

Kenneth M. Roberts

Populism and Party System Transformation: Latin America in Comparative Perspective

ABSTRACT

This seminar explores the emergence of different sub-types of populism, comparing the Latin American experience to that in Europe and even now the United States under Trump. Some of the topics to be covered include the relationship between populism and crises of political representation (in particular party systems) , as well as the grounding of different sub-types of populism in distinct varieties of capitalism. Populisms of the left and the right (or "inclusionary" and "exclusionary" forms) will be compared along their different axes of economic and socio-cultural competition. Special attention will be given to the ways in which emerging populisms realign and transform conventional modes of political competition and representation, as seen quite dramatically in the contemporary U.S.

BIO

Kenneth M. Roberts is Professor of Government at Cornell University in the United States. He specializes in the study of Latin American political economy, particularly the politics of inequality and the relationships between parties, populism, and social movements. He is the author, most recently, of "Changing Course: Party Systems in Latin America's Neoliberal Era" (Cambridge University Press). His new research explores the impact of financial crises on party systems and populist movements in Southern Europe and Latin America.