

ATA 59C
RETHINKING STATE THEORY
(Special Topics in Economy & Society in Turkey)

Fall 2018
Nadir Özbek

Wednesday 10:00-13:00
Office Hrs: Wednesday 14:00-16:00 and by appointment.
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Course Description:

This course surveys major theoretical approaches in the field of state theory. Through a critical and qualified reading of literature on sociological theories of state, Marxist theories of state, Foucault and governmentality, cultural turn and its effects on political theory, and anthropological approaches to state theory, the course first aims to deepen students' understanding of alternative theoretical approaches, and second, to help them formulate their own approach to studying the state and politics. The course revisits earlier theories of state and aims to interconnect them with recent debates in the study of state and politics. Informed with these theoretical insights, we will also reflect on political and epistemological problems in the academic literature on Turkey, its history and its present.

Assignments:

Weekly Readings: This seminar is organized around common readings as the basis for weekly discussions. (60%)

Research Paper: Each student will make a short research project examining an aspect of power and rule in Turkish society, historical and contemporary. Research paper will be no more than 3,000 words. Students should submit a paper topic and one page statement during week 5. Each student will present a summary of his or her research paper during the final exam week. (40%)

THEMES:

Defining the Problem:

Krasner, Stephen D. "Approaches to the State: Alternative Conceptions and Historical Dynamics."

Comparative Politics 16, no. 2 (1984): 223-46.

Abrams, Philip. "Notes on the Difficulty of Studying the State." *Journal of Historical Sociology* 1, no. 1 (1977): 58-89.

Harootunian, Harry D. "In the Tiger's Lair: Socialist Everydayness Enters Post-Mao China (Review essay on *Streetlife China* by Michael Dutton)." *Postcolonial Studies* 3, no. 3 (2000).

Harootunian, Harry. "Future of Fascism." *Radical Philosophy*, no. 136 (2006): 23-33.

Theories of State: Bringing the State Back In:

- Skocpol, Theda. "Bringing the State Back In: Strategies of Analysis in Current Research." In *Bringing the State Back In*, edited by Peter Evans, Dietrich Rueschemeyer and Theda Skocpol, 3-37. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, 1985.
- Giddens, Anthony. *The Nation State and Violence: Volume Two of A Contemporary Critique of Historical Materialism*. Berkeley: University of California Press, 1985.
- Mann, Michael. "The Autonomous Power of the State: its Origins, Mechanisms and Results." In *States, War and Capitalism*, 1-32. Oxford: Blackwell Publishers, 1988.
- Evans, Peter. *Embedded Autonomy: States and Industrial Transformation*. New Jersey: Princeton University Press, 1995.
- Tilly, Charles. "War Making and State Making as Organized Crime." In *Bringing the State Back In*, edited by Peter Evans, Dietrich Rueschemeyer and Theda Skocpol, 169-91. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, 1985.
- Jessop, Bob. "Bringing the State Back In (Yet Again): Reviews, Revisions, Rejections, and Redirections." *International Review of Sociology* 11, no. 2 (2001): 149-73.

Revisiting Marxist Theories of State:

- Wetherly, Paul, Clyde W. Barrow, and Peter Burnham, eds. *Class, Power and the State in Capitalist Society: Essays on Ralph Miliband*. Basingstoke ; New York: Palgrave Macmillan, 2008.
- Poulantzas, Nicos Ar, and James Martin. *The Poulantzas Reader: Marxism, Law, and the State*. London: Verso, 2008.
- Carnoy, Martin. "Structuralism and the State: Althusser and Poulantzas." In *The State and Political Theory*, 89-127. Princeton: Princeton University Press, 1984.
- Jessop, Bob. "Putting States in Their Place: Once More on Capitalist States and Capitalist Societies." In *State Theory: Putting the Capitalist State in its Place*, 338-69. London: Polity Press, 1990.

Crisis of the Liberal Democracy:

- Offe, Claus. "Theses on the Theory of the State." 119-29. London: Hutchinson & Co., 1984.
- Offe, Claus. "Crisis and Innovation in Liberal Democracy: Can Deliberation be Institutionalized?" *Czech Sociological Review* 3 (2011): 1-20.
- Habermas, Jurgen. "The New Obscurity: The Crisis of the Welfare State and the Exhaustion of Utopian Energies." In *The New Conservatism, Cultural Criticism and the Historian's Debate*, edited by Shierry Weber Nicholzen, 48-70. Cambridge: The MIT Press, 1989.

Foucault and Governmentality:

- Foucault, Michel. "Governmentality." In *The Foucault Effect, Studies in Governmentality*, edited by Colin Gordon and Peter Miller, 87-104. Chicago: University of Chicago Press, 1991.
- Gordon, Colin. "Governmental Rationality: An Introduction." In *The Foucault Effect, Studies in Governmentality*, edited by Graham Burchell, Colin Gordon and Peter Miller, 1-51. Chicago: University of Chicago Press, 1991.
- Dean, Mitchell. *Governmentality: Power and Rule in Modern Society*. London: Sage Publications, 1999.
- Jessop, Bob. "Poulantzas and Foucault on Power and Strategy." In *State Theory: Putting the Capitalist State in its Place*, 220-47. London: Polity Press, 1990.

State Theory after the Cultural Turn:

- Steinmetz, George. "Introduction: Culture and the State." In *State/Culture: State-Formation after the Cultural Turn*, edited by George Steinmetz, 1-49. Ithaca: Cornell University Press, 1999.
- Hall, Stuart. "Popular Culture and the State." In *Popular Culture and Social Relations*, edited by Tony Bennett, Colin Mercer and Janet Woollacott, 22-49. Philadelphia: Open University Press, 1986.
- Mitchell, Timothy. "The Limits of the State: Beyond Statist Approaches and Their Critics." *American Political Science Review* 85, no. 1 (1991): 77-94.
- Mitchell, Timothy. "'Society, Economy, and the State Effect'." In *State/Culture: State-Formation after the Cultural Turn*, edited by George Steinmetz, 76-97. Ithaca: Cornell University Press, 1990.
- Mitchell, Timothy. "Everyday Metaphors of Power." *Theory and Society* 19, no. 5 (1990): 545-77.

Anthropology and the State: State in the Everyday:

- Ward Gailey, Christine. "The State of the State in Anthropology." *Dialectical Anthropology* 9, no. 1/4 (1985): 65-89.
- Das, Veena, and Deborah Poole, eds. *Anthropology in The Margins of the State*. Santa Fe: School of American Research Press, 2004.
- Victoria, Jose Luis Escalona. "Anthropology of Power: Beyond State-Centric Politics." *Anthropological Theory* 16, no. 2-3 (2016): 249-62.
- Sharma, Aradhana, and Akhil Gupta. "Introduction: Rethinking Theories of the State in an Age of Globalization." In *The Anthropology of the State: A Reader*, edited by Aradhana Sharma and Akhil Gupta, 1-41. Oxford: Blackwell Publishing, 2006.
- Krohn-Hansen, Christian, and Knut G. Nustad, eds. *State Formation: Anthropological Perspectives*. London: Pluto Press, 2005.
- Khoury, Philip S., and Joseph Kostiner, eds. *Tribes and State Formation in the Middle East*. Berkeley: University of California Press, 1990.
- MacKinnon, Catharine. "The Liberal State." In *Toward A Feminist Theory of the State*. Cambridge: Harvard University Press, 1989., 157-70. Cambridge: Harvard University Press, 1989.
- Scott, James. C. . *Seeing Like a State*. New Haven: Yale University Press, 1998.
- Babül, Elif. "Devlet, Bürokrasi, Siyaset ve Antropoloji." In *Kültür Denen Şey: Antropolojik Yaklaşımlar*, edited by Ayfer Bartu Candan and Cenk Özbay, 31-50. İstanbul: Metis Yayınları, 2018.
- YAZICI, Berna. "Devlet Antropolojisi." In *Kültür Denen Şey: Antropolojik Yaklaşımlar*, edited by Ayfer Bartu Candan and Cenk Özbay, 51-81. İstanbul: Metis Yayınları, 2018.

Beyond the State; New Debates I: The Agamben Effect:

- Ross, Alison, ed. *Special Issue: The Agamben Effect*, The South Atlantic Quarterly. Durham: Duke University Press, 2008.
- Agamben, Giorgio. *Homo Sacer: Sovereign Power and Bare Life*. Stanford, California: Stanford University Press, 1998.

- Alonso, Ana M. "Sovereignty, the Spatial Politics of Security, and Gender : Looking North and South from the US-Mexico Border " In *State Formation: Anthropological Perspectives* edited by Christian Krohn-Hansen and Knut G. Nustad, 27-52. London: Pluto Press, 2005.
- Hansen, Thomas Blom, and Finn Stepputat, eds. *Sovereign Bodies: Citizens, Migrants, and States in the Postcolonial World*. Princeton: Princeton University Press, 2005.

Beyond the State; New Debates II: State/Civil Society Divide Reconsidered:

- Villadsen, Kaspar, and Dean Mitchell. "State-Phobia, Civil Society, and a Certain Vitalism." *Constellations* 19, no. 3 (2012): 401-20.
- Villadsen, Kaspar. "Foucault's Three Ways of Decentering the State." In *Rethinking Neoliberalism: Resisting the Disciplinary Regime*, edited by Sanford F. Schram and Marianna Pavlovskaya, 41-59. New York: Routledge, 2017.
- Villadsen, Kaspar. "Michel Foucault and the Forces of Civil Society." *Theory, Culture and Society* 33, no. 3 (2016): 3-26.