

University of Rochester - PSCI/NIR 253/258W
Spring 2021
Tuesdays 12:30-3:15pm
Virtual via zoom

Professor Meguid
Office 306 Hakress Hall
Email: horriemeguid@rochester.edu
Office Hours: Tuesdays and Wednesdays 4-5pm via zoom

The purpose of this seminar is to familiarize students with the political instrument at the heart of representative democracy - the political party. We begin with the premise that most observant participants in democratic political systems have some idea about the role and functioning of the political party. But beyond this working knowledge of parties as election-time competitors, how much does one know about this political actor? What differentiates a party from other social groups? What are the different motivations for party formation? Why do certain parties emerge "naturally", whereas others prefer to

This advanced seminar is open to those students who have already taken either comparative or American political science courses, or by permission of the instructor. However, no prior coursework on party politics or political systems is required to take this course.

optional required to submit a detailed 1 page outline of their research projects in class on _____ and meet with me during that week to discuss their proposed paper topics. The first dl6

We also are reading multiple chapters in the Megid (2009) book. Rush Rhees has

**Levitsky, Steven and Daniel Ziblatt. 2018 How Democracies Die New York: Crown
Chapters 1 and 2**

**Taub, Anand and Max Fisher. "Facebook fueled anti-refugee attacks in Germany, new
research suggests" . 8/21/2018**

***** Research papers for the W students due May 10 by noon**