</b>	<b>09.02.20</b>	<b>6</b>
3.1	State Development . . . . .	6
<b>4</b>	<b>Module 3</b>	<b>6</b>
4.1	Institutions and States . . . . .	6
4.1.1	Institutions . . . . .	6
4.1.2	The State . . . . .	7
4.1.3	Definitions . . . . .	7
4.2	Legitimacy & Sovereignty . . . . .	8
<b>5</b>	<b>08.26.20</b>	<b>9</b>
5.1	Defining a Good Society . . . . .	9
<b>6</b>	<b>Module 2</b>	<b>9</b>
6.1	Video 1 . . . . .	9
6.1.1	"Traditional Approach" . . . . .	9
6.1.2	Modern Era (1960s-1980s) . . . . .	9
6.1.3	Development (1960s-1980s) . . . . .	9
6.1.4	Critiques of Behavioralims/Developmentalism . . . . .	10
6.1.5	Post-Behavioralism (1990s-Present) . . . . .	10
6.1.6	New Institutionalism (Past 25 years) . . . . .	10
6.2	Video 2 . . . . .	10
6.2.1	The Study of Comparative Politics . . . . .	10
6.2.2	Goals . . . . .	11
6.2.3	Challenges . . . . .	11
6.3	Video 3 . . . . .	12
6.3.1	Most Similar Systems Design (MSS) . . . . .	12
6.3.2	Most-Different Systems Design (MDS) . . . . .	12
6.3.3	Overview . . . . .	12

# 1 Module 5

## 1.1 Political Economy

- Political Economy: The study of how politics and economics are related
- Components:
  - Markets
  - Property
  - Public goods
  - Taxation
  - Fiscal Policy
  - Regulation
  - Trade
- Public Goods & Social Expenditures
  - Public goods: Those goods provided or secured by the state and are available for everyone
  - Social expenditure: The state's provision of public benefits or welfare
    - \* All states have some kind of social expenditure
- Taxation
  - Mostly needed to fund state activities
  - Different kinds of taxes at different levels
  - Some countries provide goods and services mostly from revenues from taxation
- Regulations
  - Rules or orders that set the boundaries of a given procedure
  - Costs of compliance
  - Costs of monitoring
  - Costs of non-compliance
- Trade & Economic Development

- Free Trade: Trade among countries wherein no country restricts trade from any other country
  - \* by levying import tariffs/duties
  - \* through imposition of quotas
  - \* by providing subsidies to its own domestic firms
  - \* by introducing other non-tariff barriers
- Trade that is free from barriers is theorized to improve economic development/innovation through the use of a comparative advantage

## 1.2 Varieties of Capitalism

- Advantages of market systems
  - very dynamic
  - high levels of productivity
- Disadvantages of market systems
  - Variability
  - Negative market swings can have a domino effect
  - Negative social externalities (inequality, unemployment, etc)
- Political-Economic Systems
  - Liberal Democracy
  - Social Democracy
  - Mercantile Democracy
  - Communism
- Liberal Democracy: An ideology and political system that favors limited state role in society and the economy and places a high priority on individual political and economic freedom
- Social Democracy: A political-economic system where freedom and equality are balanced through state management of economy and provision of social expenditures
  - features corporatism where government, firms, and workers have a tripartite relationship

- often called a coordinated market economy
- Mercantile Democracy: State controls economy
  - State owns parts or all of industry
  - Heavy regulations, tariffs, and non-tariff barriers to foster and protect domestic industry
  - Little social expenditure, low taxes
  - Allows for rapid economic growth (Asian TIGER countries) and often export oriented
- No single type of democracy is better than another- some simply align with certain interests

## 2 Module 4

### 2.1 Nations & Society

- Goals of nation-building:
  - Capacity
  - Legitimacy
  - Identity
- Society: "A collection of people bound by shared institutions that define how relations should be conducted"
- Types of Identity:
  - Primordial (genetic)
  - Ascribed (given by others)
  - Socially constructed (develops over time)
- Identity is not inherently political but can be politicized
- Citizenship: An individual or group's relation to the state
- Different states have different citizenship regimes
  - Allowance of dual citizenship
  - Types of naturalization process

- Identity as an Institution
  - Identities comprise kinds of institutions
  - Identities are sticky
  - Politicization of identities increases probability of conflict
- Ethnic conflict: Conflict between ethnic groups that struggle to achieve goals at each other's expense
- National Conflict: Conflict in which one or more groups within a country develops clear aspirations for political independence, clashing with others as a result

## 2.2 Political Culture & Ideology

- Political culture is very difficult to define and is relative
  - can be considered an informal institution
  - may be rooted in culture or religion
  - developed from an early age
- Political attitudes: how one sees the operations of the state and its institutions
  - Radical, liberal, conservative, reactionary
  - Majority are around center
  - Liberal: Seek to change society through institutional adjustments
  - Constitution: Prefer continuity, resist change
  - Radicals and Reactionaries: generally outside institutions, may use violence
- Attitudes are relative to political culture
  - A liberal in the US = a conservative in France
- Political ideologies: what one views as the fundamental goals of politics
  - Communism -> Social Democracy -> Liberalism -> Fascism -> Anarchy
  - Here, liberalism supports political choice, not political attitudes
  - Social democracy supports greater state intervention

- Communism, Facsism, and Anarchy are non-democratic (radical or reactionary)
- Socialist definition
  - Communist parties of the former societ bloc (non-democratic) described as socialist
  - Nazi (extreme right) stood for national socialist party
  - Social democrat parties of advanced democracies are democratic

### 3 09.02.20

#### 3.1 State Development

- Europe v the New World
  - Compare the state development of European, "old-world" countries and "new world" countries"
    - \* Old world countries tend to be more imperialistic while new countries have a common exp of being colonies
    - \* New world countries were composed of different types of people while Old world countries had a shared history
- Feudalism: Geographic proximity and increasing power of feudal lords -> challenges between feudal properties were likely, so organization of resources and capabilities was key to survival
- Feudalism led to increased collectivism, translating to:
  - large, active labor organizations
  - large, state-provided social welfare
  - emphasis on production of higher quality goods instead of new innovation

### 4 Module 3

#### 4.1 Institutions and States

##### 4.1.1 Institutions

- Institution: Institutions are formal and informal rules that structure the relationship among individuals

- Can have legal or social forces
- Institutions are resistant to change but can change as a
  - response to outside forces
  - response to internal pressures
  - response to effects of other institutions

#### 4.1.2 The State

- An organization that maintains a legitimate monopoly of force over a certain territory and its population
- A set of political institutions sets policies for the territory and its population
- Sovereignty: The ability for a state to carry out actions/policies within a territory independently from external actors or internal rivals/challengers
- Issues of autonomy and capacity:
  - Autonomy: the ability for the state to wield its power independently of the public
  - Capacity: the ability for the state to accrue and utilize sufficient resources to carry out basic tasks and responsibilities

#### 4.1.3 Definitions

##### 1. General

- State: governing structure's legitimate expression of sovereignty/main political organization of a country
- Regime: Informal institutions that guide how a state operates
- Government: Collection of actors in charge of carrying out political decisions of the regime and in the interest of the state
- Country: More generic; refers to the political collectivity of a sovereign territory
- Nation: Refers to a group of people bound together by some trait who seek to establish to establish and express political interests
- Nation != Country

## 2. Strength of States

- Institutional Capabilities
  - Strong States: Has good institutional foundations; these institutions function well
  - Weak States: Does not have good institutional foundations, its institutions do not function well
  - Failed States: Institutions so weak that they basically collapse and have no sovereignty
- Organizational Structure
  - Strong states maintain a fair amount of centralized control
  - Weak states hand down authority to local institutions and are decentralized

## 4.2 Legitimacy & Sovereignty

- Legitimacy: a value whereby something or someone is recognized and accepted by a large portion of the population as right and proper (is highly subjective)
- Types of legitimacy:
  - Traditional legitimacy: embodies historical myths/legends and continues from past to present
  - Charismatic legitimacy: Built on the force of ideas and appeals embodied by a leader
  - Rational-Legal legitimacy: Based on a system of laws and procedures that are institutionalized
- Sources of Legitimacy:
  - Conferred by the ruler to a ruler, government, or state
  - Ascribed to a state or ruler by other states or rulers (prerequisite for intl. cooperation)
  - Ascribed to a state or ruler by organizations/non-state actors
- Legitimacy can often be used to push for change



## 5 08.26.20

### 5.1 Defining a Good Society

- Although observable, empirical assessments may differ from person to person, depending upon factors that may distort individual observation.
- Multiple factors contribute to whether a society is "good" or not, critical to comparing countries and political systems

## 6 Module 2

### 6.1 Video 1

#### 6.1.1 "Traditional Approach"

- Focus on a "formal-legal" aspects of political institutions
- Mostly a categorizing exercise with little analysis
- Many European ex-pats were these scholars

#### 6.1.2 Modern Era (1960s-1980s)

- Scholars stop describing, start comparing
- Behavioral Revolution - emphasis on individual, group behavior, not static institutions
- Gave rise to "developmentalism" or "modernization theory"
  - Proposed that a state develops economically, political and social development follows
  - Functionalism (functions of differently societal elements lay foundation for growth)

#### 6.1.3 Development (1960s-1980s)

- 5 stages each society goes through for development:
- Traditional society (no mass production)
- Preconditions for economic take-off (advent of industrialization and mass production)

- Take-off (dynamic economic growth)
- Drive to maturity (long era of econ growth, modern tech usage)
- Age of high mass consumption (everyon is within driving distance of McDonalds (most places))

#### **6.1.4 Critiques of Behavioralims/Developmentalism**

- Enthocentric and ideologically driven
- Creates dependency: capitalism creates a situation where underdeveloped countries depend on developed countries
- Developmentalist theories tried to be a one-size-fit-all theory which wasn't bale to be applied to all individual case studies

#### **6.1.5 Post-Behavioralism (1990s-Present)**

- Development of middle-range theories instead of one single theory
- Diversity of approaches (qualitative, quantitative, case studies)
- Takes culture and historical context into consideration
- Rational choice theory applied
- Political economy: the state can have a varying role in economic matters

#### **6.1.6 New Institutionalism (Past 25 years)**

- Institutions are the nexus of political action
- Institutions are dynamic that interact over time w other variables
- Institutions comprise the surrounding environment & sentiment

### **6.2 Video 2**

#### **6.2.1 The Study of Comparative Politics**

- Comparative politics implies a method of study or an approach to an analysis, not a single theory

- greatest challenge is that events occur in real time with unreplicable environments
- events in politics can not be replicated to test for validity

### 6.2.2 Goals

- Goal: To assess which factors cause a certain outcome by comparing or contrasting cases
- Cases: One of the group of things (events, states, actors, etc.) to be studied
- Variable: a factor that changes over time or in different cases
  - Independent var: causal var
  - Dependent var: outcome var
- Causal relationships can be shown as:
  - Cause -> effect
  - Independent var -> dependent var
  - Explanators var -> outcome
  - x var -> y var
- Hypothesis: a possible answer that explains a causal effect

### 6.2.3 Challenges

- Goal: to determine causality, not just correlation
- In comparative politics, the researcher may not be able to:
  - have a constant
  - measure certain variables
  - anticipate certain events
  - disentangle one variable from others
  - Access to cases & information
    - \* Language barriers
    - \* Time & funding
    - \* Sufficient cases (and selection bias)

\* IRB (Institutional Review Board)

- Correlation: when var A occurs with var B, one is not caused by the other
- Endogeneity: when it cannot be determined whether an outcome was caused by another factor or the outcome caused that factor to occur

### **6.3 Video 3**

#### **6.3.1 Most Similar Systems Design (MSS)**

- A method in which as many independent vars as possible are held constant to explain a political outcome: similar cases, different outcomes can help isolate a variable
- Special Variation of MSS: Within-Case Comparison
  - Single case analyzed over time or in different geographical areas
  - Breaks up a single case into subparts and allows for comparison

#### **6.3.2 Most-Different Systems Design (MDS)**

- Looks at cases that are different from one another and observes why the same political outcome is observed as a method of understanding how to isolate a single causal variable

#### **6.3.3 Overview**

- Probable causal explanations (hypotheses): goal of these comparative approaches
- Theories can be built from the strongest hypothesis
- Theories can further be generalized based on the case