

Fall 2017, Winter and Spring 2018

Education 374 / Political Science 334 / Sociology 374 / Law 781

SEMINAR ON PHILANTHROPY AND CIVIL SOCIETY

FACULTY CONVENERS:

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Course Description

This is a year-long course, associated with the Center on Philanthropy and Civil Society (PACS). This seminar is intended for PhD students and postdoctoral fellows doing research on the nature and ramifications of civil society and/or the effects of philanthropy on civil society, both domestically and globally. The course is also open to advanced undergraduates writing senior theses on these topics. Our purpose is to support students in pursuing their research and writing. We accomplish this through several means. All members of the seminar will have an opportunity to lead a session *and* present their work at least once during the year. Faculty and students will lead discussions of recent writings that form the corpus of scholarly knowledge of civil society, philanthropy, and the nonprofit sector. Students will circulate drafts of chapters, papers, and/or proposals and get feedback from faculty and fellow students. We will also have several leading scholars visit us for talks throughout the academic year, and students will have ample opportunity to interact with these guests.

Our aim is to help students produce high-quality work that will have an impact on their respective disciplines and shape the scholarly terrain of research on civil society, philanthropy, and nonprofits. Our expectation is that all participants will take the course for the full year; exceptions are allowed only with permission. The course may be taken multiple times, and for 1-3 units. Grading is on a pass/fail basis. Coffee and pastries are served at each session.

The course meets on Fridays, from 10:00am – 12:00pm. We meet in the Stanford Law School, 3rd Floor, Room 320-F (559 Nathan Abbott Way, Stanford CA). We will have a beginning of the year reception at 4:30 on September 29th, at the Law School, third floor.

Readings:

All readings not accessible through Stanford Library will be posted to Canvas. For chapters in the Powell and Steinberg volume, *The Nonprofit Sector*, 2nd edition, Yale University Press, 2006, the link is here: <http://site.ebrary.com/lib/stanford/detail.action?docID=10210281>

FALL QUARTER SCHEDULE:

September 29: Introduction

Everyone will give a short introduction to their research interests (and also post a description on the course Canvas page.) We will discuss how different social science disciplines think about associational life, nonprofits, and philanthropy. We will also discuss the interaction between normative and positive orientations to scholarship. The goal is to enlarge our respective fields of vision, and see how other disciplines decide what is interesting, what methodological approaches are deployed, and what counts as good scholarship.

October 6: Why do nonprofits exist?

The first three articles represent canonical statements. We want to consider their many merits, but also discuss how we would rewrite these articles today for readers in the future.

Henry Hansmann. "Economic Theories of Nonprofit Organizations," in W.W. Powell, ed., *The Nonprofit Sector*, 1st edition, Yale University Press, 1987.

Elisabeth Clemens. "The Constitution of Citizens: Political Theories of Nonprofit Organizations." Chapter 9 in Powell and Steinberg, *The Nonprofit Sector*, 2nd ed. 2006.

Helmut Anheier and Lester Salamon. "The Nonprofit Sector in Comparative Perspective." Chapter 4 in Powell and Steinberg, *The Nonprofit Sector*, 2nd ed. Yale Univ. Press, 2006.

Jonathan Levy. 2016. "Altruism and the Origins of Nonprofit Philanthropy." Ch. 1 in *Philanthropy in Democratic Societies*, edited by R. Reich, C. Cordelli, and L. Bernholz, University of Chicago Press.

October 20: Why study philanthropy?

Symposium on "Why Political Scientists Should Study Organized Philanthropy." *PS: Political Science and Politics* 49/3 (July 2016): 433-72. Essays by Theda Skocpol, Jeffrey Berry, Kristen Goss, Sarah Reckhow, Steven Teles, Alexander Hertel-Fernandez, and Rob Reich.

Available at:

http://journals.cambridge.org/download.php?file=%2FPSC%2FPSC49_03%2FS1049096516000652a.pdf&code=63328b8bb894b431329e7a33e0a9df0e

Emily Barman. "The Social Basis of Philanthropy." *Annual Review of Sociology* 43, 2017.
<http://www.annualreviews.org/doi/abs/10.1146/annurev-soc-060116-053524>

October 27: What is Civil Society?

Putnam, Robert D., Robert Leonardi, and Raffaella Y. Nanetti. *Making Democracy Work: Civic Traditions in Modern Italy*. Chapter 6. Princeton University Press, 1994.

deTocqueville, Alexis. *Democracy in America*. Translated by Henry Reeve. 1899.
http://xroads.virginia.edu/~Hyper/DETOC/toc_indx.html. Read “Of the Uses which the Americans Make of Public Associations and Relation of Civil to Political Associations.”

Nancy L. Rosenblum and Robert Post. 2001. Introduction to *Civil Society and Government*. Princeton University Press. <http://press.princeton.edu/chapters/i7214.html>

Christopher A. Bail. 2012. “The Fringe Effect: Civil Society organizations and the Evolution of Discourse about Islam since the Sept. 11th Attacks.” *American Sociological Review* 77(6): 855-79.
<http://journals.sagepub.com/doi/abs/10.1177/0003122412465743>

Jeremy Levine. “The Paradox of Community Power: Elite Authority in Participatory Governance.” *Social Forces* 95(3): 1155-79, 2017. <https://muse.jhu.edu/article/648374/pdf>.

November 10: A Wider Lens On Nonprofits and Civil Society

Judith Sealander. “Curing evils at their source: The arrival of scientific giving.” In Friedman, Lawrence J., and Mark D. McGarvie. *Charity, Philanthropy, and Civility in American History*. Cambridge University Press. pp. 217-39, 2003.

Jonathan Levy, “From Fiscal Triangle to Passing Through: Rise of the Nonprofit Corporation,” in [*Corporations and American Democracy*](#) (Cambridge, 2017)

Daniel Carpenter, “Democracy by Petition – Introduction: Signature Moments, 1846-1849,” A Tobin Project Conference of the History of American Democracy, 2017.

Alice Connor. “Bringing the Market Back In: Philanthropic Activism and Conservative Reform,” in *Politics and Partnerships: The Role of Voluntary Associations in America’s Political Past and Present*, Elisabeth S. Clemens and Doug Guthrie, eds. University of Chicago Press, pp. 121-150, 2010.

Fall Faculty Forum November 16, 5:00–8:00 p.m. Nathaniel Persily, Professor Stanford Law School and Departments of Communication and Political Science, “Can Democracy Survive the Internet?”

December 8: Why do people give/volunteer?

Roland Bénabou and Jean Tirole. 2006. "Incentives and Prosocial Behavior." *American Economic Review*, 96(5): 1652-1678. (for those allergic to modeling, read to pg. 1660)

<https://www.aeaweb.org/articles?id=10.1257/aer.96.5.1652>

John A. List and Michael K. Price. "Charitable Giving Around the World: Thoughts on How to Expand the Pie." <https://academic.oup.com/cesifo/article/58/1/1/300285/Charitable-Giving-Around-the-World-Thoughts-on-How>

John A. List. "The Market for Charitable Giving." *Journal of Economic Perspectives* 25(2): 157-180, 2011.

<http://home.uchicago.edu/~jlist/papers/The%20Market%20for%20Charitable%20Giving.pdf>

Brent Simpson and Robb Willer. "Beyond Altruism: Sociological Foundations of Cooperation and Prosocial Behavior." *Annual Review of Sociology* 41: 43-63, 2015.

<http://www.annualreviews.org/doi/pdf/10.1146/annurev-soc-073014-112242>.

WINTER TERM, 2018

January 11, Winter Faculty Forum 5:00 – 8:00 pm: John Fabian Witt, Professor of Law, Yale Law School, discussion of his forthcoming book on the Garland Fund, a 1920s foundation that funded highly politically progressive causes.

January 12

Alex Blackman, PhD student, Political Science

Morgan Currie, Postdoctoral fellow, PACS/ Digital Civil Society Lab. "Datafication of Records: New Information Cultures in the City of Los Angeles."

January 26

Ted Lechterman, Postdoctoral fellow, Ethics in Society/PACS. "Political Theory and the Nonprofit Sector."

Gregg Sparkman, PhD student, Psychology. "Witnessing Change: Dynamic Norms Help Resolve Diverse Barriers to Personal Change."

February 9

Jean Lin, Postdoctoral fellow, PACS. "A Spark in the Smokestacks: Environmental Organizing in Beijing Middleclass Communities."

Angela Lu, PhD student, Sociology. "Networks of Sponsorship and Career Dynamics: Mobility in the Chinese Bureaucracy"

February 16

Anna Boch, PhD student, Sociology. "The Limits of Tolerance. Extreme Speakers on Campus."

Aaron Horvath, PhD student, Sociology. "Ideals of Order."

March 2

Christof Brandtner, PhD student, Sociology. "Civic capacity and cross-sectorial coordination as conditions of city climate action."

Ling Han, Postdoctoral fellow, PACS. "The Power of Disasters: American Dream, Immigrants, and Civic Engagement in the U.S."

March 9

Jessica Feldman, Postdoctoral fellow, PACS/Digital Civil Society Lab. "Distribute, Randomize, Rotate: Democratic Design for Digital Publics."

Emily Clough, Postdoctoral fellow, PACS. "Learning for Industrious; Latitude for the Idle: Parallel Provision NGOs and the State in India."

SPRING TERM, 2018

April 6

Michelle Reddy, PhD student, International and Comparative Education, GSE

April 20

Gregg Sparkman, PhD student, Psychology.

Jean Lin, Postdoctoral fellow, PACS.

April 27

Liz McKenna, PhD student, Sociology at UC Berkeley

Jeff Sheng, PhD student, Sociology

May 11

Christof Brandtner, PhD student, Sociology and Claire Dunning, Postdoctoral fellow, PACS

Patricia Bromley, Assistant Professor, International and Comparative Education, GSE

June 1

Priya Fielding Singh, PhD student, Sociology

Rob Reich and Lucy Berholz, DT2

Other Possible Topics for Winter or Spring Terms:

Government Policing of Cross-Border Charity and Foundation Support

The Blurring Boundaries of the Nonprofit Sector:

Lichterman and Eliasoph , 2014, "Civic Action", *American Journal of Sociology*

http://dornsifecms.usc.edu/assets/sites/888/docs/Civic_Action.pdf

The Dark Side of Philanthropy:

Jane Meyer's *Dark Money*, and Skocpol and Hertel-Fernandez, 2016, "The Koch Network and Republican Party Extremism," *Perspective on Politics* 14(3): 681-99.