Course Description

This course presents a general overview of causal processes of macro-institutional level social changes. It considers a variety of types of cross-national, over-time changes such as economic growth, bureaucratization, revolutions, democratization, spread of cultural and institutional norms, deindustrialization, globalization and development of welfare states. It also covers various forms of planned changes in oppositional social movements (civil rights, environmental, women’s, and labor movements).

Evaluation

Your overall evaluation will be based on (1) Daily reading notes with critical questions (40%); (2) a research proposal (preliminary proposal 20% + updated proposal 20% = 40%); (3) participation in class discussion, presentations and leading discussions (20%);

√ Daily reading notes should include two parts: (1) one paragraph of critical summary (about 100 to 150 words) for each reading assignment; (2) your own one critical point or question for one reading assignment you (dis)like most (50 to 100 words). I hope you submit this weekly reading note at the beginning of each class. You should put your discussion questions on the discussion board of our course webpage (chalk) the day before our class (no later than 5:00 pm). We will utilize these questions for class discussion.

√ The term paper (research proposal) topic will be developed in consultation with the instructor and should be closely related to some area of scholarship covered in the syllabus. Submit the title and one paragraph (about a half page, 2-300 words) of the description of your research proposal by class 7. Then, you will be expected to submit three or four-page length preliminary research proposal (class 12). This research proposal should consist of one paragraph of introduction including your research question, one page of overview of previous research, one paragraph of the implication of your research topic for the related field(s), one or two paragraphs for your ‘causal’ hypothesis and theoretical framework, and one page of data, measurement and methods. As for methodological approach, you may utilize either quantitative or qualitative technique (or both).

For the final research proposal, you will have to develop about 10 (12 point size font, double space, 1 inch margin on all four sides) page length research proposal with (at least) one piece of basic empirical evidence (based on comparative historical, descriptive statistics, or preliminary regression analysis). You are expected to present your research proposal during the final three sessions (17, 18 and 19) -- I encourage power-point presentation)(no need to submit your paper at this point) and then submit the final research paper no later than June 6 after digesting my and your colleagues’ comments.

√ One or two students will be responsible for leading the discussion in each session.

Abbreviations: ASR=American Sociological Review  AJS=American Journal of Sociology

PART I. PATTERNS OF ECONOMIC AND POLITICAL DEVELOPMENT

1. INTRODUCTION

2. RISE OF CAPITALISM

3. INSTITUTIONS AND GROWTH
   North, Douglass C. 1981. Structure and Change in Economic History. MIT Press. Chapters 1 (pp.3-12) and 15 (p.201-209)
   “State.” (Pp. 43-73)

4. COLONIALISM AND GROWTH

5. DEVELOPMENT, REVOLUTIONS AND DEMOCRACY
Theda Skocpol, *States and Social Revolutions*, Cambridge, 1979, part I [esp. Ch 1 & pp. 154-57].
Rusechemeyer, Dietrich, Evelyne Huber Stephens and John D. Stephens, “Capitalist Development and Democracy” chs. 3 (pp.17-53)

6. SOCIAL CAPITAL AND GOVERNANCE

7. DEVELOPMENT OF THE WELFARE STATES

8. GENDER INEQUALITY

9. INCOME INEQUALITY
PART II. GLOBALIZATION

10. WORLD SYSTEM THEORY/DEPENDENCY

11. GLOBALIZATION: CULTURAL AND INSTITUTIONAL APPROACHES

12. GLOBALIZATION AND STATES: NEO-LIBERALISM AND CONVERGENCE

PART III. CIVIL SOCIETY AND SOCIAL MOVEMENTS

13. GRIEVANCES, RESOURCE MOBILIZATION, AND POLITICAL OPPORTUNITIES

14. FRAMING AND NETWORKS


15. MAJOR MOVEMENTS I: WOMEN’S AND NEW SOCIAL MOVEMENTS

16. MAJOR MOVEMENTS II: LABOR

17-19. Student Presentations