



Syllabus

Electoral Systems and their Political Consequences: Between Parties and within Parties - 56056

Last update 31-07-2016

HU Credits: 4

Responsible Department: political science

Academic year: 0

Semester: Yearly

Teaching Languages: Hebrew

Campus: Mt. Scopus

*Course/Module Coordinator: Prof. Reuven Hazan
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*Teaching Staff:
Prof Reuven Hazan
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Course/Module description:

This course presents a comparative analysis of general election rules and candidate selection methods, and their political consequences. Students will be introduced to the basic concepts, methods and theories used in the analysis of democratic inter-party electoral systems and intra-party selectoral processes. The emphasis is on general classifications, typological mappings, model-derived explanations and the differences that affect the functioning and behavior of parties and their representatives derived from the differences in electoral systems used across countries and candidate selection methods used by different parties.

Course/Module aims:

Acquaint students with the basic terms, concepts, theories and arguments in the sub-fields of electoral systems and candidate selection.

Provide students with the theoretical and methodological tools to undertake either an in-depth case study of elections, or a comparative cross-country or cross-party analysis of electoral systems and candidate selection methods in democratic countries.

Learning outcomes - On successful completion of this module, students should be able to:

Undertake either an in-depth case study of inter- or intra-party elections, or a comparative cross-country or cross-party analysis of electoral systems and/or candidate selection methods in democratic countries.

Attendance requirements(%):

100%

Teaching arrangement and method of instruction: lecture

Course/Module Content:

1. Introduction to electoral systems.
2. Plurality electoral systems.
3. Proportional electoral systems.
4. Mixed electoral systems.
5. Electoral engineering.
6. Electoral systems and party systems.
7. Introduction to leadership and Candidate selection methods.
8. Candidate and leadership selection methods: A comparative framework
9. Reforms of leadership and candidate selection methods.

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10. Trends in leadership and candidate selection methods: A cross national View.
 11. The Political consequences of leadership and candidate selection methods.
 12. The state of research and policy recommendations.

Required Reading:

David Farrell, *Electoral Systems: A Comparative Introduction* (Palgrave Macmillan, 2nd edition, 2011).

Reuven Y. Hazan and Gideon Rahat. 2010. *Democracy Within Parties: Candidate Selection Methods and their Political Consequences*. Oxford: Oxford University Press

Barnea, Shlomit and Gideon Rahat. 2007. "Reforming Candidate Selection Methods: A Three-Level Approach," *Party Politics*, Vol. 13, No. 3, pp. 375-394.

Chiru, M., Gauja, A., Gherghina, S., Rodriguez-Teruel, J. 2015. "Explaining Change in Party Leadership Selection Rules," In William Cross and Jean-Benoit Pilet (Eds.), *The Politics of Party Leadership: A Cross-National Perspective*, Oxford: Oxford University Press, pp. 31-49.

Cross, William Kenig, Ofer, Scott Pruyssers and Gideon Rahat. 2016. *The Promise and Challenge of Party Primary Elections: A Comparative Perspective*. McGill-Queen's University Press

Kenig, Ofer, Gideon Rahat and Or Tuttnauer. 2015. "Competitiveness of Party Leadership Selection Processes," in William Cross and Jean-Benoit Pilet (eds.), *The Politics of Party Leadership: A Cross-National Perspective*. Oxford: Oxford University Press, pp. 50-72.

Wauters, Bram and Jean-Benoit Pilet. 2015. "Electing women as party leaders: does the selectorate matter?" in William Cross and Jean-Benoit Pilet (eds.), *The Politics of Party Leadership: A Cross-National Perspective*. Oxford: Oxford University Press, pp. 73-89.

Hazan, Reuven and Gideon Rahat. 2015. "Parties, Politicians and Parliaments: The Impact of Intraparty Democracy on Party Unity," in Richard Johnston and Campbell Sharman (eds.), *Parties and Party Systems: Structure and Context*. Vancouver: UBC Press, pp. 108-126.

Additional Reading Material:

Anthony Downs. *An Economic Theory of Democracy* (Harper & Row, 1957).

Michael Gallagher & Paul Mitchell, editors. *The Politics of Electoral Systems* (Oxford University Press, 2006).

Bernard Grofman & Arendt Lijphart, editors. *Electoral Laws and Their Political Consequences*

Cross, William and Jean-Benoit Pile. 2015. "Parties, Leadership Selection, and Intra-

Party Democracy, in William Cross and Jean-Benoit Pilet (eds.), *The Politics of Party Leadership: A Cross-National Perspective*. Oxford: Oxford University Press, pp. 165-173.

Pilet, Jean-Benoit and William Cross. 2014. "The Selection of Party Leaders in Comparative Perspective," in Jean-Benoit Pilet and William Cross (eds.), *Leadership Selection in Contemporary Parliamentary Democracies*. London: Routledge, pp. 223-239.

Kenig, Ofer, Gideon Rahat and Reuven Y. Hazan. 2015. "Leadership Selection versus Candidate Selection: Similarities and Differences," in Giulia Sandri, Antonella Seddone, and Fulvio Venturino (eds.), *Party Primaries in Comparative Perspective*. Surrey, UK: Ashgate, pp 21-40,

Course/Module evaluation:

End of year written/oral examination 100 %

Presentation 0 %

Participation in Tutorials 0 %

Project work 0 %

Assignments 0 %

Reports 0 %

Research project 0 %

Quizzes 0 %

Other 0 %

Additional information:

See course website.