360: Comparative Political Institutions

Spring 2015 - Monday, Wednesday and Friday, 10:00-10:50am

In this course we will examine political institutions across a range of advanced industrial democracies. We will compare how institutions function and decipher their impact.

Institutions that we will analyze during the course of the semester include:
- Legislatures
- Cabinets
- Constitution
- Courts
- Political Parties and Coalitions
- Elections
- Sub-national territories
- Bureaucracy and public policy

The course will consist primarily of lectures with extensive time allotted for class-discussion and student presentations.

Professor Bio

Professor Oliver received her Ph.D. from the Department of Political Science at Northwestern University. Oliver’s research is in the field of Comparative Political Economy. Her work focuses on issues of inequality related to labor politics, social policy and gender. Oliver’s recent book project investigates how structures of aggregation impact distributional contestation and the sustainability of egalitarian bargaining institutions, with particular attention to the cases of Italy and Sweden.