

# American Political Development in Comparative and Global Perspective

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Note: This is an abridged version. For the complete version, please reach out to [oh.seokju@columbia.edu](mailto:oh.seokju@columbia.edu).

## Class schedule

### Week One: Introduction

- Elizabeth Sanders, *Roots of Reform: Farmers, Workers, and the American State, 1877-1917* (1999), 1-6.
- Ian Tyrrell, "American Exceptionalism in an Age of International History," *AHR* (1991), esp. 1053-1055.

### Week Two: The Legacy of the Civil War

- Richard Bense, *Yankee Leviathan: The Origins of Central State Authority in America, 1859-1877* (1991).
- Alan Taylor, *American Civil Wars: A Continental History, 1850-1873* (2024).

## The Long Reconstruction

### Week Three: Citizenship

- Kimberley Johnson, *Reforming Jim Crow: Southern Politics and the State in the Age Before Brown* (2010).
- Marilyn Lake & Henry Reynolds, *Drawing the Global Colour Line: White Men's Countries and the International Challenge of Racial Equality* (2008).

### Week Four: Industrial Capitalism

- Elizabeth Sanders, *Roots of Reform*.
- Richard Bense, *The Political Economy of American Industrialization, 1877-1900* (2000).
- Carl E. Solberg, *The Prairies and the Pampas: Agrarian Policy in Canada and Argentina, 1880-1930* (1987).

### Week Five: The Modern Fiscal State

- Ajay Mehrotra, *Making the Modern American Fiscal State: Law, Politics, and the Rise of Progressive Taxation, 1877-1929* (2013).
- E. A. Heaman, *Tax, Order, and Good Government: A New Political History of Canada, 1867-1917* (2017).

## The Age of the World Wars

### Week Six: Rebuilding the American State

- Ira Katznelson, *Fear Itself: The New Deal and the Origins of Our Time* (2013).
- Stefan Link, *Forging Global Fordism: Nazi Germany, Soviet Russia, and the Contest Over the Industrial Order* (2020).

### Week Seven: Modernization (1)

- Jennifer Klein, *For All These Rights: Business, Labor, and the Shaping of America's Public-Private Welfare State* (2003).
- Adam D. Sheingate, *The Rise of the Agricultural Welfare State: Institutions and Interest Group Power in the United States, France, and Japan* (2000).

### Week Eight: Modernization (2)

- Jason Scott Smith, "The Liberal Invention of the Multinational Corporation: David Lilienthal and Postwar Capitalism," in *What's Good for Business: Business and Politics since World War II* (2012).
- François Godard, *Germany, France, and Postwar Democratic Capitalism: Expert Rule* (2024).

### Week Nine: Hegemony

- Charles Maier, *Among Empires: American Ascendancy and Its Predecessors* (2007).
- Thomas Oatley, *A Political Economy of American Hegemony: Buildups, Booms, and Busts* (2015).

## The Long 1970s

### Week Ten: Neoliberalism

- Kim Phillips-Fein, *Fear City: New York's Fiscal Crisis and the Rise of Austerity Politics* (2017).
- Kathleen Thelen, *Varieties of Liberalization and the New Politics of Social Solidarity* (2014).

### Week Eleven: Regulation

- Sean Farhang, *The Litigation State: Public Regulation and Private Lawsuits in the US* (2010).
- Paul Sabin, *Public Citizens: The Attack on Big Government and the Remaking of American Liberalism* (2021).

### Week Twelve: Finance

- Monica Prasad, *Starving the Beast: Ronald Reagan and the Tax Cut Revolution* (2018).
- Vanessa Ogle, "'Funk Money': The End of Empires, the Expansion of Tax Havens, and Decolonization as an Economic and Financial Event," *P&P* (2020).

### Week Thirteen: American Political Development Today

- John A. Agnew, "Sovereignty Regimes," *AAAS* (2005).
- Peter Hall, "Growth Regimes," *BHR* (2024).
- Perry Anderson, "Regime Change in the West?" *LRB*, April 2025.