

PLS 210
Political Science
Research Methods

Week 3:

Interlude I—Searching, reading, and writing

Recap

- Research questions
- Literature and literature reviews

Plan for today

- Searching, reading, and writing in Political Science, or conducting literature reviews:
 - Problem formulation
 - Data collection
 - Data evaluation
 - Analysis and interpretation
 - Presentation

Problem formulation

- Case study:
 - Mobilization of hierarchically layered ethnic identities in Northern Kenya:
 - Mohammed Ali, Karrayu Borana vs. Ukur Yatani, Gar Gabbra



Searching, or data collection

📖 Scholar About 128,000 results (0.04 sec)
 YEAR ▾

[King makers: Local leaders and ethnic politics in Africa](#)

[D.Koter - World Politics, 2013 - cambridge.org](#)

... He defines **ethnically** based parties as those "parties that derive their support overwhelmingly from ... one reaches depends on the specific goods analyzed. **ethnic** support is ... thus, in political environments with alternative problem-solving networks, appeals to **ethnicity** may not ...

☆ 📄 Cited by 178 Related articles All 6 versions

[book] [Strength in numbers?: The political mobilization of racial and ethnic minorities](#)

[J.E. Leighley - 2001 - books.google.com](#)

... of Minority Targeting, Controlling for Party 99 **Mobilization** Model, Estimated by Race/**Ethnicity** 116 Overall ... as other political appointees) that is to some extent racial and **ethnically** diverse, while ... that use the term "**mobilization**" to refer to voter turnout or racial/**ethnic** group voting ...

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[Elections and ethnic civil war](#)

[\[PDF\] sagepub.com](#)

[L.E. Cederman, K.S. Gleditsch... - Comparative Political ..., 2013 - journals.sagepub.com](#)

... Copy to clipboard. Format, Tips on citation download. Download Citation. Download article citation data for: **Elections** and **Ethnic** Civil War. Lars-Erik Cederman, Kristian Skrede Gleditsch, and Simon Hug. Comparative Political Studies 2012 46:3, 387-417. Download Citation ...

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[Race, Ethnicity, and Electoral Mobilization: Where's the Party?](#)

[J. Leighley - The Politics of Democratic Inclusion, 2005 - books.google.com](#)

FEW WOULD DISAGREE that a fundamental indicator of democratic inclusion in a representative democracy is the extension of full **electoral** rights and privileges to racial and **ethnic** minorities. The history of the civil rights movement in the United States, as well as ...

☆ 📄 Cited by 24 Related articles

Related searches

ethnic mobilization **east european gypsies**

multi-ethnic coalitions opposition election campaigns

ethnic mobilization **competition model**

racial and ethnic minorities political mobilization

latino mobilization **vote choice**

effects of ethnic segregation political mobilization

ethnic **political** mobilization

ethnicity **and** elections **swing voters**

★	📄	Authors	Title	Year	Published In	Added
☆	📄	Green, Elliott	Ethnicity, National Identity and the State: Evidence from Sub-Saharan Africa	2020	British Journal of Political Sci...	May 25
☆	📄	Hale, Henry E	Explaining ethnicity	2004	Comparative Political Studi...	6/14/19
☆	📄	Horowitz, Donald L.	Ethnic groups in conflict	1985		7/1/19
☆	📄	Horowitz, Jeremy	Ethnicity and the Swing Vote in Africa's Emerging Democracies: Evidence from Kenya	2017	British Journal of Political Sci...	6/14/19
☆	📄	Ishiyama, John; Gomez, Amalia Pulido; Stewart, ...	Does Conflict Lead to Ethnic Particularism? Electoral Violence and Ethnicity in Kenya 2005-2...	2016	Nationalism and Ethnic Po...	8/16/17
☆	📄	Klopp, Jacqueline M.	Can Moral Ethnicity Trump Political Tribalism? The Struggle for Land and Nation in Kenya	2002	African Studies	2/7/18
★	📄	Koter, Dominika	King makers: Local leaders and ethnic politics in Africa	2013	World Politics	6/26/19
☆	📄	Krätli, Saverio; Swift, J.	Understanding and managing pastoral conflict in Kenya: A literature review	1999		12/29/19
☆	📄	Laitin, David D.; Van Der Veen, A. Maurits	Ethnicity and Pork: A Virtual Test of Causal Mechanisms			8/16/17
☆	📄	Lake, David A.	Why Does Ethnicity Increase in Salience as Political Order Decays?	2017	Ethnopolitics	8/16/17
☆	📄	Lee, Alexander	Ethnic Diversity and Ethnic Discrimination: Explaining Local Public Goods Provision	2018	Comparative Political Studi...	5/14/19
☆	📄	Marquardt, Kyle L.	Identity, Social Mobility, and Ethnic Mobilization: Language and the Disintegration of the Soviet Uni...	2018	Comparative Political Studi...	5/14/19
☆	📄	McCauley, John F.	The Political Mobilization of Ethnic and Religious Identities in Africa	2014	American Political Scien...	8/16/17
☆	📄	McLaughlin, Eric S.	Beyond the racial census: The political salience of ethnolinguistic cleavages in South Africa	2007	Comparative Political Studi...	6/18/19
☆	📄	McNamee, Lachlan	Indirect colonial rule and the political salience of ethnicity	2019	World Development	6/14/19

Reading, or data evaluation

- Johnson et al.:
 - “To read an entire literature would take far too much time, so it is wise to rely on shortcuts whenever available.”
- Shortcuts:
 - Take care in selecting references
 - Be smart about reading sources:
 - Skim
 - Read strategically

dential election in Kenya and in 2010–11 in Cote d'Ivoire. This is not to say that ethnic politics are inherently violent, but that they provide a ready-made script, should postelectoral violence occur.

main argument

I argue that direct ethnic mobilization is not as unavoidable as commonly thought. On the contrary, politicians actually select different clientelist strategies in response to the social structure in which political activity takes place. In turn, these choices create variation in electoral patterns. First, I suggest that politicians pursue two distinct modes of nonprogrammatic electoral mobilization: (1) by *directly* relying on the

v. interesting

⁵ Definition of clientelism from Stokes 2007.

⁶ E.g., Beck 2008.

⁷ Wantchekon 2003.

Padró i Miquel 2007.

but how does this relate to Posner 2005?

support of voters from one's own ethnic background and (2) by *indirectly* working through electoral intermediaries—local leaders who command moral authority, control resources, and can influence the electoral behavior of their dependents. Second, because the power of local leaders varies greatly, the option to use electoral intermediaries is not available in all settings. Finally, the choice of electoral mobilization is neither trivial nor cosmetic: it affects national electoral outcomes. By

Koter, Dominika. 2013. “King Makers: Local Leaders and Ethnic Politics in Africa.” *World Politics* 65(2): 187–232.

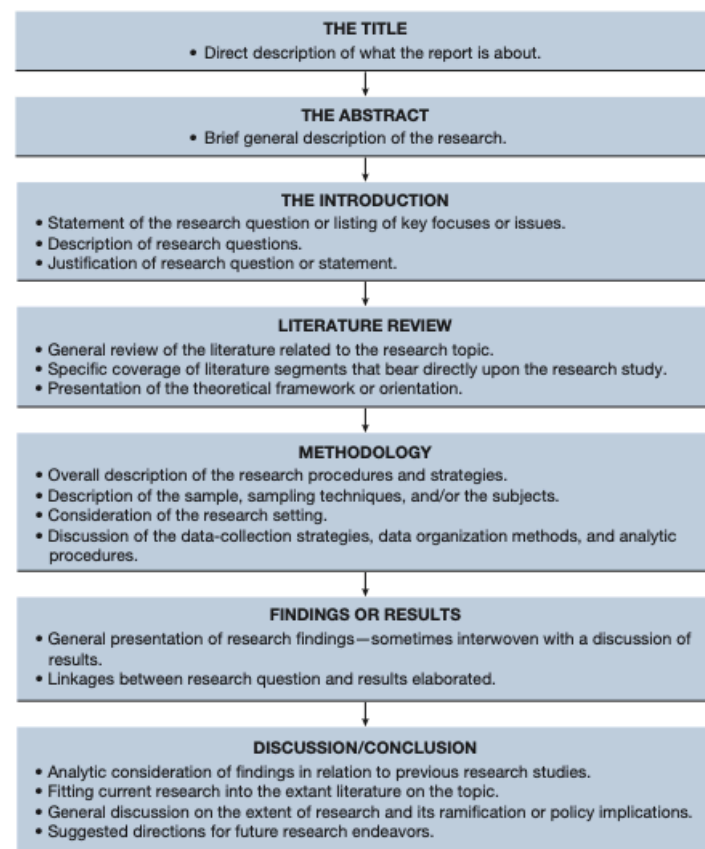
Analysis and interpretation

- Research topic and its importance
- Most important scholarly sources and contributions
- Current scholarly consensus and the main strands of the literature
- Key themes and methods of inference and data collection
- Limitations of and gaps in the literature

Writing, or presentation

- Purpose of writing:
 - Focus:
 - Research findings
 - Methods
 - Theories
 - Practices / applications
 - Specific goals
 - Perspective
 - Coverage
 - Audience

Figure 12.1 The Basic Scheme of the Traditional Research Report



Writing, or presentation

- Clarity, in writing and purpose
- Signposting
- Common mistakes:
 - Vagueness
 - Passive voice
 - Run-on or overly long sentences
 - Rhetorical questions
 - Grammatical and spelling mistakes
- Rewriting!



Takeaways: doing literature reviews

- Problem formulation
- Searching, or data collection
- Reading, or data evaluation
- Analysis and interpretation
- Writing, or presentation