

**COMPARATIVE-HISTORICAL SOCIOLOGY:
THEORY, METHODS, APPLICATIONS**
Sociology 920:520:01
Department of Sociology
Rutgers University
Spring 2010

Instructor: Paul McLean

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Class time: Thursdays, 1:10-3:50

Office hours: Tuesdays (Douglass Student Center) 1:00-2:00, Wednesdays (LSH, A336),
1:00-2:00, Thursdays (LSH, A336) 5:30-6:30, and by appointment

This course provides an overview of theories, methods, and major concepts used in comparative and historical sociology. [The hyphenation of these two terms and what they mean, together or separately, is a matter of ongoing contention.] One of our objectives will be to develop competency in figuring out meaningful comparisons as we carry out research. Another will be to think carefully about how to match research questions with the right kind of evidence to answer those questions. This matter involves the important issue of figuring out what constitutes a meaningful *case* to study. A third objective will be to master some important concepts—sequence, path dependency, emergence, recombination, the *longue durée*, and so on—that may guide our thinking about historical change and/or focus our attention on particularly critical processes. Most importantly in my view, it is a course in which we read a number of exemplary studies provoking us to think historically, or demonstrating how sociologists can engage with topics and cases of historical importance. Although we will spend a good deal of time on questions of method—basically the first half of the course is methods and theory—I do *not* regard this course simply as a class on comparative-historical method(s).

It is not very easy to specify the subject matter of comparative-historical sociology. Typically comparative-historical sociologists are more likely than other sociologists to study cases other than the U.S. They frequently use (or at least refer to) multiple cases to explicate a substantive problem, often to show divergent processes or pathways in those multiple cases. They are likely to refer to cases in the past that are both interesting in their own regard, and significant for explicating the present. And they are interested in large-scale phenomena that take place in or otherwise affect multiple locales. But these criteria are by no means sufficient conditions to define the field.

Comparative-historical sociologists have already largely moved beyond simple adoption of grand historical narratives, like ‘the rise of capitalism’, or ‘the growth of the modern state’, or ‘globalization’, or ‘the rise of civil society’, and so on. We have been operating for a long time in an intellectual climate conducive to articulating “mechanisms” of historical change as clearer, better specified bases for making causal arguments—better than invoking inchoate forces or trends, and better than making static comparisons. I am

interested, among other things, in showcasing arguments that identify causal factors, processes, concepts, actor interventions, and so on, that produce divergent, historically momentous outcomes from ostensibly common roots, or conversely show convergence from different origins. I confess that I personally am more interested in the 'historical' part of comparative-historical sociology than the 'comparative' part. I believe historical cases are especially enlightening loci for examining cultural difference and for examining social phenomena from a structuralist standpoint, and I intend to spend a good chunk of time on those ideas.

Of all fields in sociology, comparative-historical analysis may be the most prone to excessive generalization, narrative simplification, and weakness and selectivity in its evidentiary basis. But this is often due to the immensity of the questions posed, and the difficulties faced in answering those questions conclusively. Again, scholars working in this field are typically struggling to get a handle on large-scale social, political and economic phenomena and dynamics of the greatest importance for a clear-headed assessment of how the world as we know it came to be, and how it used to be otherwise. I hope this course will help students understand and appreciate, as well as critique, excellent works of comparative-historical analysis. These skills in turn should help students who want to pursue comparative-historical research to make more careful and thoughtful contributions to the field.

Course Requirements

As with any graduate seminar, participation in class discussions is essential for one's appreciation and mastery of the material. We will follow a discussion format as much as possible. The course will have a **sakai** website, and **by 8:00 p.m. on Wednesdays** I will expect all participants to post a brief 1-2 page memo about the readings, including at least two explicitly formulated questions they would like to see raised during class discussion the following day. At least two readings must be addressed per memo. In addition, twice during the semester I will assign short writing exercises for you to complete. Finally, at the end of the semester, you will submit a 15-20 page term paper. This project will be: 1) your own original research, taking the form of an empirical paper using historical case materials; OR 2) a critical essay reviewing and juxtaposing different materials we have covered during the semester; OR 3) a kind of detailed research proposal setting forth an interesting comparative-historical question and describing how the topic would be investigated, including an account of data sources and appropriate methodological tools, and identifying the most promising theoretical framework(s) for tackling the question. You should speak with me about your final paper intentions by April 1 at the latest.

These three components—participation, exercises, and final paper—will comprise your grade in the following proportion:

- participation in class and memos (20%)
- the two short writing assignments (40% in total)
- term paper (40%)

Readings

Many of the required readings are posted on the course's **sakai** website, or they are available for *you* to download through JSTOR or other **online** sources, as indicated below. The following books we will be consulting with enough frequency or in enough quantity to warrant purchasing them. Buy others only if you like.

- 1) Julia Adams, Elisabeth Clemens, Ann Shola Orloff, *Remaking Modernity: Politics, History, and Sociology* (Duke, 2005) [ISBN: 0-8223-3363-5]
- 2) Charles Ragin, *The Comparative Method: Moving Beyond Qualitative and Quantitative Strategies* (California, 1987) [ISBN: 0-520-06618-9]
- 3) James Mahoney and Dietrich Rueschemeyer, eds. *Comparative Historical Analysis in the Social Sciences* (Cambridge, 2003) [ISBN: 0-521-01645-2]
- 4) Barrington Moore, *Social Origins of Dictatorship and Democracy: Lord and Peasant in the Making of the Modern World* (Beacon, 1966) [ISBN: 0-8070-5073-3]

Schedule of Classes

Week 1 (01/21) Introduction and Overview of the Course

Week 2 (01/28) Defining the Enterprise I: Taxonomy and Genealogy

Read: 1) Charles Tilly, *Big Structures, Large Processes, Huge Comparisons* (Russell Sage, 1984), selections (pp. 10-15, 60-65, 74-91, 116-24, 144-147) [**sakai**]

2) Craig Calhoun, "The Rise and Domestication of Historical Sociology," in Terence J. McDonald, ed., *The Historic Turn in the Human Sciences* (Michigan, 1996), pp. 305-38 [**sakai**]

3) Julia Adams, Elisabeth S. Clemens, and Ann Shola Orloff, "Introduction: Social Theory, Modernity, and the Three Waves of Historical Sociology," in Adams, Clemens, and Orloff, *Remaking Modernity: Politics and Processes in Historical Sociology* (Duke, 2005), pp. 1-69

Also relevant but not required:

Elisabeth S. Clemens, "Toward a Historicized Sociology: Theorizing Events, Processes, and Emergence," *Annual Review of Sociology* 33 (2007): 527-49

Elisabeth S. Clemens, "Afterword," in Adams, Clemens, and Orloff, *Remaking Modernity*, pp. 493-515
James Mahoney and Dietrich Rueschemeyer, "Comparative Historical Analysis: Achievements and Agendas," in Mahoney and Rueschemeyer, eds., *Comparative Historical Analysis in the Social Sciences* (Cambridge, 2003) (offers a more restrictive view of what defines comparative-historical research)

George Steinmetz, "The Epistemological Unconscious of U.S. Sociology and the Transition to Post-Fordism: The Case of Historical Sociology," in Adams Clemens, and Orloff, *Remaking Modernity*, pp. 109-157

George Steinmetz, "The Relations between Sociology and History in the United States: The Current State of Affairs," *Journal of Historical Sociology* 20 (March/June 2007): 1-12

Larry Griffin, "How is Sociology Informed by History," *Social Forces* 73,4: 1245-54

Jack Goldstone, "Reasoning About History, Sociologically," *Sociological Methodology* 34,1 (2004): 35-61

Week 3 (02/04)

Defining the Enterprise II: Methodological Concerns (Primarily About Comparison)

Read: 1) Charles Ragin, *The Comparative Method: Moving Beyond Qualitative and Quantitative Strategies* (California, 1987), chapters 3, 5-8

2) James Mahoney, "Strategies of Causal Assessment in Comparative Historical Analysis," in Mahoney and Rueschemeyer, eds., *Comparative Historical Analysis in the Social Sciences* (Cambridge 2003), pp. 337-72

3) Rebecca Jean Emigh, "The Power of Negative Thinking: The Use of Negative Case Methodology in the Development of Sociological Theory," *Theory and Society* 26 (1997): 649-84 **[online]**

4) Andrew Abbott, "From Causes to Events: Notes on Narrative Positivism," *Sociological Methods & Research* 20 (1992): 428-455 **[online]**

Some other relevant materials on comparative, negative case, and narrative methods, etc.:

Theda Skocpol and Margaret Somers, "The Uses of Comparative History in Macrosocial Inquiry,"

Comparative Studies in Society and History 22, 2 (April 1980): 174-97

Charles C. Ragin, *Fuzzy-Set Social Science* (Chicago, 2000)

Charles C. Ragin, *Redesigning Social Inquiry: Fuzzy Sets and Beyond* (Chicago, 2008)

James Mahoney and Gary Goertz, "The Possibility Principle: Choosing Negative Cases in Comparative Research," *American Political Science Review* 98, 4 (November 2004): 653-69

James Mahoney, "Nominal, Ordinal, and Narrative Appraisal in Macrocausal Analysis," *American Journal of Sociology* 104,4 (January 1999): 1154-1196

John Goldthorpe, "The Uses of History in Sociology: Reflections on Some Recent Tendencies," *British Journal of Sociology* 42 (1991): 211-30

James D. Fearon, "Counterfactuals and Hypothesis Testing in Political Science," *World Politics* 43,2 (January 1991): 169-195

Ho-fung Hung, "Agricultural Revolution and Elite Reproduction in Qing China: The Transition to Capitalism Debate Revisited," *American Sociological Review* 73 (2008): 569-88

Barbara Geddes, *Paradigms and Sand Castles: Theory Building and Research Design in Comparative Politics* (Michigan, 2003)

Alexander L. George and Andrew Bennett, *Case Studies and Theory Development in the Social Sciences* (MIT Press, 2005)

George Steinmetz, "Reflection on the Role of Social Narratives in Working Class Formation: Narrative Theory in the Social Sciences," *Social Science History* 16, 3 (Fall 1989): 489-516

Margaret R. Somers, "Narrativity, Narrative Identity, and Social Action: Rethinking Working-Class Formation," *Social Science History* 16,4 (Fall 1992): 591-630

Week 4 (02/11)

The Debate over General Theory (and in Particular, Rational Choice)

- Read:** 1) Edgar Kiser and Michael Hechter, "The Role of General Theory in Comparative-Historical Sociology," *American Journal of Sociology* 97,1 (July 1991): 1-30 [online]
- 2) Margaret R. Somers, "'We're No Angels': Realism, Rational Choice, and Relationality in Social Science," *American Journal of Sociology* 104,3 (November 1998): 722-784 [online]
- 3) Edgar Kiser and Michael Hechter, "The Debate on Historical Sociology: Rational Choice Theory and Its Critics," *American Journal of Sociology* 104,3 (November 1998): 785-816 [online]
- 4) James Mahoney, "Revisiting General Theory in Historical Sociology," *Social Forces* 83,3 (December 2004): 459-90 [online]
- 5) Sica's Critique of Mahoney, Mahoney's Reply and Sica's Rebuttal, Download at: <https://socialforces.unc.edu/epub/rejoinders/index.html>

Note: Assignment 1 will focus on the Week 4 readings. It will be distributed on or around February 8, and it will be due on or around February 16

Week 5 (02/18)

Thinking More About Temporality/ies

- Read:** 1) Andrew Abbott, "Transcending General Linear Reality," *Sociological Theory* 6:169-86 [online]
- 2) James Mahoney, "Path Dependence in Historical Sociology," *Theory and Society* 29, 4 (August, 2000): 507-48 [online]
- 3) Paul Pierson, "Big, Slow-Moving, and ... Invisible: Macrosocial Processes in the Study of Comparative Politics," in Mahoney and Rueschemeyer, eds., *Comparative Historical Analysis in the Social Sciences* (Cambridge 2003), pp. 177-207
- 4) William H. Sewell, Jr., "Three Temporalities: Toward an Eventful Sociology," in Terence J. McDonald, ed., *The Historic Turn in the Human Sciences* (Michigan, 1996), pp. 245-80 (or in Sewell's own *Logics of History* (Chicago, 2005)) [sakai]

Some other interesting material:

- Andreas Wimmer, "Models, Methodologies, and Metaphors on the Move," in Andreas Wimmer and Reinhart Kössler, eds., *Understanding Change: Models, Methodologies, and Metaphors* (Palgrave, 2006), pp. 1-33
- Ronald Aminzade, "Historical Sociology and Time," *Sociological Methods & Research* 20 (1992): 456-80
- W. Brian Arthur, "Positive Feedbacks in the Economy," *Scientific American* February 1990: 92-99 [or in his *Increasing Returns and Path Dependence in the Economy* (Michigan, 1994), pp. 1-12]
- Paul David, "Clio and the Economics of QWERTY," *American Economic Review* 75: 332-7
- Alexander Gerschenkron, *Economic Backwardness in Historical Perspective* (Cambridge, 1962)
- Jack A. Goldstone, "Initial Conditions, General Laws, Path Dependence and Explanation in Historical Sociology," *American Journal of Sociology* 104: 829-45
- Jeffrey M. Paige, "Conjuncture, Comparison, and Conditional Theory in Macrosocial Inquiry," *American Journal of Sociology* 105, 3 (November 1999): 781-800
- Paul Pierson, "Increasing Returns, Path Dependence, and the Study of Politics," *American Political Science Review* 94: 251-67
- Frank Dobbin, *Forging Industrial Policy: The United States, Britain, and France in the Railway Age* (Cambridge, 1994)
- Jeffrey Haydu, "Making Use of the Past: Time Periods as Cases to Compare and Sequences of Problem-Solving," *American Journal of Sociology* 104: 339-71

Week 6 (02/25) Considerations of Scope: (Very) Macro and (Very) Micro

- Read: 1) Immanuel Wallerstein, "The Inventions of TimeSpace Realities: Towards an Understanding of Our Historical Systems," in his *Unthinking Social Science: The Limits of Nineteenth Century Paradigms* (Polity 1991), 135-48 [sakai]
- 2) Zine Magubane, "Overlapping Territories and Intertwined Histories: Historical Sociology's Global Imagination," in Adams, Clemens, and Orloff, *Remaking Modernity: Politics and Processes in Historical Sociology* (Duke, 2005), pp. 92-108
- 3) Michael Burawoy, "The Extended Case Method," *Sociological Theory* 16,1 (March 1998): 4-33 [online]
- 4) Carlo Ginzburg, "Clues: Roots of an Evidential Paradigm," in *Clues, Myths, and the Historical Method*, trans. By John and Anne C. Tedeschi (Johns Hopkins, 1989), pp. 96-125 [sakai]

Also potentially of interest:

- Giovanni Arrighi, "Globalization and Historical Macrosociology," in Janet L. Abu-Lughod, *Sociology for the Twenty-first Century: Continuities and Cutting Edges* (Chicago, 1999), pp. 117-33
- Immanuel Wallerstein, "Historical Systems as Complex Systems," in his *Unthinking Social Science: The Limits of Nineteenth Century Paradigms* (Polity 1991), pp.229-36
- Immanuel Wallerstein, "The French Revolution as a World-Historical Event," in his *Unthinking Social Science: The Limits of Nineteenth Century Paradigms* (Polity 1991), pp. 7-22

Immanuel Wallerstein, "A Theory of Economic History in Place of Economic Theory?" in his *Unthinking Social Science: The Limits of Nineteenth Century Paradigms* (Polity 1991), pp. 257-65
 Immanuel Wallerstein, "World-Systems Analysis: The Second Phase," in his *Unthinking Social Science: The Limits of Nineteenth Century Paradigms* (Polity 1991), pp. 266-72
 Clifford Geertz, "Deep Play: Notes on the Balinese Cockfight" in *The Interpretation of Cultures* (Basic Books, 1973), pp. 412-54
 Nina Eliasoph and Paul Lictherman, "'We Begin with Our Favorite Theory...': Reconstructing the Extended Case Method," *Sociological Theory* 17, 2 (July 1999): 228-34
 Jozsef Borocz, "Goodness is Elsewhere: The Rule of European Difference," *Comparative Studies in Society and History* 48,1: 110-38
 Paul D. McLean, *The Art of the Network: Strategic Interaction and Patronage in Renaissance Florence* (Duke, 2007), chapter 8

Week 7 (03/04)

The Idea of Emergence

- Read: 1) Michael Mann, *The Sources of Social Power. Volume I: A History of Power from the Beginning to A.D. 1760*, chapter 1 [**sakai**]
- 2) Andrew Abbott, "Things of Boundaries," *Social Research* 62, 4 (1995): 857-82 [**online**]
- 3) John F. Padgett and Paul D. McLean, "Organizational Invention and Elite Transformation: The Birth of Partnership Systems in Renaissance Florence," *American Journal of Sociology* 111,5 (March 2006): 1463-1568 [**online**]
- 4) Jack A. Goldstone, "The Rise of the West—Or Not? A Revision to Socio-Economic History," *Sociological Theory* 18,2 (July 2000): 175-94 [**online**]

Also of interest:

Andrew Abbott, "On the Concept of Turning Point," *Comparative Social Research* 16 (1997): 85-105
 Michael Mann, *Fascists* (Cambridge, 2004)
 Harrison C. White, *Identity and Control: How Social Formations Emerge* (Princeton, 2008 [2nd ed.])
 Jack A. Goldstone, "Efflorescences and Economic Growth in World History: Rethinking the 'Rise of the West' and the Industrial Revolution," *Journal of World History* 13 (2002): 323-89
 John F. Padgett, "Organizational Genesis in Florentine History: Four Multiple-Network Processes," unpublished ms., selections
 John F. Padgett, "The Emergence of Simple Ecologies of Skill: A Hypercycle Approach to Economic Organization," in W. Brian Arthur et al. (eds.), *The Economy as an Evolving Complex System II* (Addison-Wesley, 1997)
 John F. Padgett, "Organizational Genesis, Identity, and Control: The Transformation of Banking in Renaissance Florence," in James Rauch and Alessandra Casella (eds.), *Networks and Markets* (Russell Sage, 2001), pp. 211-57
 Walter Fontana and Leo Buss, "The Arrival of the Fittest: Toward a Theory of Biological Organization," *Bulletin of Mathematical Biology* 56:1-64
 Walter Fontana and Leo Buss, "The Barriers of Objects: From Dynamical Systems to Bounded Organizations," in John Casti et al. (eds.), *Boundaries and Barriers*
 Leo Buss, *The Evolution of Individuality* (Princeton, 1987)
 Manfred Eigen and Peter Schuster, *The Hypercycle: A Principle of Natural Self-Organization*

Stuart Kauffman, *The Origins of Order: Self-Organization and Selection in Evolution* (Oxford, 1993)
Rogers Brubaker, "Ethnicity Without Groups," in Adams, Clemens, and Orloff, *Remaking Modernity: Politics and Processes in Historical Sociology* (Duke, 2005), pp. 470-92
Andreas Wimmer, "The Making and Unmaking of Ethnic Boundaries: A Multilevel Process Theory," *American Journal of Sociology* 113, 4: 970-1022

Week 8 (03/11)

Structures and Logics, Tools for Analysis

- Read: 1) John Levi Martin, *Social Structures* (Princeton, 2009), chapters 1, 6, and 9 [sakai]
2) Charles Tilly, *Durable Inequality* (California, 1998), chapter 3 [sakai]
3) Partha Chatterjee, *The Nation and Its Fragments*, chapters 2 and 6 [sakai]

Some other material of interest:

Max Weber, *Economy and Society* (California, 1978), chapters 1, 3, 10, 11
S. F. Nadel, *The Theory of Social Structure* (Free Press, 1957)
Per Hage and Frank Harary, *Structural Models in Anthropology* (Cambridge, 1983)
Andrew Abbott, *Chaos of Disciplines* (Chicago, 2001)
Rogers Brubaker, *Nationalism Reframed: Nationhood and the National Question in the New Europe* (Fredrik Barth, "Political Leadership Among Swat Pathans," in Steffen Schmidt et al., *Friends, Followers, and Factions: A Reader in Political Clientelism* (California, 1977)
Ivan D. Chase, "Social Processes and Hierarchy Formation in Small Groups: A Comparative Perspective," *American Sociological Review* 45: 905-24
Frans de Waal, *Chimpanzee Politics* (Johns Hopkins, 1982)
Alfred Chandler, *The Visible Hand: The Managerial Revolution in American Business* (Belknap, 1977)
E. E. Evans-Pritchard, *The Nuer* (Oxford, 1940)
Neil Fligstein, *The Architecture of Markets* (Princeton, 2001)
Roger V. Gould, *Collision of Wills: How Ambiguity About Social Rank Breeds Conflict* (Chicago, 2003)
V. O. Key, *Southern Politics in State and Nation* (Tennessee, 1957)
Kyriakos M. Kontopoulos, *The Logics of Social Structure* (Cambridge, 1993)
Claude Lévi-Strauss, *Structural Anthropology* (Basic Books, 1963)
Eviatar Zerubavel, "Generally Speaking: The Logic and Mechanics of Social Pattern Analysis," *Sociological Forum* 22, 2 (June 2007): 131-145

NO CLASS MARCH 18; RUTGERS SPRING BREAK

Note: Assignment 2 will allow you to focus on the Week 9 or Week 10 readings. It will be distributed on or around March 22, and it will be due on or around April 6

Week 9 (03/25)**A Classic in the Field I: Barrington Moore**

- Read: 1) Barrington Moore, Jr., *Social Origins of Dictatorship and Democracy* (Beacon, 1966), Part Three (pp. 413-508), and then chapter 3
- 2) James Mahoney, "Knowledge Accumulation in Comparative Historical Research: The Case of Democracy and Authoritarianism," in Mahoney and Rueschemeyer, eds., *Comparative Historical Analysis in the Social Sciences* (Cambridge, 2003), pp. 131-74
- 3) Cedric De Leon, "'No Bourgeois Mass Party, No Democracy': The Missing Link in Barrington Moore's American Civil War," *Political Power and Social Theory* 19 (2008): 39-82 [sakai]

Week 10 (04/01)**Classics in the Field II: States and Markets**

- Read: 1) Thomas Ertman, *Birth of the Leviathan: Building States and Regimes in Medieval and Early Modern Europe* (Cambridge, 1997), chapter 1
- 2) Richard Lachmann, *Capitalists in Spite of Themselves: Elite Conflict and Economic Transitions in Early Modern Europe* (Oxford, 2000), chapters 1 and 8 [sakai]
- 3) Mounira M. Charrad, *States and Women's Rights: The Making of Postcolonial Tunisia, Algeria and Morocco* (California, 2001), selections [sakai]

A partial list of classic and/or recent works on state-formation and/or regime formation:

- Charles Tilly, ed. *The Formation of National States in Western Europe* (Princeton, 1975)
- Perry Anderson, *Lineages of the Absolutist State* (Verso, 1974)
- Charles Tilly, *Coercion, Capital and European States, AD 990-1992* (Blackwell, 1992)
- Brian M. Downing, *The Military Revolution and Political Change: Origins of Democracy and Autocracy in Early Modern Europe* (Princeton, 1992)
- Karen Barkey, *Bandits and Bureaucrats: The Ottoman Route to State Centralization* (Cornell, 1994)
- Hendrik Spruyt, *The Sovereign State and its Competitors* (Princeton, 1994)
- Sidney Tarrow, "From Comparative Historical Analysis to 'Local Theory': The Italian City-State Route to the Modern State," *Theory and Society* 33, 2 (April 2004): 443-71
- Paul D. McLean, "Patronage, Citizenship, and the Stalled Emergence of the Modern State in Renaissance Florence," *Comparative Studies in Society and History* 47:638-64
- Mara Loveman, "The Modern State and the Primitive Accumulation of Symbolic Power" *American Journal of Sociology* 110,6: 1651-83
- Kimberly J. Morgan and Monica Prasad, "The Origins of Tax Systems: A French-American Comparison," *American Journal of Sociology* 114,5: 1350-94
- Richard Lachmann, "Greed and Contingency: State Fiscal Crises and Imperial Failure in Early Modern Europe," *American Journal of Sociology* 115,1: 39-73
- Dietrich Rueschemeyer, Evelyne Huber Stephens, and John D. Stephens, *Capitalist Development and Democracy* (Chicago, 1992)

And a handful of important works on market formation and the transition to capitalism:

- Rosemary L. Hopcroft, "The Social Origins of Agrarian Change in Late Medieval England," *American Journal of Sociology* 99: 1559-1595
- Rosemary L. Hopcroft, *Regions, Institutions, and Agrarian Change in European History* (Michigan, 1999)
- Rebecca Jean Emigh, "Economic Interests and Sectoral Relations: The Undevelopment of Capitalism in Fifteenth Century Tuscany," *American Journal of Sociology* 108: 1075-1113
- Rebecca Jean Emigh, *The Undevelopment of Capitalism: Sectors and Markets in Fifteenth-Century Tuscany* (Temple, 2009)

And another huge topic, of course—revolutions:

- Theda Skocpol, *States and Social Revolutions* (Cambridge, 1979)
- Jack A. Goldstone, *Revolution and Rebellion in the Early Modern World* (California, 1991)
- Nader Sohrabi, "Revolutions as Pathways to Modernity," in Adams, Clemens, and Orloff, *Remaking Modernity: Politics and Processes in Historical Sociology* (Duke, 2005), pp. 300-29
- Nader Sohrabi, "Historicizing Revolutions: Constitutional Revolutions in the Ottoman Empire, Iran, and Russia, 1905-1908," *American Journal of Sociology* 100, 6: 1383-1447
- Nader Sohrabi, "Global Waves, Local Actors: What the Young Turks Knew About Other Revolutions and Why It Mattered," *Comparative Studies in Society and History* 44, 1: 45-79
- Liliana Riga, "The Ethnic Roots of Class Universalism: Rethinking the 'Russian' Revolutionary Elite," *American Journal of Sociology* 114 (2008): 649-705
- Jeff Goodwin, *No Other Way Out: States and Revolutionary Movements, 1945-1991* (Cambridge, 2001)
- Jeffrey Paige, *Coffee and Power: Revolution and the Rise of Democracy in Central America* (Harvard, 1997)

Week 11 (04/08)

Network Approaches in Historical Sociology

- Read: 1) Roger V. Gould, "Uses of Network Tools in Comparative Historical Research," in James Mahoney and Dietrich Rueschemeyer, eds., *Comparative Historical Analysis in the Social Sciences* (Cambridge, 2003), pp. 241-69
- 2) John F. Padgett and Christopher K. Ansell, "Robust Action and the Rise of the Medici, 1400-1434," *American Journal of Sociology* 98:1259-1319
[online]
- 3) Neha Gondal and Paul D. McLean, "Discerning Meaning in Complex Structure: Understanding Personal Lending in Florence's Multiple Networks Ecology," typescript **[sakai]**

Also of interest:

- Roger V. Gould, "Patron-Client Ties, State Centralization, and the Whiskey Rebellion," *American Journal of Sociology* 102:400-429
- Peter Bearman, James Moody, and Robert Faris, "Blocking the Future," *Social Science History* 23:501-33
- Peter Bearman, James Moody, and Robert Faris, "Networks and History," *Complexity* 8,1:61-71
- Peter S. Bearman, *Relations into Rhetorics* (Transaction, 1993), especially pp. 1-18, 24-5, 42-5, 72-93, 95-111, 131-181
- Roger V. Gould, *Insurgent Identities* (Chicago, 1995), especially chapters 1, 2, 6, 7

Christopher K. Ansell, "Symbolic Networks: The Realignment of the French Working Class, 1887-1894," *American Journal of Sociology* 103:359-90

Mustafa Emirbayer and Jeff Goodwin, "Network Analysis, Culture, and the Problem of Agency," *American Journal of Sociology* 99:1411-54

Paul D. McLean, "A Frame Analysis of Favor Seeking in the Renaissance: Agency, Networks, and Political Culture," *American Journal of Sociology* 104:51-91

Paul D. McLean, "Widening Access while Tightening Control: Office-holding, Marriages, and Elite Consolidation in Early Modern Poland," *Theory and Society* 33:167-212

Paul D. McLean, "Patrimonialism and Elite Networks in Late Eighteenth Century Poland," unpublished manuscript

Daniel P. Carpenter, *The Forging of Bureaucratic Autonomy: Reputations, Networks, and Policy Innovation in Executive Agencies, 1862-1928* (Princeton, 2001)

Henning Hillman, "Localism and the Limits of Political Brokerage: Evidence from Revolutionary Vermont," *American Journal of Sociology* 1142: 287-331

Henning Hillman, "Mediation in Multiple Networks: Elite Mobilization before the English Civil War," *American Sociological Review* 73: 426-54

John F. Padgett and Paul D. McLean, "Economic Credit in Renaissance Florence," unpublished manuscript

Adam Slez and John Levi Martin, "Political Action and Party Formation in the United States Constitutional Convention," *American Sociological Review* 72,1 (February 2007): 42-67

Peter S. Bearman and Katherine Stovel, "Becoming a Nazi: A Model for Narrative Networks," *Poetics* 27:69-90

John Mohr, "Soldiers, Mothers, Tramps, and Others: Discourse Roles in the 1907 New York City Charity Directory," *Poetics* 22:327-57

John Mohr and Vincent Duquenne, "The Duality of Culture and Practice: Poverty Relief in New York City, 1888-1917," *Theory and Society* 26 (1997):305-56

Emily Erikson and Peter Bearman, "Malfeasance and the Foundations for Global Trade: The Structure of English Trade in the East Indies, 1601-1833" *American Journal of Sociology* 112, 1 (July 2006): 195-230

Quentin Van Doosselaere, *Commercial Agreements and Social Dynamics in Medieval Genoa* (Cambridge, 2009)

Week 12 (04/15)

Cultural Explanations and Approaches (Kinda Broad)

- Read: 1) Philip S. Gorski, "The Protestant Ethic Revisited: Disciplinary Revolution and State Formation in Holland and Prussia," *American Journal of Sociology* 99, 2 (September 1993): 265-316 **[online]**
- 2) Sewell, William H., Jr., "A Theory of Structure: Duality, Agency, and Transformation," *American Journal of Sociology* 98,1 (1992): 1-29 **[online]**
- 3) Jeffrey C. Alexander and Philip Smith, "The Discourse of American Civil Society: A New Proposal for Cultural Studies," *Theory and Society* 22, 2 (April 1993): 151-207 **[online]**

A smattering of other titles possibly of interest to you:

Norbert Elias, *The Civilizing Process* (Blackwell, 1994 [1939])

Eiko Ikegami, *The Taming of the Samurai* (Harvard, 1995)

Eiko Ikegami, *Bonds of Civility: Aesthetic Networks and the Political Origins of Japanese Culture* (Cambridge, 2006)

Philip S. Gorski, *The Disciplinary Revolution: Calvinism and the Rise of the State in Early Modern Europe* (Chicago, 2003)

Gilbert Shapiro and John Markoff, *Revolutionary Demands: A Content Analysis of the Cahiers de doléances of 1789* (Stanford, 1998)
Marc W. Steinberg, "The Talk and Back Talk of Collective Action: A Dialogic Analysis of Repertoires of Discourse among Nineteenth-Century English Cotton Spinners," *American Journal of Sociology* 105, 3 (November 1999): 736-80
Richard Biernacki, *The Fabrication of Labor: Germany and Britain, 1640-1914* (California, 1995)
Monica Prasad, "Why Is France So French? Culture, Institutions, and Neoliberalism, 1974-1981," *American Journal of Sociology* 111,2: 357-407
Andreas Wimmer, *Nationalist Exclusion and Ethnic Conflict: Shadows of Modernity* (Cambridge, 2002)
Anthony W. Marx, *Making Race and Nation: A Comparison of South Africa, the United States, and Brazil* (Cambridge, 1998)

**Week 13 (04/22) Empirical Applications of Rational Choice Arguments
(Also Broadly Construed)**

- Read: 1) Julia Adams, "Principals and Agents, Colonialists and Company Men: The Decay of Colonial Control in the Dutch East Indies," *American Sociological Review* 61,1 (1996):12-28 [online]
- 2) Edgar Kiser and Justin Baer, "The Bureaucratization of States: Toward and Analytical Weberianism," in Adams, Clemens, and Orloff, *Remaking Modernity: Politics and Processes in Historical Sociology*, pp. 225-45
- 3) Ivan Ermakoff, *Ruling Oneself Out: A Theory of Collective Abdications* (Duke, 2008), preface and chapters 6, 8, 10-11 [sakai]

Also of possible interest:

William Brustein, *The Logic of Evil: The Social Origins of the Nazi Party, 1925-1933* (Yale, 1996)
Rebecca Jean Emigh, "The Spread of Sharecropping in Tuscany: The Political Economy of Transaction Costs," *American Sociological Review* 62: 423-42
Ivan Ermakoff, "Prelates and Princes: Aristocratic Marriages, Canon Law Prohibitions, and Shifts in the Norms and Patterns of Domination in the Central Middle Ages," *American Sociological Review* 62: 405-22
Roger D. Petersen, *Understanding Ethnic Violence: Fear, Hatred, and Resentment in Twentieth-Century Eastern Europe* (Cambridge, 2002)
Roger D. Petersen, *Resistance and Rebellion: Lessons from Eastern Europe* (Cambridge, 2001)

**Week 14 (04/29) Doing it Different Ways: Comparative Approaches to
the Themes of Colonialism and Empire**

- Read: 1) George Steinmetz, "'The Devil's Handwriting: Precolonial Discourse, Ethnographic Acuity, and Cross-Identification in German Colonialism,'" *Comparative Studies in Society and History* 45,1 (2003): 41-95 [online]
- 2) Matthew Lange, James Mahoney, and Matthias vom Hau, "Colonialism and Development: A Comparative Analysis of Spanish and British Colonies," *American Journal of Sociology* 111:5 (March 2006): 1412-1462 [online]

3) Karen Barkey, *Empire of Difference: The Ottomans in Comparative Perspective* (Cambridge, 2008), selections

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