Political Parties in New Democracies

MA course from Democracy and Development Group
SAMPOL

Course description

The course addresses central theoretical aspects of parties and party systems in the developing world. Designed around seven main themes, the seminars will discuss theoretical foundations and follow their application in empirical studies from country cases in Latin America, Asia and Africa. In class discussions, emphasis is placed on methodological foundations and data. The course is organized as follows: Each theme begins with a seminar where the central theories are presented (45 min. lecture) and discussed. In the second seminar we discuss applications of the theories to new democracies in Asia, Latin America and Africa. Students will present and discuss the course material in class.

Course requirements: An essay or home exam.

17.01
Introduction to Topics in the study of political parties in new democracies
Lectures

24.01 (Lise Rakner)
Parties in democratic development
Lecture. The role of parties in democratic development
Reading requirements: (Bértola, 2016; Stokes, 1999).

31.01
Seminar: Parties in democratic development in Africa, Asia and Latin America
Reading requirements: (Randall, 2007b), (Rakner & Walle, 2009)
Students presenting: Cedric and Joakim

07.02 (Lars Svåsand)
The party organization
Lecture: The party organization
Reading requirements: (Levitsky, 2001; Randall, 2007a)

14.02 (student presentations)
Seminar: Traits of party organization in Africa, Asia, and Latin America
Reading requirements: Chapters 1 (Comparative), Ch. 3 Mexico, Ch. 4 Taiwan, Ch. 11 South Africa in (Friedman & Wrong, 2008)
Students presenting: Rikke and Anja
21.02 (Lise Rakner)
III: From rebel groups to political parties
Lecture: From rebel groups to political parties
Reading requirements: (Ishiyama, 2016; Sindre, 2016)

28.02
Seminar: Presentation of essay topics
Everyone prepares an abstract (what is my topic, what is my case, what is my dependent variable and what are my independent variables). Four sentences - minimum!

07.03 (Lars Svåsand)
IV: Party institutionalization and party system institutionalization
Lecture: Party institutionalization and party system institutionalization
Reading requirements: (Randall & Svåsand, 2002), (Harmel & Svåsand, 2015; Luna, 2014)

14.03 (Student presentations)
Lecture: Party institutionalization and party system institutionalization. Reading requirements:
Africa: (Kuenzi & Lambright, 2001),
Asia: (Croissant & Volkel, 2012),
Student presentation: Ann S.

21.03
V: Nomination of candidates for political office
Lecture 9: Nomination of candidates
Reading requirements: (Krook, 2010; Rahat & Hazan, 2001)

28.03
Seminar: Nomination of candidates applied to Latin America, Asia and Africa
Reading requirements:
South Africa/Namibia: (Giollabhuí, 2011)
Mexico: (Baldez, 2003)
Taiwan: (Fell, 2006)
Student presentation: Sindre

04.04
VI: Party finance (including international party assistance)
Lecture: National and international party assistance.
Reading requirements: (Burnell & Gerrits, 2010; Fisher, 2004; IIDEA, 2014; Svåsand, 2014)
Student presentation: Martin
Seminar: The financing of parties in Latin America, Asia, and Africa
Reading requirements:
Brazil: (Samuels, 2001)
Ghana: (Arthur, 2016)
Malaysia: (Gomez, 2012)

NB19.04 Venue to be announced
VII: The study of political parties: process, methods and data
Guest Lecture: Carl-Henrik Knutsen: Party institutionalization and welfare state development
(The Variety of Democracy project (V-dem) and the study of political parties)
Reading requirements:
Reading material (electronic articles and book chapters)


