

## Poli 680 Syllabus Winter 2021

Social Change in Advanced Industrialized Democracies: Political Culture, Political Attitudes and Political  
Participation in Comparative Perspective

Prof. Dietlind Stolle

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Original Course Hours: Tuesdays at 11.35am (see more below)

Office Hours: after the course or by appointment per email

Synopsis of the course content: In recent years an exciting, diverse, and rapidly growing body of research has suggested that the norms and networks of civil society have powerful practical consequences in many disparate

There are two different tracks in this seminar. The first track entails the writing of a research proposal and



### Final Paper (Track 1)

Unless in track 2, you are also required to write (ideally co-author) a longer research paper on a topic of your choice related to the course content. Again, you are encouraged to collaborate on research papers, as collaborations present important academic and work-related skills. The purpose of the research paper is to

## Participation and Activities on our MyCourses Site and additional course site

I will use MyCourses for the posting of readings, as well as the posting of reviews and answers to comp questions and posting of videos etc. However, we can also use a course site (e.g. Slack or Microsoft Teams) for informal thoughts and questions, any discussion of readings or communication between us. You are simply required to check MyCourses and this course site (TBD) twice per week prior to each seminar. On the MyCourses site, more information and materials are made available to you than we have time to cover in detail in class. Articles of interest to the course themes (also posted by you), reminders and discussions are posted on other course site (TBD). This other site will also be a good way for you to communicate with me and with each other.

Grading Track 1:

Weekly reviews ..... 20%

Videos and discussion question (2 @ 10% for each) ..... 20%

Proposal and Final Research Paper and Presentation ..... 50%

Zoom participation (real time or not), role of discussant, chair ..... 10%

Grading Track 2 (only PhD students taking comps in May 2020):

Video and discussion question (2 @ 10% for) ..... 20%

Final Exam ..... 30%

Min. of 6-7 Weekly Comp answers (TBD) ..... 30%

Mini-Proposal with final version ..... 10%

Regular class participation, role of discussant, chair ..... 10%

Here is what an average week for Track 1 student looks like:

Required:

--check on MyCourses and

Contact: Unless otherwise announced, I will hold office hours on Tuesdays after class or by appointment on zoom.

Readings: Readings are online on MyCourses. Please try to buy Putnam 1993 as we read several chapters.  
Robert Putnam. (1993). *Making Democracy Work*. Princeton University Press.

<http://www.netLibrary.com/urlapi.asp?action=summary&v=1&bookid=79069>

Special needs: If you have special requirements due to a diagnosed learning or physical disability, please let me know ASAP. We can accommodate your needs better if they are made explicit from the outset.

Integrity: McGill University values academic integrity. Therefore, all students must understand the meaning and ,au.744 599(a)-1s.hey are ma0000912 0 65(9)] T36(lea)-2(r)0(n)-1on

## Copyright

© Instructor-generated course materials (e.g. notes, summaries, exam questions) are protected by law and may not be copied or distributed in any form or in any medium without explicit permission of the instructor. Note that infringements of copyright can be subject to follow up by the University under the Code of Student Conduct and Disciplinary Procedures.

## Indigenous Land Statement:

McGill University is on land which has long served as a site of meeting and exchange amongst Indigenous

## Short Course Outline





-->Hardin, R. 1993. "The Street-Level Epistemology of Trust," in *Politics and Society*, 21 pp.505-529.

<http://pas.sagepub.com/cgi/reprint/21/4/505>

-->Stolle, D. 2001. "Getting to Trust," in Dekker, P and Uslaner, E. M. 2001. *Social Capital and Participation in Everyday Life*. N.Y.:

Routledge. pp. 118-133 <http://www.myilibrary.com?id=5583>

--> Barbara Arneil. 2010. "



- 3) What are the common methods to measure social networks? How could we improve them?
- 4) Which phenomena can social networks help explain best? What are the limitations of this approach?
- 5) How would you design a study on the consequences of social networks for political outcomes? (some thoughts about research design here). What are some of the common methodological pitfalls when examining the effects of social networks?

Week 6--Feb 16: Trends in Political Values and Political Participation

Inglehart, Ronald F. 2017. "Changing Values in the Islamic World and the West: Social Tolerance and the Arab Spring," in *Values, Political Action, and Change in the Middle East and the Arab Spring*, edited by Mansoor Moaddel and Michele J. Gelfand. <https://mcgill.on.worldcat.org/oclc/968212129>

Stolle, Dietlind and Michele Micheletti.





If you can, please choose one of the below:

Interesting measures/psych correlates: Elchardus, Mark & Spruyt, Bram. (2016). "Populism, Persistent Republicanism and Declinism: An Empirical Analysis of Populism as Thin Ideology," *Government and Oppositions*, Vol. 51, No. 1: 111-133

Anti-elite: Merkley, E. (2020). Anti-intellectualism, populism, and motivated resistance to expert consensus. *Public Opinion Quarterly*, 84(1), 24-48. DOI: <https://doi.org.proxy3.library.mcgill.ca/10.1093/poq/nfz053>





#### Recommended readings

Policy Brief: Collin, K. (2019). Populist and authoritarian referendums: The role of direct democracy in democratic deconsolidation. Brookings Institution Policy Brief.



Week 12--March 30: The Role of Political and Social Institutions



Tyler T. Reny & Matt A. Barreto. 2020. Xenophobia in the time of pandemic: othering, anti-Asian attitudes, and COVID-19, *Politics, Groups and Identities*.

- >Schaeffer, Merlin. 2013. The Fragility of Social Cohesion in Ethnically Diverse Societies," in *Ethnic Diversity and Social Cohesion: Immigration, Ethnic Fractionalization and Potentials for Civic Action*, Ashgate
- >Savelkoul, M., Gesthuizen, M. and Scheepers, P. (2011) "Explaining relationships between ethnic diversity and informal social capital across European countries and regions: Tests of constrict, conflict and contact theory" *Social Science Research* 40, no. 4, pp. 1091-1107. <http://www.sciencedirect.com/science/article/pii/S0049089X11000378>
- >Ruud Koopmans. 2010."Trade-Offs between Equality and Difference: Immigrant Integration, Multiculturalism and the Welfare State in Cross-National Perspective," *Journal of Ethnic and Migration Studies* 36: 1, 1— 26  
<http://dx.doi.org/10.1080/13691830903250881>
- > Ruud Koopmans and Susanne Veit. 2014. "Ethnic diversity, trust, and the mediating role of po