Session 3

Political Formations
Lewis Henry Morgan: *Ancient Society* (1877, p. 61)
- descent group and tribe
- territory and property

Maine (1861) status or contract

Engels (1972 [1884]) kinship or territory

Durkheim (1933 [1893]) mechanical solidarity or organic solidarity

Mauss (1954 [1925]) gift exchange or exchange of commodities
Meyer Fortes and E.E. Evans-Pritchard (1940, pp. 5-6):

“primitive states”—operating on the basis of office
or
“stateless societies”—organized on principles of descent
MID-20TH-CENTURY EVOLUTIONIST APPROACHES:

Elman Service (1962):

Bands ("egalitarian") \rightarrow Uncentralized
Tribes ("ranked")
Chiefdoms ("stratified") \rightarrow Centralized
States