

The State
As of 1/12/12

Amherst College
Political Science 104, spring 2012
Tue and Thu 2-4pm
Course website: blackboard.amherst.edu
<http://www.amherst.edu/~jcorrale>

Prof. Javier Corrales
Clark House 105
x2164
jcorrales@amherst.edu
Office Hrs: Tue 4-5pm

Course Description

This course explores current debates about the “state of the state,” both in the U.S. and abroad. Why do most nations have states? Why are some states more repressive than others, more war-prone than others, better promoters of development than others, more inclusive than others, more rights-granting than others? We also look at how societal actors react to various forms of state formation, ranging from active support to negotiated limits to apathy to vigorous contestation. We explore these questions by studying empirical cases cross-nationally. This course, therefore, serves as a survey of Political Science since we look at the state from the angle of at least six different subfields of political science

- political theory (mostly on 17th-19th argument about the purpose of states),
- comparative politics (mostly on theories about regime type),
- international relations (mostly on theories of war, conflict, and cooperation),
- political economy (mostly on variations in welfare states);
- American politics (mostly on the role of institutions in regulating conflict),
- law and constitutions (mostly on how politics shape the law and vice versa),
- and gender studies (mostly on how states and society interact to expand or hinder gender-based rights and protections).

Departmental Requirements and Political Science

As stated in the Amherst College Course Catalogue, students majoring in Political Science are required to take one course numbered 1 to 20. This course counts as one of them. Enrollment is limited, and priority will be given to students majoring (or thinking of majoring) in Political Science at Amherst College.

Although the course is ideally suited for students with little exposure to Political Science, you should not think of this as an entry-level course. Instead, this is a “panoramic” course, intended to provide an overview of different subfields of Political Science. You will be introduced to some of the major debates and methodologies prevalent in these subfields.

Upon completion of the course, you should be able to appreciate how the different subfields of Political Science are related to each other, but also how each differs from others.

Readings

All students are required to come to class having completed the readings (and watched the movies if applicable) for that class meeting. There are no assigned books. Readings consist of journal articles or book excerpts, and are all available on electronic format on the library’s e-reserves, at:

<https://www.amherst.edu/academiclife/departments/courses/1112S/POSC/POSC-104-1112S/ereserves>

Only students officially registered for the course will have access to the readings.

Course Requirements

All students are required to write **four papers**. I will only grade **three** of these papers: the first two and either paper 3 or 4. You will decide at the end of the course which paper (3 or 4) you would like me to grade. Topics for all papers will be distributed at least one week prior to the due date. Papers will be based on class material; no outside reading is necessary or expected.

Each paper will count approximately 20-40 percent of your grade, with your strongest paper counting the most.

Your Participation, Lead Discussants, and Pop Quizzes

This course relies heavily on class participation, counting for 15 percent of your grade. The format of the class will combine lecture and discussion: on some days I will mostly lecture; on others, I will mostly lead a discussion. Regardless of the format, you must come to class prepared to discuss the readings and the movies.

Attendance: Class attendance is mandatory. I will only allow one absence per semester. Additional absences will lower significantly your participation grade. Attendance, however, is not the same as participation. The latter is the extent to which you make a *qualitative* contribution to the discussion in progress. It entails addressing the issues raised by me **and** your classmates, as well as raising your own issues, when pertinent.

I will never call on you to participate; it is ultimately your responsibility to be heard in class. The point is not to speak for the sake of speaking (or to impress me), but rather to contribute with a different or a supplementary perspective that is relevant to the ongoing discussion.

Lead Discussants: At the beginning of the semester, you will be assigned to one group of "lead discussants." On designated class meetings, lead discussants will be expected to participate more actively and be better prepared than the rest of the class. The list of assignments indicates what days each group is expected to take the lead.

Pop Quizzes: There will be **4 pop quizzes** during the semester. They will be based on the readings assigned on the day of the quiz. They will count as your participation grade.

My Participation

One objective of class discussion is to allow me to respond to your own comments. I want to make everyone feel comfortable participating. But at the same time, I must correct comments, and sometimes challenge them. If I hear a statement that is factually wrong, logically weak, or simply debatable, it is incumbent upon me to call attention to this. Please do not be offended by my corrections and probes, and please don't be discouraged to participate in fear of being corrected or challenged. I do not expect your comments to be perfect. I simply expect you to be engaged. In assessing participation grade, I look for pertinence, more so than accuracy.

Academic Conduct

Plagiarism of any kind is strictly forbidden. There has been a recent surge in plagiarism at Amherst and other colleges. We are all on alert. Remember, you are expected to discuss (not restate) the ideas of other authors. Make sure that you always attribute the source. You want to make sure that you are clear

about the ideas that are yours and those that belong to others. When in doubt, indicate sources. You are advised to read about plagiarism at: <http://www.amherst.edu/~dos/plagiarism/index.html>

Etiquette:

- Please arrive punctually.
- If you need to be late, do still come to class; I prefer tardiness to absence.
- Do not sleep, yawn, or chat with your neighbors during class.
- Be respectful of others. Raise your hand and wait for your turn to speak.
- Do not interrupt others, but feel free to interrupt me if I seem to be moving on to a new topic and you are not ready to move on.
- If you need to leave early, please let me know before the beginning of class. If you need to leave the room temporarily, feel free to do so.
- No electronic devices while in class.

Extensions

My policy is simple: no extensions will be granted, except in extreme circumstances. Late papers will be marked down.

**List of Assignments
(as of 9/2/10)**

Class meeting	Reading Assignment	Work Due
Tue Jan 24	Introduction	
Section 1: Theories of the State		
Thu Jan 26 G-1	Why States? The purpose of states Hobbes, Thomas. 1651. [1962]. <i>Leviathan</i> , Book II of the Commonwealth. London: Collier Macmillan Publishers, Chapters 13, 17-19 and 21. Locke, John. 1689 [1982]. <i>Second Treatise of Government</i> . Illinois: Arlington Heights, Chapters 2, 3, 5, 7 and 9.	
Tue Jan 31 G-2	The Autonomy Debate Marx, Karl and Friedrich Engels. 1848 [1986]. "Manifesto of the Communist Party" (excerpts). In Jack A. Goldstone, ed., <i>Revolutions. Theoretical, Comparative, and Historical Studies</i> . San Diego: Harcourt Brace Jovanovich, Publishers, pp. 20-29. Marx, Karl. "The Civil War in France" (1871), and excerpts from "The German Ideology" (1845-1846). In Robert C. Tucker, ed., <i>The Marx-Engels Reader</i> , 2 nd Edition. W.W. Norton, pp. 629-642, and 186-188. de Tocqueville, Alexis. 1848 [1969]. <i>Democracy in America</i> . Garden City, NY: Doubleday and Company, Inc. (Chapter 5, Part II, pp. 513-517). Mill, John Stuart. 1859 [1963]. On Liberty. Excerpted from Carl Cohen, ed., <i>Communism, Fascism and Democracy</i> , pp. 547-553.	
Thu Feb 2 G-3	The emergence of States (and rights) Weber, Max. [1968]. <i>Economy and Society</i> . ("Political Communities"), pp. 54-56 (Volume 1), 901-909 (Volume 2), and 973-975 (Volume 3). Tilly, Charles. 1985. "War Making and State Making as Organized Crime." In Peter B. Evans, Dietrich Rueschemeyer, and Theda Skocpol, eds., <i>Bringing the State Back In</i> . New York: Cambridge, pp. 169-190.	Mon Feb 6 Paper 1
Part 2: States and Regimes		
Tue Feb 7 G-4	The Origins of Democratic States: Pre-1945 Germany Tilly, Charles. 1992. <i>Coercion, Capital, and European States AD 990-1990</i> . Blackwell Publishers, pp. 96-103. Palmer, R.R. and Joel Colton. 1992. <i>A History of the Modern World</i> , 7 th Edition, New York: McGraw Hill, pp. 822-833. Moore, Barrington. 1966. <i>Social Origins of Dictatorship and Democracy</i> . Beacon Press, pp. 111-155. Hitler, Adolf. 1935. "Obedience Uber Alles." In Carl Cohen, ed., <i>Communism, Fascism, Democracy</i> . NY: Random House, pp. 420-422.	
Thu Feb 9 G-5	Explaining Fascism (and the Collapse of Democracy) in Germany Snyder, Jack. 2000. <i>From Voting to Violence: Democratization and Nationalist Conflict</i> (New York: W.W. Norton), pp. 21-33, 117-128. Berman, Sheri. 1997. "Civil Society and the Collapse of the Weimar Republic." <i>World Politics</i> 49, 3 (April):401-429. "Decree for the Protection of People and State." <i>Reichsgesetzblatt</i> , Part 1, No. 17, February 28, 1933. "Law concerning the Secret State Police." <i>Reichsgesetzblatt</i> , February 10, 1936.	Film: <i>Europa, Europa</i>

	<p>"Law for the Protection of German Blood and Honor." <i>Reichsgesetzblatt</i>, September 1935.</p>	
<p>Tue Feb 14 G-1</p>	<p>Why No Fascism in the United States? Structure vs. Institutions (and the Civil War) Dahrendorf, Ralf. 1967. <i>Society and Democracy in Germany</i>. New York: Norton (Ch. 24, The Path to Dictatorship); <i>The Federalist Papers</i> (selections from No. 10, 50, 51 and 70). Skowronek, Stephen. 1982. <i>Building a New American State</i>. Cambridge University Press, pp. 19-35. Edling, Max M. 2003. <i>A Revolution in Favor of Government: Origins of the U.S. Constitution and the Making of the American State</i>. Oxford University Press, pp. 47-58, 219-229.</p>	
<p>Thu Feb 16</p>	<p>Genocide Guest Lecturer: Prof. Lawrence Douglas, LJST Goldhagen, Daniel. 1996. <i>Hitler's Willing Executioners: Ordinary Germans and the Holocaust</i>. Vintage, pp. 3-24. Douglas, Lawrence. 1997. "The Goldhagen Riddle," <i>Commonweal</i>, 124, 9 (May 9):18-21. Courtois, Stéphane. 1999. <i>The Black Book on Communism</i>, pp. 748-757.</p>	
<p>Tue Feb 21</p>	<p>Why Limited "Social Democracy" in the United States? Offe, Claus. 1984. "Competitive Party Democracy and the Keynesian Welfare State." <i>Contradiction of the Welfare State</i>. MIT Press, pp. 179-206. Samuel Huntington. 1991. <i>American Politics</i>. Cambridge: Belknap Press, pp. 1-75, 221-235. Weir, Margaret et al. 1988. <i>The Politics of Social Policy in the United States</i>. Princeton University Press, pp. 3-27 (Introduction), and pp. 293-311 (Skocpol).</p>	
<p>Thu Feb 23 Until 4pm</p>	<p>Social Democracy in the US (cont'd) Stolberg, Sheryl Gay. 2011. Insurance Mandate May Be Health Bill's Undoing," <i>The New York Times</i> (November 15) Starr, Paul. 2011. "In 2012, both Obama and Romney would bear the burdens of health-care reform," <i>The Washington Post</i>, November 16)</p> <p>Post-colonialism and Authoritarianism Magstadt, Thomas M. and Peter M. Schotten. 1996. <i>Understanding Politics: Ideas, Institutions, and Issues</i>, 4th edition, St. Martin's Press, pp. 92-100. Haber, Stephen. 2006. "Authoritarian Government." In Barry R. Weingast and Donald A. Wittman, eds., <i>The Oxford Handbook of Political Economy</i>. Oxford University Press, pp. 693-707.</p>	
<p>Tue/Thu Feb 28/29</p>	<p>No Classes/Reading period Hollander, Paul. 2009. "Reflections on Communism Twenty Years after the Fall of the Berlin Wall," Development Policy Analysis no. 11 (November), Cato Institute, Washington, DC. Read only pp. 12-20. http://www.cato.org/pub_display.php?pub_id=109095 Havel, Vaclav. 1975. An Open Letter to Dr. Husak, General Secretary of the Czechoslovak Communist Party.</p>	

Tue Mar 6 G-4	Competitive Authoritarianism and the Arab Spring: Russia and Venezuela today Levitsky, Steven and Lucan Way. 2002. "Competitive authoritarianism." <i>Journal of Democracy</i> <i>Time Magazine</i> . 2007. Person of the Year. <i>Time</i> (December). McFaul, Michael. 2007. What <i>Times</i> Gets Wrong Corrales, Javier. 2006. Hugo Boss. <i>Foreign Policy</i> (Jan/Feb) Barany, Z. 2011. The Arab Revolt: The Role of the Military (<i>Journal of Democracy</i>).	
Thu Mar 8	No Classes	Paper 2
Part III: International Relations		
Tue Mar 13 G-5	U.S.-China Relations I: Realist Theories of IR <i>The Economist</i> . 2009. "A Wary Respect" and "Overkill" in "A Special Report on China and America" (October). Waltz, Kenneth N. 1959. <i>Man, the State and War</i> , pp. 1-15, 224-238. Gilpin, Robert. 1989. "The Theory of Hegemonic War." In Robert I. Rotberg and Theodore Rabs, eds., <i>The Origin and Prevention of Major Wars</i> , pp. 15-37. Wilkinson, David. 1999. "Unipolarity Without Hegemony." <i>International Studies Review</i> 1 (Summer), read only pp. 141-145, 154-172.	
Thu Mar 15 G-1	U.S.-China Relations II: Comparisons with the Anglo-German Rivalry Walt, Stephen M. 1987. <i>The Origins of Alliances</i> . Ithaca: Cornell University Press, pp. 17-49. Nye, Joseph S. 1993. <i>Understanding International Conflict</i> . Harper Collins, pp. 56-73.s	
Mar 22/22	Spring Break	
Tue Mar 27	U.S.-China Relations III: Alternative Theories of IR Russett, Bruce and John Oneal. 2001. <i>Triangulating Peace: Democracy, Interdependence and International Organizations</i> . W.W. Norton and Company, pp. 125-138, 154-155, 292-305. <i>The Economist</i> . 2009. Read the rest of the Special Report on China and America.	
Thu Mar29 G-3 UNTIL 4pm	U.S-China Relations IV Nye, Joseph. 2004. Soft Power and American Foreign Policy. <i>Political Science Quarterly</i> (Summer):255-270. <i>Harvard Magazine</i> on China. http://www.ft.com/intl/cms/s/0/9598b09e-2c9b-11e1-8cca-00144feabdc0.html#axzz1hvMOZEFi Goldstein, Joshua and Steven Pinker. 2011. War Really is Going Out of Style. <i>The New York Times</i> , December 18. http://www.nytimes.com/2011/12/18/opinion/sunday/war-really-is-going-out-of-style.html?pagewanted=all Terrorism I: Definitions, Objectives Appleby, R. Scott and Marty, Martin E. 2002. "Fundamentalism." <i>Foreign Policy</i> (January/February):16-23. "Understanding Terrorism." <i>Harvard Magazine</i> (January/February 2002):36-49, 99-103. Available at harvardmagazine.com/2002/01/understanding-terrorism.html	
Tue Apr 3	No Class	

Thu Apr 5 G-4	<p>Terrorism II: International Impact</p> <p>Clarke, Richard. 2004. <i>Against All Enemies</i>. New York: Free Press, pp. ix-xii, 227-287.</p> <p>Wright, Robert. 2004. "War on Evil." <i>Foreign Policy</i>, September/October, pp. 34-35.</p> <p>Kagan, Robert and William Kristol. 2004. The Right War for the Right Reasons. <i>Weekly Standard</i>, February 27, 2004.</p> <p>Cole, Juan. 2006. "9/11" <i>Foreign Policy</i> (September/October):26-32.</p> <p>Cavanaugh, Jeffrey M. 2007-08. "From the 'Red Juggernaut' to Iraqi WMD: Threat Inflation and How it Succeeds in the United States. <i>Political Science Quarterly</i> 122, 4, pp. 555-584.</p> <p>Walters, Barbara. 2007. "Iraq: Why Weak States Breed Violence." <i>APSA-CP Newsletter</i> 18(2): 12-14.</p>	
Tue Apr 10 G-5	<p>Terrorism III: Domestic Impact of the War on Terror</p> <p>Foucault, Michel. "Discipline and Punish. The Birth of the Prison." Vintage Books, pp. 195-228.</p> <p><i>The Economist</i>. "The Imperial Presidency." November 3, 2001, p. 39. "Big Government is Back", September 29, 2001, p. 35-36. "No, Not quite a dictatorship," December 6, 2001; "What September 11th really wrought," January 10, 2002</p> <p>107th Congress of the United States of America. 2001. "Joint Resolution on "Authorization for Use of Military Force." Washington, DC.</p> <p>Electronic Frontier Foundation. 2001. "EFF Analysis of the Provisions of the USA, Patriot Act" (Executive Summary), pp. 1-15.</p> <p>ACLU. 2001. "Letter to the House Urging Rejection on the Final Version of the USA PATRIOT Act." October 23.</p> <p>Bandow, Doug. 2003. "Righteous Anger. The Conservative Case Against George W. Bush." <i>The American Conservative</i>, December 1, pp. 8-10.</p>	
Thu Apr 12	<p>War against Iran v. The Decline of War</p> <p>http://www.foreignaffairs.com/articles/136917/matthew-kroenig/time-to-attack-iran http://online.wsj.com/article/SB10001424052970204879004577108643499598220.html</p>	
Tue Apr 17 G-2	<p>Catching Up Reading TBA</p>	
Thu Apr 19 G-3	<p>No Class</p>	Paper 3
<p>Part IV: Separation of Church and State: Advancing LGBT Rights in Old and New Democracies</p>		
Tue Apr 24	<p>Expanding Rights: Addressing Discrimination Against Gays</p> <p>Huffington, Arianna. 2010. The Split-Screen Struggle Over Gay Rights at http://www.huffingtonpost.com/arianna-huffington/the-splitscreen-struggle-_b_783971.html</p> <p>Badgett, M.V. Lee. 2000. <i>Money, Myths, and Change. The Economic Lives of Lesbians and Gay Men</i>. The University of Chicago Press, pp. 1-50 (skip 51-73).</p>	
Thu Apr 26 G-4	<p>Gay Rights: Lessons from the Women's Movement</p> <p>Katzenstein, Mary. 1998. <i>Faithful and Fearless</i>. Princeton University Press, pp. 3-22, 45-78, Conclusion.</p> <p>Gay Rights: Barriers at the Society Level</p> <p>Chauncey, George. 2004. <i>Why Marriage?</i> New York: Basic Books, Read only pp. 5-22;</p>	

	59-86. Views on Same-sex marriage and religions: http://www.theatlanticwire.com/national/2011/08/breakdown-support-gay-marriage-religion/41964/	
Tue May 1 G-5	Gay Rights: Barriers at the Party Level King, David C. 1997. "The Polarization of American Parties and the Mistrust of Government." In Joseph S. Nye, Jr. et al., eds., <i>Why People Don't Trust Government</i> . Harvard University Press, pp. 155-178. <i>Details</i> . 2002. "Gay Old Party." November 2002. http://pewforum.org/Gay-Marriage-and-Homosexuality/Support-For-Same-Sex-Marriage-Edges-Upward.aspx Vargas, José Antonio. 2006. "Hill Republicans Air Out the Closet." <i>The Washington Post</i> , October 20. Kirchick, James. 2009. "Time to Crash the Party: <i>The Advocate</i> September 2009	
Thu May 3 G-1, 2	Gay Rights Abroad Corrales and Pecheny. 2010. "Introduction: The Comparative Politics of Sexuality Kaoma, Kapyra. 2010. "How U.S. Clergy Brought Hate to Uganda," <i>The Gay and Lesbian Review Worldwide</i> (May-June 2010), pp. 20-23. Latin America's Support for Same-Sex Marriage by Germán Lodola and Margarita Corral, at http://www.americasquarterly.org/node/1728 Reading TBA	Paper 4