**Antalya Bilim University**

**POLS 536 Comparative Populism**

**Spring 2021**

Class time: Thursday, 10.30-13.30

Office hours: Friday, 10.30—11.30

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(A2-70)

Populism has been a recent topic in political science which raises important questions about the basic concepts of the discipline such as democracy, representation and liberalism. Populist policies are gaining ground across the globe, in a context of generational as well as technological change. Hence, the recent rise in populism also closely relates to changes in citizens’ political attitudes such as declining trust in formal institutions and political interest. In this course, students are encouraged to adopt a comparative approach to understand the conceptual discussions about populism on the one hand, to discuss the implications of the recent populist wave on democratic institutions and global politics on the other.

This course is about one of the most contemporaneous and contentious topics in the field. Hence, students are expected to engage in the most recent debates in the field by reflecting upon the weekly discussions materials during class discussions. For this purpose, different case studies from different parts of the globe are presented via different information sources such as newspaper articles, TEDX talks or recorded live seminars of distinguished professors in the field.

**Course book:**

The course will be held on-line due to COVID-19 pandemic. All course material will be uploaded to LMS system prior to each week’s class. Please make sure to logon the system to access the readings as well as announcements made regarding class.

**Expectations & Requirements:**

1. **Attendance & Participation (%5)**: Attendance is COMPULSORY in this course. Your grade is comprised of both attendance and participation.
2. **Mid-term (25%):** Students will have one mid-term exam throughout the semester, which constitutes 25% of the overall grade. Midterm will base on ALL the course material we cover until the exam date.
3. **Discussion leadership (20%):** We will dedicate one hour of our weekly classes to student-led discussion seminars. Students are expected to lead the class discussion based on the below indicated weekly discussion materials. They are welcomed to use relevant, additional materials for this purpose. The grading for this component depends on the quality of the discussion, which is defined in terms of i. a thorough understanding of the weekly subject and the discussion material; ii. an ability to relate the weekly subject to discussion material; iii. an ability to organize an engaging presentation; and iii. the observed students’ engagement (a function of students’ involvement and questions).
4. **Final exam (50%):** Students will have one final exam at the end of the semester, which makes 50% of your overall grade. The majority of the final exam questions base on the course material we cover after the midterm exam.

**Expected Student Conduct in the Classroom**

The expected student conduct during on-line classes includes and not limited to:

* Coming to class on time and not leaving the class early without prior permission of the instructor.
* Turning on the camera to help maintaining an engaging class environment.
* Focusing carefully on the course and avoiding engaging in not-class related activities such as checking e-mails from laptops/cell phones, reading not-class related materials such as newspapers and magazines and checking content from social media.
* Students are expected to behave mindful about the instructor as well as the fellow students while asking questions and making comments. They should request permission from the instructor before asking a question or making a comment. Also, they should respect other student’s right to ask questions/make comments.
* Students are encouraged to turn off their cell phones during the class time and they should use their laptops only for class-related purposes.

**Course Schedule**

**WEEK 1. (March 1-7) Introduction**

**WEEK 2-4. (8-28 March) The conceptual framework**

Cas Mudde and Christobal Rovira Kaltwasser, *Populism: A Short Introduction*, Oxford University Press, 2017. Chapter 1.

Jan-Werner Müller, What is Populism?, University of Pennsylvania Press, 2016. Chapter 1.

Pierre Ostiguy, “Populism: A socio-cultural approach” in The Oxford Handbook of Populism, Kaltwasser C.R., Taggart P., Espejo P.O. and Ostiguy, P. (eds.), 2017, Oxford University Press,73-101.

Mudde, Cas. “The Populist Zeitgeist.” Government and Opposition 39, no. 4 (ed 2004): 541–63.

***Discussion materials:***

**Technological change:**

Yuval Harari, Talk to Al-Jazeera, Technology is the Humanity’s Biggest Challenge

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Qkg6dqztt-0>

**Generational change:**

How Millenials today compare with their grandparents 50 years ago <https://www.pewresearch.org/fact-tank/2018/03/16/how-millennials-compare-with-their-grandparents/>

Jason Dorsey, What do we know about generations after millenials? TEDx Talk, <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=4f16o9Q0XGE>

**Cultural change:**

Christian Welzel. Moral Progress: Expanding the Human Mind, TEDx Talk,  <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=qesLGw23_zQ>

Yasha Mounk, Johns Hopkins Lecture on Populism, <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=RUNzEhKphno>

**WEEK 5-7 (29 March-18 April) Populism and liberal democracy**

Canovan, Margaret. 1999. "Trust the People! Populism and the Two Faces of Democracy."

Political Studies 47(1): 1-16.

Yasha Mounk. “The Undemocratic Dilemma” Journal of Democracy, 29, no.2 (2018): 98-112.

Colgan, Jeff D. And Keohane, R. “The Liberal Order is Rigged” Foreign Affairs, May/June, 2017, 36-44.

Rodrik, Dani. “Populism and the Economics of Globalization.” Journal of International Business

Policy 1, no. 1–2 (June 2018): 12–33.

***Discussion materials:***

Cas Mudde - Populism in the Twenty-First Century: An Illiberal Democratic Response to Undemocratic Liberalism <https://www.sas.upenn.edu/andrea-mitchell-center/cas-mudde-populism-twenty-first-century>

Time to Talk debates-Is there a culture war against populism? <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Ko2l38P4tds>

Paul de Orellana, Populism and the Pandemic, <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=hk4VBAyBVZg>

**WEEK 8. MIDTERM (19-25 April.)**

**WEEK 9-10 (26 Apr.-9 May) Populist mobilization**

Cas Mudde and Christobal Rovira Kaltwasser, *Populism: A Short Introduction*, Oxford University Press, 2017. Chapter 3-4.

Luca Manucci, “Populism and the Media” in The Oxford Handbook of Populism, Kaltwasser C.R., Taggart P., Espejo P.O. and Ostiguy, P. (eds.), 2017, Oxford University Press,467-488.

Pappas, Takis S. 2008. "Political Leadership and the Emergence of Radical Mass Movements

in Democracy." Comparative Political Studies 41(8): 1117-40.

Jagers, Jan and Stefaan Walgrave. 2007. "Populism as Political Communication Style: An Empiri-

cal Study of Political Parties' Discourse in Belgium." European Journal of Political Research 46(3):

319-45.

**Discussion materials:**

The Tea Party Movement- <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=e4-c2SAjLFA>

Occupy Wall Street: the story behind seven months of protest- <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=KFOWci6yrSs>

Bolivia, the Evo Morales years – <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=scyUTKg2xVc>

**WEEK 11-14 (10 May-6 June) Populism East and West**

J. Eric Oliver and Wendy M. Rahn. 2016. ‘Rise of the Trumpenvolk: Populism in the 2016 Election.’ Annals of the American Academy of Political and Social Science 667 (1): 189-206.

Hanspeter Kriesi (2014): “The Populist Challenge”, *West European Politics*, 37(2): 361-378.

Jacques Rupnik (2018), “The Crisis of Liberalism”, Journal of Politics, 29 (3): 24-38.

Hawkins, K. A. “Is Chavez Populist?: Measuring Populist Discourse in Comparative Perspective.”

Comparative Political Studies 42, no. 8 (2009): 1040–67.

Erdem Aytaç and Ziya Öniş, “Varieties of Populism in a Changing Global Context: The Divergent Paths of Erdoğan and Kirchnerismo”, Comparative Politics, 47 (1), 41-59.

**Discussion materials:**

Christopher Kabakis, TEDx Talk, Talk like Trump - understanding populist speech and how to overcome it, <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=9gluW2J7LKY>

The Guardian. “Revealed: one in four Europeans vote populist”. <https://www.theguardian.com/world/ng-interactive/2018/nov/20/revealed-one-in-four-europeans-vote-populist>

A populist Europe? The Institute of International and European Affairs- lecture by Cas Mudde <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=-ZJWz7KN7HY>

Poland’s identity crisis – BBC Newsnight, <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=3KR0nPaWx_c>