

PLS 140
Introduction to
Comparative Politics

Week 7:
Parts I-III review

Plan for this week

- Review lecture
- Q&A session
- Term test

Plan for today

- Parts I-III review:
 - Concepts
 - Explanations
 - Application of the comparative method to empirical evidence
- Term test overview

Concepts

- Institutions
- Collective action
- Anarchy and political order
- State, state capacity, and state-making
- Development and political development
- Political regime, democracy, and authoritarianism
- Regime change, democratization, and democratic backsliding

Theories and explanations

- Political order:
 - Stationary bandits
- State-making:
 - Interstate war
 - Material (and class) interests
 - Bargaining
 - Administrative innovations
 - Diffusion

Theories and explanations

- Development:
 - Environmental / geographic conditions
 - International system
 - Colonial institutions

Theories and explanations

- Regime change and durability:
 - Culture
 - Economy: modernization, inequality, class
 - Domestic institutions
 - International system
 - Agency and incentives for / against collective action
 - Polarization and populism

Research and evidence

- Comparative method and essentials of research design in Political Science / Comparative Politics:
 - Inferences
 - Association and causation
 - Case selection and observations
- Country cases of Brazil, China, Kazakhstan, Russia, the United Kingdom, and the United States

Term test

- Description and analysis
- 4 terms
- Chosen by you from a list of terms randomly selected from the list in the study guide (with no new, unexpected terms)
- ~100-150 words per term
- 50 minutes