Course Description
The theme of this seminar is comparative democratic capitalism in the post-industrial era. It will investigate the effects of the knowledge economy, technological innovation, financialization, demographic pressures, globalization of trade and production, and immigration on prosperity, employment, equality, and democratic politics in advanced capitalist countries in recent decades. This seminar is divided into weekly topics that correspond to specific areas of political economic inquiry and comparative analysis. The main goal of this seminar is to help students deepen their understanding of how democratic capitalism has evolved since the early 1980s by examining the main drivers and consequences of political economic changes in affluent countries.

Requirements & Grading
1. In-class summary (10%): Each student is required to summarize assigned readings related to a weekly topic at least once (perhaps twice depending on class size) this semester. This assignment involves summarizing and synthesizing readings for up to 15 minutes and preparing for class use a written outline that includes summaries of the readings, comments that synthesize and contrast the reviewed materials, and discussion questions. For practical information regarding this assignment see “Tips for the in-class summary” posted on the NYU Class Course Site.

2. Participation, Discussant & Presentation (20%): Each week you are expected to have read all of the assigned readings prior to each class session and to participate constructively to the weekly class discussions. At the end of the semester you will present your research paper and serve as a discussant for a classmate’s research paper.

3. Research Paper (55%): You are required to write a research paper (between 18-22 pages long, double space, 12 font size, including graphs, tables, figures, and references) that investigates a seminar-related topic. Your project should strive to produce insight on an important analytical question using appropriate methodological tools and standards of social inquiry. Your paper should have a theoretical/conceptual section in which you review relevant literature, discuss your framework of analysis, and elaborate your argument, and have an empirical section in which you present supporting evidence in both quantitative and qualitative forms.

[NOTE: the dates below will be changed once NYU’s 2020-2021 academic calendar is finalized] On September 30, you will submit a statement about the issue you plan to investigate. On November 14, you will submit a preliminary bibliography and a brief description of the
research materials. On November 28, you will submit an abstract and outline of your paper. On December 2 or December 9 you will present your research paper in class. Presentations should be about 20 minutes long and will be followed by a 10-minute Q&A response that will include feedback by a designated discussant. On December 10, you will submit your final paper via Assignment Tool on NYU Class.

4. Review Essay (15%): During the semester you will write a review (5-6 pages long, double space, 12 font size) of assigned readings related to a weekly topic—ideally, the topic on which your in-class summary is based. The essay must engage critically and comparatively all of the assigned readings corresponding to the weekly topic. If a book represents a large portion of the assigned readings for a week, then your essay should be styled as a book review. For practical information regarding this assignment see “Tips on how to write a review essay” posted on the NYU Class Course Site. The essay is due the week after we cover the weekly topic on which your essay is based. Your essay must be submitted through the Assignment Tool on NYU Class.

Readings
There are several books and many articles required for this course. Most of the readings are available in electronic format via Bobst library system. Books that are not available in e-book format have been placed at the Bobst reserve desk. Readings in the form of journal articles are available through Bobst Electronic Journals. Please have all assigned readings available during each class session.

Course Outline
[Note some assigned readings may change]

Session 1: Going over Syllabus and Introduction to CPE

Session 2: Analytical Frameworks for the Study of Comparative Political Economy


Session 3: Technology, Prosperity, and Democratic Capitalism: From Fordism to Post-Fordism


**Session 4: Industrial Relations in the Post-Industrial Era**


**Session 5: The Transformation of Labor Markets**


**Session 6: Political Economy of Financialization**


**Session 7: Sources and Effects of Business Power**


**Session 8: Political Economy of Taxation**


**Session 9: Postindustrial Social Welfare**


**Session 10: Causes of Populism and of Economic Nationalism**


**Session 11: The Effects of Economic Nationalism and of Right-wing Populism**


**Session 12: Mass Politics in a Post-Industrial Age**


**Session 13: Presentations**

**Session 14: Presentations**