

## Government 1521 Second Paper Question

Read either (a) Chapters 3, 5, 6 and 8 of Skowronek, *Building a New American State*, or (b) the assigned sections of Kaufman, *The Forest Ranger*. Choose one of these sets of readings, **either (a) or (b) but not both**, for your paper.

Now, using two of the four theoretical frameworks reviewed in our course thus far – (1) Weberian/contingency, (2) behavioral/cognitive, (3) contractual/transaction-cost, and (4) cultural/reputational – address the two following questions:

(a) how do these two theories illuminate features of the narrative? What successful “predictions” or interpretations do these theories offer? In other words, what about the narratives do these two theories explain well?

(b) how does the narrative show the limits of these theories? In other words, what would these theories predict that does not occur in these cases, and what occurs in these cases that is not predicted or well explained by the theory?

Your paper should be four to six pages, double spaced, and should be submitted by Friday, April 3, 2009, 8PM. In order to qualify for an on-time submission of your paper, one electronic copy of the paper should be sent to Professor Carpenter at [dcarpenter@gov.harvard.edu](mailto:dcarpenter@gov.harvard.edu), no later than 8:31:00 PM of the due date.