PPA1106 Political Institutions and Constitutions

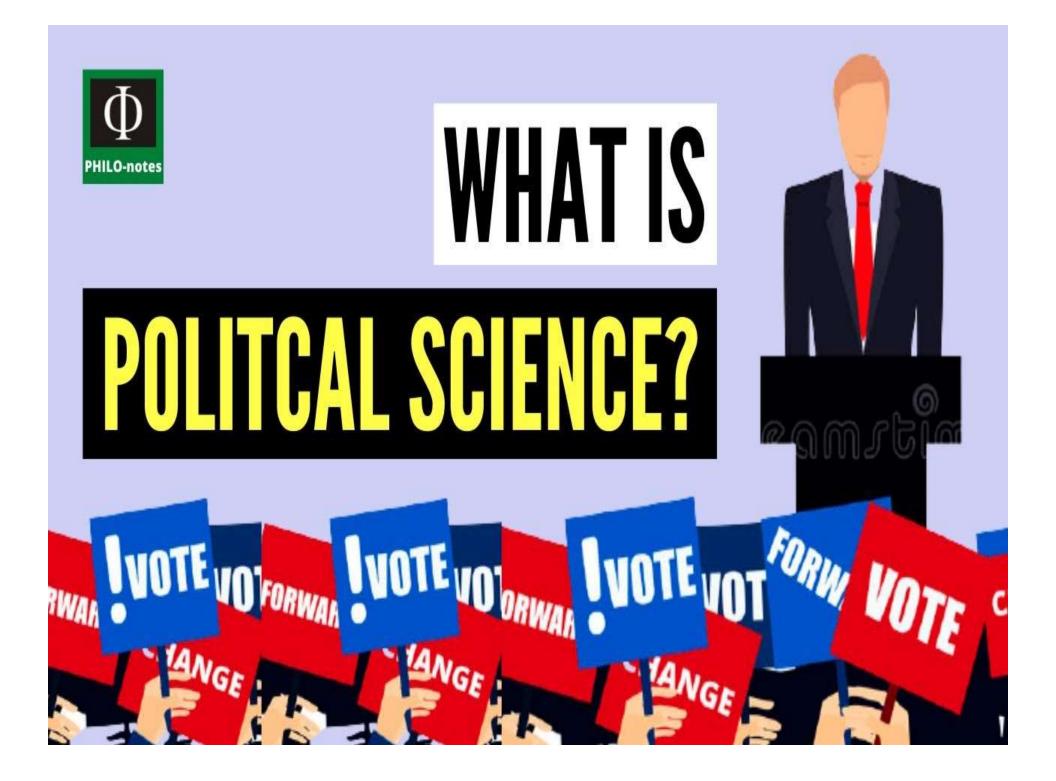
Lesson 1

Introduction

Boonwat Sawangwong, Ph.D.

College of Politics and Government

Suan Sunandha Rajabhat University



WHAT IS POLITICAL SCIENCE?

Political science is the field of the social sciences concerning the theory and practice of politics and the description and analysis of political systems and political behaviour.

WHAT IS POLITICAL SCIENCE?

Political science is the field of the social sciences concerning the theory and practice of politics and the description and analysis of political systems and political behaviour.

IS POLITICAL SCIENCE A SCIENCE ?

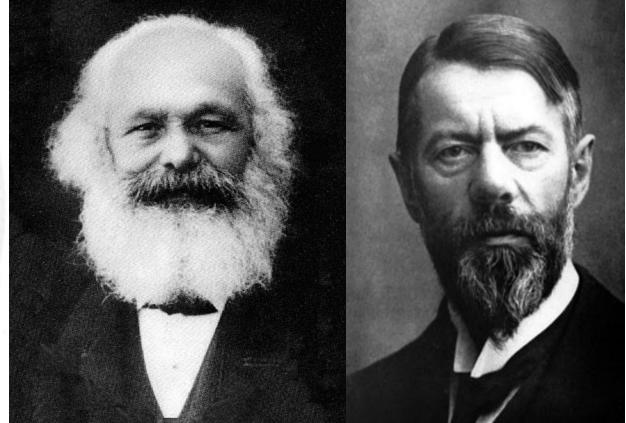


FATHER OF POLITICAL SCIENCE

®© THINK with NICHE. All Rights Reserved







WHAT IS POLITICS?

"Politics is the art of looking for trouble"

finding it whether it exists or not, diagnosing it incorrectly and applying the wrong remedy."

Earnest Benn

WHAT IS POLITICS?

"Politics is more difficult than physics."

Albert Einstein

"Politics is the art of the possible."

Otto von Bismarck

"...the good of man must be the end of the science of Politics." - Aristotle

Politicians are like diapers

Politicians are like diapers. They should both be changed frequently and for the same reason Anonymous "The things that will destroy us are: Politics without principle; pleasure without conscience; wealth without work; knowledge without character; business without morality; science without humanity; and worship without sacrifice".

Mahatma Gandhi

Politicians are like diapers

"When the power of love overcomes the love of power the world will know peace".

Jimi Hendrix

"Democracy is two wolves and a lamb voting on what to have for lunch. Liberty is a well-armed lamb contesting the vote!"

Benjamin Franklin

Why study Political Science?

Political Science ranks as one of the most popular of all undergraduate majors, and the most popular social science major in the world.

In Europe, Over 34% of all graduates in 2003 were graduating from social sciences. Of them, 82% took 3 or more political science courses.

Eurostat, EU

Political Science success requires:

an interest in political and social issues and ethical reasoning strong analytical and communicative skills Studying political science prepares students to think independently, helps to develop skills such as flexibility, critical judgment, and the ability to understand the world from a variety of political, cultural and social perspectives.

Political science is ideal for:

Anyone, interested in issues like education, environment, civil rights, war and peace, globalization, justice and equality interested in careers like law, teaching, journalism, public policy and any other careers that depend upon analytic, research and communication skills.

What can you do with a degree in Political Science?

In today's dynamic job market, employers prefer people with analytical skills who know how to learn and adapt to the quickly changing job market.

Studying political science helps students to develop transferable skills and provides an excellent background in many exciting careers. Academe -Universities and Colleges -Think-Tanks and Research Institutions

II. International Agencies - Inter-governmental organization - Non-governmental Organizations -International Aid Organizations III. Media - Newspapers - Broadcasting -Publishing Houses Academe -Universities and Colleges -Think-Tanks and Research Institutions

V. Private Sector - For Profit or not-for Profit Organizations - Law Firms, Legal Aid Organizations -Market Research Firms, Consulting Firms - Insurance Companies, Banks - Public Relations Firms, -Community Organizations V. Federal, Provincial & Local Government - Foreign Service, Military Service - Crown Corporations & Regulatory Agencies - Law **Enforcement Agencies**

What do Political Science Graduates Do?

University/College Professor, Teacher, Policy Advisor, Policy Analyst, Urban Planner - Immigration Officer, Police Officer, Customs Officer Development Officer, Foreign Service Officer Public Affairs Consultant, Political Consultant - Tax Specialist, Lawyer, Lobbyist - Journalist, Documentary Maker, Editor - Market Research Analyst, Banker - Legislative Assistant, Pollster, Consultant - United Nations Officer, International Aid Officer Researcher, Political Correspondent Program Manager, Parole Officer - Intelligence Officer, Human Resources Specialist

PPA1106 Political Institutions and Constitutions

Lesson 2

Bureaucracy

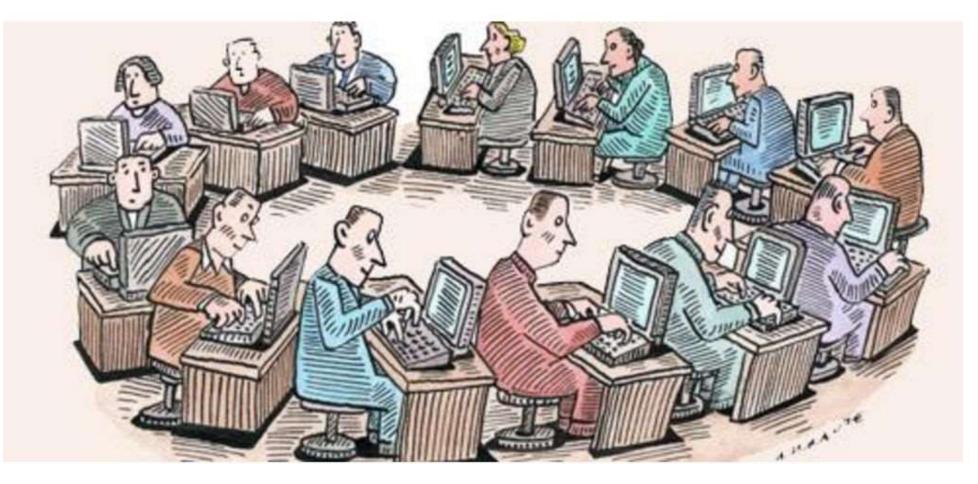
Boonwat Sawangwong, Ph.D.

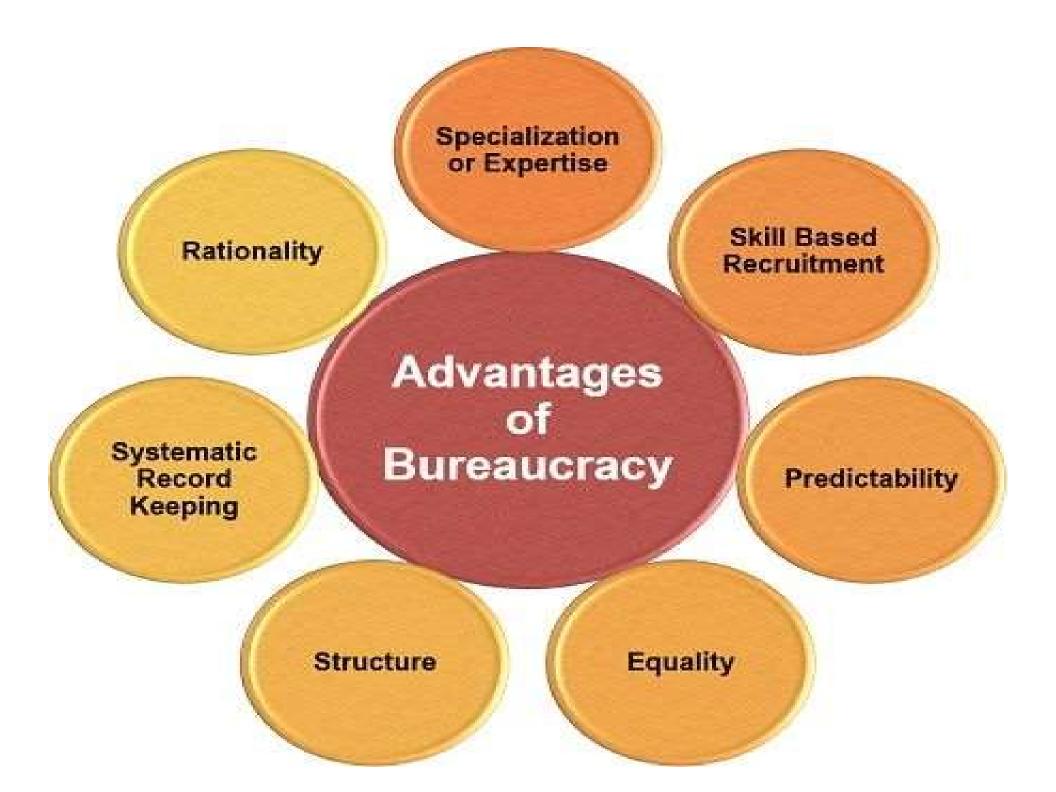
College of Politics and Government

Suan Sunandha Rajabhat University

What is a "bureaucracy"?

- On a day-to-day basis, the federal bureaucracy carries out much of the work of the U.S. government.
- Yet the bureaucracy, sometimes known as "the fourth branch," is perhaps the least known and understood part of the federal government.
- In this lesson, you will investigate which departments and agencies make up the federal bureaucracy, and how they function.





What is Bureaucracy?

A bureaucratic system, such as one operates by a government, has a vertical structure and is made up of units like ministries, departments and other related bureau and offices.

Within the unit, workforces are classed base upon their skills and organised by their level of expertise.

What is Bureaucracy?

A higher office manages lower ones through level of superiority and sub- ordination. Additionally, one of the most noticeable characteristics is that the power of control in a bureaucratic system is definite and any decision made must strictly be commanded by rules or executions of the higher authority.

What is Bureaucracy?

To sum up, characteristics of bureaucracy graded by Weber are; 1) having a formal hierarchical authority 2) management are done by standard regulations 3) workers are treated equally with the same rules applied 4) workers are classed by skills and specialty 5) jobs are fixed and routine and 6) fixed salaries and life long employment.

Thailand has been through many different forms of government. Siam was once governed under despotic paternalism and absolute monarchy; meaning the King had the highest authority.

He administered and held direct control over the country. Then in 1932, the western educated military coup ended the country's absolute monarchy and introduced a parliamentary government. After a few years later, Siam had been given its new name as Thailand (Land of the free) and had since been governed under a constitutional democratic monarchy until recently.

Consequentially, criticisms were raised.

Some critics claimed Thailand had long been paternalistically administered, therefore, its culture is deeply rooted within the hierarchical system to the point where they are inseparable.

A study shown Thailand scored 64 in 'power distance' on Hofstede's cultural model. This means the country highly accept inequalities as part of their culture.

It also implies there is a strict chain of command and protocol embedded; "each rank has its priviledges and employees show loyalty, respect and deference for their superiors in return for their protection and guidance— a paternalistic management" (The Hofstede Centre 2016)

Advantages and disadvantages of bureaucracy

On one hand, organisations administered bureaucratically have its downside such as 1.) inefficiency through vertical hierarchical structure, wasting unnecessary time and resources, and it is particularly apparent with larger organisation and governmental unit. 2) It encourages concentration of power and 3) lack of creativity making the organisation immune to adaptation

Advantages and disadvantages of bureaucracy

Despite the disadvantages, bureaucratic system is still preferred because it 1.) promotes stability for the organisation especially in the time of change. 2.) It promotes employee expertise and allows them to flourish in the field. 3.) It promotes fair application of rules and regulations to everyone in the system.

PPA1106 Political Institutions and Constitutions

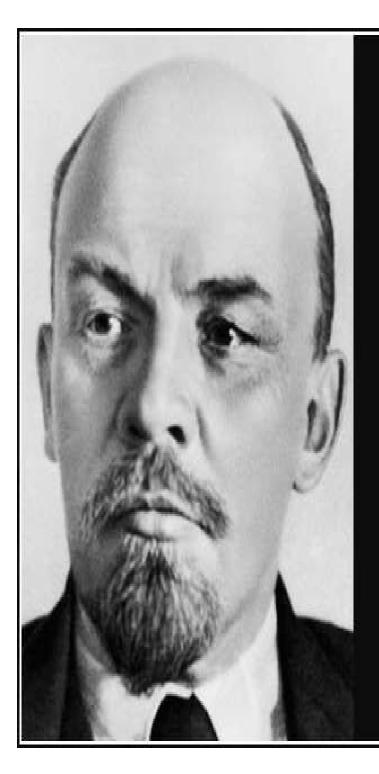
Lesson 3

Political Institutions

Boonwat Sawangwong, Ph.D.

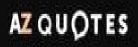
College of Politics and Government

Suan Sunandha Rajabhat University



Political institutions are a superstructure resting on an economic foundation.





TYPES OF POLITICAL INSTITUTIONS

THERE ARE FIVE TYPES OF POLITICAL INSTITUTIONS IN INDIA :

- 1. THE PRESIDENT
- 2. THE PRIME MINISTER AND HIS COUNCIL OF MINISTERS
- 3. THE PARLIAMENT
- 4. THE JUDICIARY
- 5. THE CIVIL SERVICE

What are political institutions?

 Politics is the social institution through which power is acquired and exercised by some people and groups.

• An institutionalized system through which

a society is governed...

What are political institutions?

• Political institutions are organizations which create, enforceand apply laws.

• They often mediate conflict; make (governmental) policy on the economy and social systems...

Power and Authority

• Power is the ability of persons or groups

to achieve their goals despite opposition from others.

 It is the ability to affect the behaviour of others even in the absence of their consent.

Power and Authority

• Authority is power that people accept as legitimate rather than coercive.

• It is the established right to make decisions and order on the actions of others.

• When power becomes legitimate it becomes an authority.



Max Weber- Power & Authority

Rational-Legal

• Charismatic

• Traditional Authority



Weber's Three Types of Authority

• Traditional authority is the type of authority that is inherited such as that of a King, Sultan, religious leaders or any other authoritative figure

• This leader is someone who depends on established tradition or order. While this leader is also a dominant personality, the prevailing order in society gives him the mandate to rule.

Weber's Three Types of Authority

• Charismatic authority is the type that is found in an individual who has unique leadership skills or charismatic charm in terms of gaining natural authority. Politicians, soldiers, entertainers

• Charismatic authority points to an individual who possesses certain traits that make a leader extraordinary. This type of leader is not only capable of but actually possesses the superior power of charisma to rally diverse and conflictprone people behind him.

Weber's Three Types of Authority

• Rational-legal authority is the type of authority that is based on a system of rules designed by the whole society which are known as laws.

• Weber thought the best example of legal trational authority was a bureaucracy (political or economic) or elected officials.

• The obedience of people is not based on the capacity of any leader but on the legitimacy and competence that procedures and laws bestow upon persons in authority.

BASIC CONCEPTS

• The state is the sovereign political organization of the individuals occupying a definite territory.

• It is a political unit that has sovereignty over an area and the people within it.

BASIC CONCEPTS

• Government is the formal organization that has the legal and political authority to regulate relationships among members of a society and between the society and those outside its borders. Government is a narrow concept and it is an element of the State. The State is more or less permanent, but the government is temporary.

FUNCTIONS OF POLITICAL INSTITUTION/ STATE

- Maintain law and order
- Plan and direct society
- Handle international relations
- Provision of welfare services
- Defense against foreign danger
- Evaluation of other institutions
- Socialization

Maintain law and order

The state has the authority to enact and enforce laws. The state prescribes certain forms of behaviour and prohibits certain other behaviours that disrupt the social order; that are clearly specified.

It is the responsibility of the state that along with making good laws it is also responsible for maintaining law and order, punishing criminals and protecting law abiding citizens.

Maintain law and order

It is the responsibility of the state that along with making good laws it is also responsible for maintaining law and order, punishing criminals and protecting law abiding citizens.

The police and courts are established to carry out the responsibility of maintaining law and order.

Plan and direct society

It is one of the primary functions of the state to formulate policies, initiate laws, and launch programmes.

The government consists of the legislature, executive and judiciary. The legislature is responsible for enacting laws that govern the behaviour of all individuals and institutions.

The executive formulates policies and programmes and administers the country in accordance with the laws.

The judiciary interprets the laws and safeguards the rights of all citizens.

Defense against foreign danger

It is the prime responsibility of the state to protect its citizens against external aggression and threat.

Modern nation states maintain standing armies and a large portion of national budget is utilized for defence purposes.

The soldiers trained and equipped for defence is also employed for maintaining order in case of emergency domestic situations. James Madison –

AZQUOTES



90 D

The means of defense against foreign danger historically have become the instruments of tyranny at home.

Handle international relations

• The state is responsible for developing and maintaining economic, political and cultural links and sign agreements with neighbouring and other countries of the world. Parliamentarians, foreign secretaries and ambassadors are working in this regard.

Provision of welfare services

• Every state is expected to ensure economic stability and general social welfare. The state initiates policies and programmes for the welfare of its citizens. Welfare measures would include health, education, employment, public services and retirement benefits.

Provision of welfare services

• Equity, elimination of poverty, promotion of social justice, and cultural development are among main goals established by modern nation states. Evaluation of other institutions

Functioning of other institutions are evaluated by political institutions.

For this purpose , certain codes and standards are set for these institutions.

Political Systems in Global Perspective

Political institutions emerged when agrarian societies acquired surpluses and developed social inequality.

When cities developed, the city-state became

the center of political power.

Nation-states emerged as countries acquired the ability to defend their borders.

Nation-states

Approximately 193 nation-states currently exist throughout the world.

• Today, everyone is born, lives, and dies under the auspices of a nation-state

 Four types of political systems are found in nation-states: monarchy, authoritarianism, totalitarianism, and democracy

A monarchy is a political system in which power resides in one person or family and is passed from generation to generation through lines of inheritance.

Monarchy is legitimized by tradition (Weber).

There are two main types of monarchy:

Absolute monarchy exists when the monarch has;

✓ unrestricted power
 ✓ no or few legal limitations in political matters.
 ✓ a hereditary right to rule.

Brunei, Swaziland, Saudi Arab and Oman absolute power is vested in a single person and the monarch is the head of the state as well as the government.

Qatar is also an absolute monarchy, but the head of state and head of the government are different persons.

The UAE is a federal presidential elected monarchy, which is a federation of seven absolute monarchies or the Emirates. The ruler of Abu Dhabi is President or the head of state while the ruler of Dubai is the Prime Minister or the head of the government.

Constitutional / parliamentary monarchy where;

 \checkmark actual authority is with parliament

 \checkmark the constitution may limit the royal family's power

 $\sqrt{}$ the royal family serves only as a symbol for their country.

 \checkmark The duties of the monarch are ceremonial

In present-day monarchies such as the United Kingdom, Canada, Sweden, Spain, and the Netherlands, members of royal families primarily perform ceremonial functions.

Totalitarianism - A political system in which the government dictates the society's values, ideology, rules and form of government.

It is the form of rule in which the government attempts to maintain 'total' control over society.

It is the most extreme form of authoritarianism.

• Italian dictator Benito Moussolini coined the term totalitarian in the early 1920s (all within the state , none outside the state, none against the state).

• Totalitarianism is a highly centralized political system that extensively regulates people's lives.

• Joseph Stalin (1941-1953)led the former USSR

• Mao Zedong (1949-1976) led the china "total" concentration of power, allowing no organized opposition.

• Democracy - The word democracy has its roots in the Greek term demokratia, the individual parts of which are demos ('people') and kratos('rule').

• A political system in which the people hold the ruling power through elected representatives.

• People can change the representatives through elections.

Most High Income Nations are not TRULY DEMOCRATIC for Two reasons

• First, there is the problem of bureaucracy. Bureaucrats and all other government employees have powers and run the affairs of government but they are never elected by anyone and do not have to answer directly to the people.

Most High Income Nations are not TRULY DEMOCRATIC for Two reasons

Second, there is the problem of economic inequality. The rich people have far more political power than poor people. All of the most visible voices in today's political debates—from Sharif to Bhutto to Makhdoom to Bilour—are among the country's richest people.

- There are two forms of government;
- Parliamentary Presidential

In a parliamentary system, the political party winning the majority of seats in the parliament forms the government.
It selects a person from among its members to be the prime minister who is the head of the government.

• In the Parliamentary system, if the Parliament doesn't like the Prime Minister, they can cast a vote of no confidence and replace him.

• In a presidential system, the head of government, the president, is elected by the voters, either directly or by means of an electoral college.

• In addition, in a presidential system the head of government is elected for a fixed term of office. For example, in the United States the president's term of office is for four years.

• In Parliamentay system the legislative and executive body of government are closely related, while the judiciary is independent of the other two bodies of government. The executive body, i.e. the Cabinet is accountable to the legislative body, i.e. Parliament

• In Presidential system, the legislative, executive and judiciary body of the government are independent of each other.