

DEPARTMENT OF POLITICAL SCIENCE
UNIVERSITY OF BRITISH COLUMBIA
COMPREHENSIVE EXAMINATION: COMPARATIVE POLITICS
MINOR FIELD
4 HOURS

Friday 19 September 2014

Comparative – Ethnicity & Social Movement

You must answer a total of two (2) questions for this examination. You have four (4) hours to do so. You must answer one (1) question from the core section and one (1) question from your subfield section.

In your answers to any of the questions below, please be sure to present an argument and to refer to relevant readings and empirical examples.

SECTION 1. CORE QUESTIONS

1. Critically compare and contrast at least three works on political culture, assessing their respective achievements and limitations.
2. Does economic inequality (or lack thereof) matter for democratic stability?

SECTION 2. ETHNICITY & SOCIAL MOVEMENTS QUESTIONS

1. Is social movement mobilization engineered from the top by entrepreneurs or built through protest from the ground up? Does this vary systematically by movement and if so, how?
2. Literature on ethnic politics can be divided into works that discuss more peaceful mobilization of ethnicity, such as ethnicity in electoral politics and public goods provision, and other works that attempt to explain violent ethnic conflict. What are the shared claims across these two sets of literature, what are the differences, and can we develop a unified approach to understanding ethnicity in politics?