

## Theses I wish someone would write

### Macro-history

Why did the Eastern Roman Empire consolidate dynastic imperial rule after Constantine, while the Western Roman Empire failed to do so?

What is the effect of new communication technologies on political mobilization?

Testing *Guns, Germs, and Steel*: What is the relationship between the availability of cultivable lands, domesticable animals, and the rise of complex societies?

### Comparative politics

What determined the extension of women's suffrage?

Various topics on leadership (e.g., How do mechanisms of leadership selection affect leadership quality?)

What are the effects of electoral rules on public satisfaction with democracy?

Various topics on candidate appearance (facial, non-facial, etc.)

### International Relations

What determines the size of militaries (topography, external borders, country size, etc.)?

### American politics

What explains variation in political engagement among college students in the U.S.?

To what degree does politics affect FEMA and other DHS grants?

What is the effect of ethnic diversity in the workplace on productivity?

What explains the timing of African-American disenfranchisement in the former Confederate states after Reconstruction.

### Political communication

What causes "rally-around-the-flag" effects?

What is the effect of shorter "sound bites" on audience recall?

What is the effect on non-verbal audio cues (e.g., music) in political ads?

### Political economy

What determines the nature of bank bailout packages -- in Mexico (1996-2003), Japan, the U.S. (Saving & Loan), Korea (since 1999), Chile (1980s), Czech Republic, Russia, etc.?

Why did the Washington Consensus include the policies it did?

What is the effect of terms-of-trade shocks on politics in developing countries?

Does the “resource curse” hold when “matching” is used instead of conventional statistical methods?

What is the relationship between economic performance and presidential approval across countries?

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