

University of Rochester – IR 212
Spring 2012
Tuesdays/Thursdays – 9:40-10:55
Meliora 209

Democratization in Non-Western Societies

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Course description: This course offers a survey of the leading literature in comparative politics on democratization in Non-Western societies. The central questions we will address are: Why have some countries made a successful transition to democracy, but not others? Why are some democracies more stable than others? Should the United States use its military power to promote democracies or should democracies be allowed to emerge endogenously? Why have political protests in Egypt succeeded in triggering a democratic transition, but not in Syria?

Readings: All reading materials for this class will be made available electronically through Blackboard. I keep the right to make changes to the syllabus, but you will be notified of any changes well in advance.

Requirements: This class is structured as a seminar course. Although I will occasionally lecture on some topics, much of our class time will be spent on discussing and critiquing the assigned readings. To facilitate discussions, you will be called upon to lead discussions in small groups each week. In addition, at the beginning of each week, the discussion leading group selected for that week will submit a 3-4 page (double-spaced) critical summary of the assigned readings, which will be circulated to the rest of the class (these should be sent to me by no later than Monday noon) . Beyond leading discussions, you are also expected to participate actively in the discussions and I will be free to call upon you to participate even if you do not volunteer. Active participation implies not only doing the required reading, but also thinking about it enough to form some original opinions to share with other seminar participants.

Please note, given the structure of the course, regular attendance is expected. More than 2 unexcused absences might affect your class participation grade by half a letter grade. More than 5 accumulated absences will result in 0% for the class participation portion of your overall grade. **Excused absences** require documentation such as a note from your advisor or the UHS.

The writing assignments for the course will include two mid-semester examinations and a 12-15 page (double-spaced) final paper. For the paper, students will choose a country that is formally democratic but not yet fully consolidated or one that has not yet made the transition to democracy and analyze the problems democracy faces, the potential solutions to those problems, and offer recommendations as to whether the U.S. should try to promote democracy in that country, and if so, how. The country to be analyzed should be decided by you in consultation with me prior to the spring break. The paper will be due on May 9. **LATE ESSAYS WILL BE GIVEN A LOWER GRADE: one-third letter grade per day late.** Example: An “A” paper two days late will drop to a “B+”. **Incompletes** are not allowed.

Academic Honesty: A plagiarized paper will not receive any points. Plagiarism will result in a failing grade for the course and sanctions determined by the University’s Academic Honesty board.

Grading:

Class Participation - 10%
Discussion Groups – 10 %
First Mid-Semester Exam – 20%
Second Mid-Semester Exam – 20%
Final paper – 40%

Classroom Etiquette: You deserve a Professor who does not read his newspaper, listen to his I-pod, answer his cell-phone, use his laptop to access Facebook or otherwise demonstrate a lack of respect for you during class discussion and lectures. Your Professor deserves students who demonstrate the same level of respect.

Course Calendar:

January 19: Introduction

Democracy: Definition and Measurement

January 24:

Read:

Philippe C. Schmitter and Terry Lynn Karl, "What Democracy Is...And is Not," *Journal of Democracy*, (Summer 1991), pp. 75-88.

Fareed Zakaria, "The Rise of Illiberal Democracy," *Foreign Affairs*, Vol. 76, No. 6 (November/December 1997), pp. 22-43.

January 26:

Read:

David Collier and Steven Levitsky, "Democracy with Adjectives: Conceptual Innovation in Comparative Research," *World Politics*, Vol. 49, No. 3 (April 1997), pp. 430-451.

The Western Route to Democracy

January 31:

Read:

Barrington Moore, *Social Origins of Dictatorship and Democracy* (Beacon Press, 1966) Chapter 1.

February 2:

Read:

Brian Downing, *The Military Revolution and Political Change: Origins of Democracy and Autocracy in Early Modern Europe* (Princeton: Princeton University Press, 1992), TBA.

Strategic Choices and Democratization

February 7:

Read:

Terry Lynn Karl, "Dilemmas of Democratization in Latin America," *Comparative Politics*, Vol. 23(1), 1990: 1-21.

Michael Bratton and Nicholas Van de Walle, "Popular Protest and Political Reform in Africa," *Comparative Politics*, 1992, 24 (4), 419-442.

February 9:

Read:

Terence Lee, "The Armed Forces and Transitions from Authoritarian Rule: Explaining the Role of the Military in 1986 Philippines and 1998 Indonesia," *Comparative Political Studies*, Vol. 42. No. 5, 2009: 640-669.

Breakdown of Authoritarian Rule and Democratization

February 14:

Read:

Timur Kuran, "Now out of Never: The Element of Surprise in the East European Revolution of 1989," *World Politics*, 44 (October 1991): 7-48.

February 16:

Read:

Elizabeth Jean Wood, "An Insurgent Path to Democracy: Popular Mobilization, Economic Interests, and Regime Transition in South Africa and El Salvador." *Comparative Political Studies*, 34, no. 8 (October 2001): 862-888.

Economic Reforms and Democratization

February 21:

Read:

Adam Przeworski, *Democracy and the Market* (Cambridge University Press, 1991) Chapter 2.

Stephan Haggard and Robert R. Kaufman, "The Political Economy of Democratic Transitions," *Comparative Politics*, Vol. 29(3), 1997: 263-283.

February 23:

Read:

Mary Elizabeth Gallagher, "Reform and Openness": Why China's Economic Reforms Have Delayed Democracy. *World Politics*, Vol. 54(3), 2002: 338-372.

February 28: Review

March 2: First Mid-Term

Diffusion and Democratization

March 7:

Read:

Samuel P. Huntington, *The Third Wave: Democratization in the Late Twentieth Century* (Norman and London: University of Oklahoma Press, 1991), Chapter 6.

Jeffrey S. Kopstein and David A. Reilly, "Geographic Diffusion and the Transformation of the Postcommunist World." *World Politics*, 53 (October 2000): 1-37.

March 9:

Read:

Daniel Brinks and Michael Coppedge, "Diffusion Is No Illusion: Neighbor Emulation in the Third Wave of Democracy," *Comparative Political Studies* 39(4), 2006: 463-489.

March 14: Spring Break

March 16: Spring Break

Democracy without Preconditions?

March 21:

Read:

Michael L. Ross, "Does Oil Hinder Democracy?" *World Politics* 53:3 (April 2001): 325-361.

March 23:

Read:

M. Steven Fish, "Islam and Authoritarianism," *World Politics*, Vol. 55(1), 2002: 4-37.

Democratic Consolidation: Definition and Measurement

March 28:

Read:

Juan J. Linz and Alfred Stepan, *Problems of Democratic Transition and Consolidation: Southern Europe, South America, and Post-Communist Society* (Baltimore, MD: Johns Hopkins University Press, 1990) Chapter 1.

Andreas Schedler, "What is Democratic Consolidation?" *Journal of Democracy*, Vol. 9(2), April 1998 : 91-107.

March 30:

Read:

Mark J. Gasiorowski and Timothy J. Power, "Institutional Design and Democratic Consolidation in the Third World," *Comparative Political Studies* 30, no. 2, 1997: 123-155.

Ethnicity and Democratic Consolidation

April 3:

Read:

Jack Snyder, *From Voting to Violence: Democratization and Nationalist Conflict*, 2000, 15 –42.

Abu Bakkar Bah, "Democracy and Civil War: Citizenship and Peacemaking in Cote D'Ivoire," *African Affairs*, 109 (437), 2010, 597-615.

April 5:

Read:

Mark R. Beissinger, "A New Look at Ethnicity and Democratization." *Journal of Democracy* 19, no. 3, 2008: 85-97.

April 10: Review

April 12: Second Mid-Term

Exporting Democracy

April 17:

Read:

Laurence Whitehead, "The Imposition of Democracy," in Abraham F. Lowenthal, ed., *Exporting Democracy: United States and Latin America* (Baltimore: The John Hopkins University Press, 1991).

Larry Diamond, "Building Democracy after Conflict: Lessons from Iraq," *Journal of Democracy*, 16 (January 2005), 9-23.

April 19:Read:

Bruce Bueno de Mesquita and George W. Downs, "Intervention and Democracy," *International Organization*, 60 (Summer 2006), 627-649.

Thomas Carothers, "The "Sequencing" Fallacy," *Journal of Democracy*, 18 (January 2007), 12-27.

Arab Spring**April 24:**Read:

Peter Schraeder and Hamadi Redissi, "Ben Ali's Fall," *Journal of Democracy*, July 2011, 5-19.

Tarek Masoud, "The Road to (and from) Liberation Square," *Journal of Democracy*, July 2011, 20-34.

Philip Howard and Muzammil Hussain, "The Role of Digital Media," *Journal of Democracy*, July 2011, 35-48.

April 26:Read:

Lisa Anderson, "Demystifying the Arab Spring: Parsing the Differences between Tunisia, Egypt, and Libya," *Foreign Affairs*, May/ June 2011, 2-7.

Jack Goldstone, "Understanding the Revolutions of 2011: Weakness and Resilience in Middle Eastern Autocracies," *Foreign Affairs*, May/ June 2011, 8-16.

Michael Ross, "Will Oil Drown the Arab Spring: Democracy and the Resource Curse," *Foreign Affairs*, September/October 2011, 2-7.

May 1: Review