

**Sociology 528. *Conflict and the Nation-State***  
Winter 2009

Class Meets: T 2:00 – 4:25  
Malott 406

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The nation-state developed out of military competition within Europe and the rise of and response to colonial empires in the America, Asia and Africa. Conflict is just as virulent today, as ethnic cleansing and American adventurism attest. We will examine “global political sociology” both in comparative historical terms and in terms of fundamental social processes, with an eye to what they tell us about contemporary issues. Questions include: Where did the state come from, and where is it going? When and why do groups seek to leave polities, through secession or decolonization? When and why do states become imperial powers? How is intra-state and inter-state conflict conditioned by the changing content of nationality and citizenship, global institutions, and inequalities of wealth and power?

The seminar requirements are class participation and two papers (about 8-12 pages each). The first paper should examine a conceptual issue in the literature, and is due the week of March 9. The second should suggest a research design, and is due in the last class meeting, April 28. The two papers and class participation each make up one-third of the course grade.

Jan 20            Organizational & Introductory Meeting

Jan 27            Visions of the State

Samuel Huntington, “Political modernization: America vs Europe.” *World Politics* 18 (1966): 559-91.

Ann Shola Orloff and Theda Skocpol, “Why not equal protection? Explaining the politics of public social spending in Britain, 1900-1911 and the United States, 1880s-1920.” *American Sociological Review* 49 (1984): 726-50.

James C. Scott, **Seeing like a State**. Yale University Press, 1998. Ch 2.

Max Weber, **Economy and Society**, 48-56.

Feb 3            Visions of the State System

John W. Meyer, "The world polity and the authority of the nation-state." Pp 109-37 in A. Bergesen, ed., **Studies of the Modern World System**. Academic, 1980.

Charles Tilly, **Coercion, Capital, and European States, AD 990-1992**. Ch 6: "The European State System"

Immanuel Wallerstein, "The rise and future demise of the world capitalist system: concepts for comparative analysis." *Comparative Studies in Society and History* 16 (1974): 387-415.

Feb 10            States make War

Robert A. Hanneman, Randall Collins and Gabriele Mordt, "Discovering theory dynamics by computer simulation: experiments on state legitimacy and imperialist capitalism." *Sociological Methodology* 25 (1995): 1-46.

William McNeill, **The Pursuit of Power**, Ch 8: "Intensified Military-Industrial Interaction, 1884-1914."

Charles Tilly, "War making and state making as organized crime." Pp. 169-191 in P. Evans, D. Rueschmeyer and T. Skocpol, eds, **Bringing the State Back In**. Cambridge, 1985.

Feb 17            States make Citizens

Boli-Bennett, John and John W. Meyer, "The ideology of childhood and the state: rules distinguishing children in national constitutions, 1870-1970." *American Sociological Review* 43 (1978): 797-812.

Foucault, Michel. **Discipline and Punish**. Part I, Ch 1 and Part III, Ch 1.

Janice E. Thomson, "State practices, international norms and the decline of mercenaries." *International Studies Quarterly* 34 (1990): 23-47.

Feb 24            Social Revolutions

Jack Goldstone and Bert Useem, "Prison riots as microrevolutions: an extension of state-centered theories of revolution." *American Journal of Sociology* 104 (1999): 985-1029.

Barrington Moore, **Social Origins of Dictatorship and Democracy**. Chs 7, 8.

Theda Skocpol, **States and Social Revolutions**. Ch 2.

Mar 3      Imperialism

Jeffrey Frieden, "The economics of intervention: American overseas investments and relations with underdeveloped areas, 1890-1950." *Comparative Studies in Society and History* 31 (1989): 55-80.

J.A. Hobson, **Imperialism**, Allen & Unwin, [1902] 1938. Part I, Chs 1-VI ("The Measure of Imperialism" through "The Economic Taproot of Imperialism.")

Ronald Robinson, "Non-European foundations of European Imperialism: Sketch for a Theory of Collaboration." Pp. 117-142 in R. Owen and B. Sutcliffe, eds., **Studies in the Theory of Imperialism**. Longman, 1972.

Mar 10      Discussion of 1<sup>st</sup> Papers

<..... Spring Break .....>

Mar 24      Nationalism

Benedict Anderson, **Imagined Communities**. Verso, 1983. Chapters 2, 3.

Ernest Gellner, **Nations and Nationalism**. Cornell University Press, Chapters 1-3.

Randy Hodson, Dusko Sekulic, and Garth Massey, "National tolerance in the former Yugoslavia." *American Journal of Sociology* 99 (1994): 1534-58.

Mar 31      A Room of One's Own

Bernard Bailyn, **The Ideological Origins of the American Revolution**. Harvard University Press, 1967. Ch V.

Donald Horowitz, "Patterns of ethnic separatism." *Comparative Studies in Society and History* 23 (1981): 165-95.

David Strang, "From dependency to sovereignty: an event history analysis of decolonization 1870-1987." *American Sociological Review* 55 (1990): 846-60.

Apr 7                    Democracy and Dictatorship

Valerie Bunce and Sharon Wolchick, "Bringing down dictators: the diffusion of democratic change in communist and post-communist Europe and Eurasia." Working paper, Mario Einaudi Center for International Studies.

Michael Mann, **The Dark Side of Democracy**. Cambridge. Chs 1 and 3.

Whitehead, Laurence "The Imposition of Democracy." Pp. 356-82 (Ch 13) in A.F. Lowenthal, ed., **Exporting Democracy: The United States and Latin America**.

Apr 14                    International diffusion

Frank, David J., Bayliss Camp, and Steven A. Boutcher, "Worldwide trends in the criminal regulation of sex, 1945-2005." Working paper, University of California Irvine.

Jason Kaufman and Orlando Patterson, "Cross-national cultural diffusion: the global spread of cricket." *American Sociological Review* 70 (2005): 82-110.

Lee, Chang Kil and David Strang, "The international diffusion of public sector downsizing: network emulation and theory-driven learning." *International Organization* 60 (2006): 883-909.

Apr 21                    Late Hegemony and the American System

Hafner-Burton, Emilie and Kiyoteri Tsutsui, "Human rights in a globalizing world: the paradox of empty promises." *American Journal of Sociology* 110 (2005): 373-1411.

David A. Lake, "Escape from the state of nature: authority and hierarchy in world politics." *International Security* 32 (2007): 47-74.

Daniel Lynch, "Envisioning China: elite responses to democracy as a global constitutive norm." *International Studies Quarterly* 51 (2007): 701-22.

Apr 28                    Discussion of 2<sup>nd</sup> Papers