

VITA
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John S. Ambler
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Rice University
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Education:

B.A., Willamette University, 1953
M.A., Stanford University, 1954
Certificat d' etudes politiques, Institut d' etudes Politiques, University of
Bordeaux, 1955
Ph.D., University of California (Berkeley), 1964

Awards:

Class of 1919 Prize, for graduating first in the class of 1953
Fulbright Scholarship, 1954-1955
Social Science Research Council, Research Training Fellowship, France 1961-
1962
University Fellowship, U.C. (Berkeley), 1962-1963
Departmental prize for the best dissertation of the year, Department of Political
Science, U.C. (Berkeley), 1964
Mershon Center for Education in National Security, Ohio State University,
research fellowship, summer, 1964
American Philosophical Society, research grants, France, Summer, 1965, 1970
and 1986
Fulbright Research Grant, France, 1969
National Endowment for the Humanities, Summer Research Grant, 1976, 1989
George R. Brown Award for Superior Teaching, 1993, 1996, 1997, 2001
George R. Brown Teaching Excellence Award, 1994, 2002
George R. Brown Certificate of Highest Merit-Lifetime Teaching Award, 2005

Teaching Experience:

Teaching Assistant, Head Teaching Assistant, U.C. (Berkeley), 1958-1960
Research Assistant, U.C. (Berkeley), 1960-1961
Instructor, U.S. (Berkeley), 1963-1964
Assistant Professor, Rice University, 1964-1967
Associate Professor, Rice University, 1967-1971
Professor, Rice University, 1971-2003

Professor Emeritus, 2003-present
Associate Chairman for Political Science, 1966-1967
Chairman, Department of Political Science, 1979-1982

Field: Comparative Politics (particularly Western Europe)

Courses Taught:

British Government and Politics
Seminars in Comparative Politics
American parties and politics
Political Science Honors Program (U.C.)
European Democracies
Graduate Core Course in Comparative Politics
Introduction to Comparative Politics
Comparative Communist Political Systems
Comparative Public Policy
Comparative Electoral Behavior
Contemporary Political Ideologies
Intellectual Foundations of the Social Sciences

Publications:

Books

The French Welfare State: Surviving Social and Ideological Change, editor and co-author. New York University Press, 1991
The French Socialist Experiment, editor and co-author. I.S.H.I. Foundation, 1985
The Government and Politics of France. Houghton-Mifflin, 1971
The French Army in Politics, 1945-1962. Ohio State University Press, 1966. (Paperback edition, entitled *Soldiers Against the State*. Doubleday Anchor, 1968)

Articles and Book Chapters

“Politics and Policy in French Education,” in Peter Hall and Alain Guyomarch, eds., Developments in French Politics. Houndmills, UK: Palgrave/Macmillan, 2001.
“France, Europeanism, Nationalism and the Planned Economy,” with Shawn Reichert, in Eleanor Zeff and Ellen Piro, eds., The European Union and the Member States. Boulder: Lynne Rienner Publishers, 2001.

- "Education Policy and Equality: Some Evidence from Europe," Social Science Quarterly. 80:3 (September, 1999), with Jody Neathery.
- "Conflict and Consensus in French Education," in Martin Schain and John Keeler, eds., Chirac's Challenge: Liberalization, Europeanization and Malaise in France, 1996. St. Martin's/Macmillan
- "Who Benefits from Educational Choice? Some Evidence from Europe." Journal of Policy Analysis and Management. 13:4 (Summer, 1994), 454-476
Reprinted in Elchanan Cohn, ed., Market Approaches to Education, Pergamon, 1997.
- "Why French Education Policy is So Often Made in the Streets." French Politics and Society. 12:2-3 (Spring-Summer, 1994), 41-64
- "Educational Pluralism in the French Fifth Republic," in George Ross and James F. Hollifield, eds., Searching for the New France. Routledge, 1991, 193-220
- "French Education and the Uniting of Europe," French Politics and Society, Summer, 1990, pp. 37-53
- "French Education and the Limits of State Autonomy," Western Political Quarterly, September, 1988
- "Constraints on Policy Innovation in Education: Thatcher's Britain and Mitterrand's France," Comparative Politics 20:1 (1987), pp. 85-105
Reprinted in Anne Corbett and Bob Moon, eds. Education in France: Continuity and Change in the Mitterrand Years, 1981-1995. London: Routledge, 1996.
- "Neocorporatism and the Politics of French Education," West European Politics, July, 1985.
- "French Socialism in Comparative Perspective," in Ambler, ed., The French Socialist Experiment, 1985
- "Equality and the Politics of Education," in Ambler, ed., The French Socialist Experiment, 1985
- "Is the French Left Doomed to Fail?" in Ambler, ed., The French Socialist Experiment, 1985
- "French Education: The Socialist Record." French Politics and Society, September, 1984
- "Politicization of Higher Education in Britain and France," Policy Studies Journal, September, 1981
- The Politics of French University Reform: Ten Years After May," Contemporary French Civilization, Fall, 1978
- "Trust in Political and Nonpolitical Authorities in France," Comparative Politics, October, 1975
- "The Democratic Union for the Republic: To Survive de Gaulle," Rice University Studies, Summer 1968

Papers Delivered to Conferences, 1977-:

- "Barriers to Decentralization in French Government: the Case of Education," American Political Science Association, Annual Meetings September 1, 1977, Washington, D.C.

- "The Politics of French University Reform," France: A Symposium, The University of Texas at Austin, March 6-8, 1978.
- "The French Communist Party: Sources of Strength and Fear of Victory," Keynote address, Symposium on Euro-Communism, Colorado Springs, Colorado, April 17-19, 1978.
- "Equality and Education in France and Britain," Conference of Europeanists, Washington, D.C., March 30, 1979.
- "Public Choices in the Expansion of Higher Education: Britain and France, 1950-1975," International Studies Association, Annual Meetings, March 20-22, 1980, Los Angeles, California.
- "Politicization of Higher Education in Britain and France," International Studies Association, Annual Meetings, March 19, 1981, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania.
- "Equality and the Politics of Education in France," American Political Science Association, Denver, September, 1982.
- "Neocorporatism and the Politics of Education in France," American Political Science Association, Chicago, September, 1983.
- Why Don't Parties and Elections Matter More? Education Policy under Thatcher's Britain and Mitterrand's France," Washington, Conference of Europeanists, October, 1985.
- "Who Controls French Education? Power Sharing in a Centralized State," Washington, American Political Science Association, August, 1986.
- "The Politics of French Private Education," Chicago, American Political Science Association, August, 1987.
- "Educational Pluralism in the French Fifth Republic," Brandeis University Conference on "In Search of the New France." May 1988.
- "French Education and the Uniting of Europe," Atlanta, American Political Science Association, September, 1989.
- "Politics, Markets, Schools: The European Experience," International Conference of Europeanists, Chicago, March 1991.
- "Protest and Policy in French Education," American Political Science Association, Annual Meetings, Washington, September, 1993.
- "Conflict and Consensus in French Education," European Consortium for Political Research, Bordeaux, France, April, 1995.
- "Education Policy and Equality: Some Evidence from Europe," American Political Science Association, San Francisco, September, 1996.
- "Rational Choice Theory and the Study of European Politics," Western Political Science Association, Los Angeles, March 19-21, 1998.
- "The Study of French Politics: Past, Present, Future," American Political Science Association, Atlanta, September, 1999
- "Political Parties and Interest Groups in France," American Political Science Association, Philadelphia, September, 2003

Selected Lectures:

- "The Politics of French Education" and "French Socialism in Comparative Perspective," University of Washington, March 1984.
- "The 1984 U.S. Presidential Election," given in English to the British-American Parliamentary Group in the House of Commons, London, and in French in Liege, Belgium, Port au Prince, Haiti, and Cap Haitian, Haiti, July and August 1984.
- "Les Elections Presidentielles aux Etats-Unis: 1988" and "Les Consequences des Elections: Une comparaison entre la France et les Etats-Unis." Lome, Togo; Bamako, Mali; and Abidjan, Ivory Coast, February-March, 1988.
- "The Americanization of French Politics," Houston, The Alliance Francaise, April 19, 1988.
- "The New French Revolution," River Oaks Rotary Club, July 8, 1986.
- "The Uniting of Europe," Rice Continuing Studies Series on Contemporary History, October 16, 1989.
- "The European Common Market in the Global Community," Rice Continuing Studies Series on the Economic Summit, April 30, 1990.
- "The Rise and Decline of Communism," Rice Continuing Studies, five lectures, September-November 1991.
- "The Berlin Wall: An Historical Perspective," for the dedication of a section of the Berlin Wall at Rice University, January 1992.
- "The Uniting of Europe," University Rotary Club, May, 1992 and Houston Model United Nations, February, 1993.
- "Where and Why Does Democracy Work?" Continuing Studies "Best of Rice" series, September 27, 1994.
- "The Americanization of France," Association of Rice Women, January, 1995; and Brown College Symposium, March, 1995.
- "France: History, Politics, Society," to a group from Union Carbide, sponsored by Prudential Relocation, March 1, 1995; Similar lectures on Sweden, Belgium, Italy, also for Prudential Relocation, Fall 1995.
- "The Welfare State: Coping with Crises in Europe," Continuing Studies "Best of Rice" Series, October 8, 1996.
- "The Crisis of Education: A European Perspective," Continuing Studies "Thirty Years of George R. Brown Teaching Award Winners" Series, October 15, 1997.
- "Italian Politics," to a conference sponsored by The National Italian American Foundation, .
- "Strains in the Western Alliance: Causes and Consequences," Rice Alumni College Lecture, March, 12, 2004
- "Democracy in Europe", Rice Alumni College Lecture, February 25, 2005

Current Research:

- (1) The Politics of French Education
- (2) Comparative Education Policy
- (3) How European policy is made in France

Memberships:

American Political Science Association
Southern Political Science Association

Other Activities and Awards at Rice University and in the Houston Community:

Speaker of the Faculty Council, 1975-1977
Member, University Council, 1973-1978, 1989-1990, 1999-2002
Faculty Associate, Brown College, 1965-present
Graduate Advisor, Department of Political Science, 1972-1976, 1987-1988
Member, Steering Committee, Rice University Self-Study, 1983-1984
Chair, Ad Hoc Committee on Distribution Courses, 1984-1985
Chair, Ad Hoc Committee on Freshman and Sophomore Advising, 1988
Social Science Divisional Advisor, Brown College, 1988-present
Chair, Committee on Teaching, 1994-present
President, Houston Philosophical Society, 1984-1985.
Chairman, Houston Committee on Foreign Relations, 1988-1989.
Brown College (Rice University) Teaching Excellence Award, 1968 and
Outstanding Associate's Award, 1988, 1990, 1996, 1997, 2000
Member, Faculty Handbook Committee, 1996-97
Member, University Curriculum Committee, 1999-2001