

# **POLS 3345 Democracy and Democratization**

## **Fall 2018**

Instructor: Dr. Taeko Hiroi

Office: Benedict Hall 312

Office Hours: M 3:00-4:00, W 9:30-10:15, and by appointment

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Class Time/Location: MW 10:30-11:50/ Education Building 303

### **Course Description**

This course surveys major themes in democracy and democratization. Since the 1970s, a number of countries have started their transitions towards democracy. Many seem to have successfully completed the transition while others have been struggling to maintain and consolidate their fledgling democracy. Some have experienced democratic reversal.

In this course, we seek to answer: (1) How is democracy defined and measured?; (2) Why do some countries democratize while others do not?; (3) Why do some countries enjoy stable democratic regimes whereas others experience democratic instability and collapse?; (4) How does the design of political institutions foster or hinder the stability and effectiveness of democracy?; and (5) What are some of the obstacles to fair and effective political representation? This course is organized around thematic topics and analyze specific examples from around the world.

Throughout this course, you will develop global awareness, critical thinking, and research skills through both individual and team work.

### **Course Objectives**

Upon the successful completion of the course, you will be able to:

- 1) define the principal elements of democracy;
- 2) analyze and classify various societies based on the degrees and attributes of democracy;
- 3) explain the causes of democratization, democratic consolidation, and democratic breakdowns;
- 4) develop expertise on democracy and democratization in a specific world region and a country;
- 5) design and evaluate democratic political institutions; and
- 6) analyze how electoral systems and boundaries affect political representation.

## Course Text

The following books are available for purchase through the University's bookstore.

Christian W. Haerpfer, Patrick Bernhagen, Ronald F. Inglehart, and Christian Welzel, eds. 2009. *Democratization*. Oxford University Press.

Richard A. Clucas and Melody Ellis Valdini. 2015. *The Character of Democracy: How Institutions Shape Politics*. Oxford University Press.

Other assigned readings are available online through the UTEP library.

## Course Requirements

### Class participation

I expect every student to contribute to our collective learning by coming to every class, having completed assigned readings, and being prepared to discuss them. You will be evaluated on both the quality and quantity of your participation.

Please note that some of the class sessions may occur online through Blackboard in order to facilitate and encourage different forms of learning and participation. You will be notified ahead of time when online class sessions are scheduled.

### Readings

You are expected to complete reading assignments before the class period for which they are assigned. Doing assigned readings before class sessions will help you better understand the lecture and make useful contributions to class discussions. Lectures may not necessarily duplicate assigned readings. However, you will be responsible for acquainting yourself with the materials in the readings. The reading schedule is found at the end of this syllabus. I reserve the right to assign you short additional readings as appropriate.

### Assignment #1: Evaluating Democratic Status

You will evaluate the democratic status of a country using the evaluation tools and criteria you will learn in this course. I will assign you to a specific country that you need to analyze. I will hand out the assignment instructions on the course's Blackboard page. The evaluation report is *due on September 26 at the beginning of the class*. Because we will discuss these materials in class, you will receive no more than 50% of the grade if you turn in your report late. Assignments that are more than three days late will not be accepted for grades.

### Assignment #2: Regions of Democratization Presentation

You will develop regional expertise, team work, and presentation skills through this assignment. At the beginning of the semester, students will be assigned to one of the six world regions: Southern Europe, Latin America, Post-Communist Europe and Post-Soviet Russia, the Middle East and North Africa, Sub-Saharan Africa, and Asia. Each regional team will conduct research on the patterns of, and issues in, democracy and democratization in the region, develop a 20 to

25-minute power point presentation, and present it in class. Team assignments and presentation schedule will be determined in class.

### **Assignment #3: Vote Count Exercise**

In this assignment, you will tally votes and determine winners under various electoral rules. The assignment instructions will be given on the course's Blackboard page. The assignment is *due on November 19 at the beginning of the class*. We will discuss and solve the questions on the due date in class. Therefore, you will not receive a grade if you turn in your assignment late.

### **Assignment #4: Apportionment and Redistricting Exercise**

You will perform a series of exercises using online resources to understand how citizens' representational rights can be infringed upon even in a democratic country and think about how to ensure that everyone's vote counts equally. Detailed instructions will be given on Blackboard. Assignment # 4 is due on *November 28* in class. One full letter grade will be subtracted for each day of delay past the due date. Assignments that are more than three days late will not be accepted for grades.

### **Course exam: Wednesday, December 5**

A comprehensive course exam will be given on *December 5*. Questions will be based on the readings, lectures, and class discussions. A study guide will be available on Blackboard prior to the exam.

\*Please do not be late. If you arrive more than 10 minutes late, you will not be allowed to enter the exam room and your exam is considered missed. I will consider giving a make-up exam only for a valid, documented emergency.

## **Grades**

Course grades are determined as follows:

<b>Course Requirement</b>	<b>Weight</b>
Course exam	25%
Assignment #1	15%
Assignment #2	20%
Assignment #3	15%
Assignment #4	15%
Class Participation	10%

<b>Course Grade Scale</b>	
90% ≤	A
80% ≤ & < 90%	B
70% ≤ & < 80%	C
60% ≤ & < 70%	D
<60%	F

## Course Materials

Course materials are intended for your personal use only. An unauthorized use, dissemination, distribution, publication or replication of course materials is strictly prohibited. Course materials refer to those made available to you through this course and/or by me and teaching assistants. They include, but are not limited to, materials made available on Blackboard (such as power point slides, lecture outlines, and supplementary readings), study guides, and exams.

## Course Policy

Please comply with the following policies to maintain an effective and pleasant learning environment for everyone.

- **No electronic devices are allowed during the class.** This includes, but is not limited to, cell phones, laptops, and tablet computers. If you bring them to class, they must be turned off and stored in your bag at all times. If you need to keep your cell phone on for emergency, please notify the professor ahead of time.
- **Please maintain respectful and appropriate behavior within and outside the classroom.** Meaningful and constructive dialogue is encouraged in this class, which requires mutual respect, willingness to listen, and tolerance of opposing points of view. Respect for individual differences and alternative viewpoints will be maintained at all times. One's words and use of language should be temperate and within acceptable bounds of civility and decency. Disruptive behaviors, including excessive talking, arriving late to class, leaving class early, sleeping, reading newspapers or books, and using unauthorized electronic devices (including taking pictures or video- or voice-recording) during class meetings, are not permitted. Repetitive and/or seriously disruptive behavior, including, but not limited to, fighting, using profanity, personal or physical threats or insults, displaying hostility or rudeness towards other students, TAs, or the professor, and damaging property, may result in your removal from class, and reporting to the Dean of Students and/or police. Expectation of respectful and appropriate behavior extends beyond the physical classroom.
- Please note that some of the class sessions may occur online through Blackboard. You will be notified ahead of time when online class sessions are scheduled.
- Please check the course's Blackboard page often. I may distribute handouts and make announcements on Blackboard as well as in class meetings.
- **Arrive early on the exam day.** If you arrive more than 10 minutes late, you will not be allowed to enter the exam room unless prior arrangements are made with the professor. Anticipate potential problems. Traffic and parking are constant problems in El Paso and at UTEP. Tardiness will not be a valid justification for a make-up exam.

- **Make-up exams are considered only with a timely presentation of proper documentation indicating the nature of the emergency, and the make-up exam, if granted, must be taken no later than one week from the date of the missed exam.** Valid emergencies include an unexpected emergency room visit due to illness, death in your immediate family, etc. Regular, scheduled appointments with your doctors are not considered emergencies. No make-up exams will be given for missing an exam due to tardiness. If you miss an exam without a valid documented emergency, please do not request a make-up exam. Due to university policy and fairness to other students, it will not be granted. Please note that make-up exams may have content and style that are different from the original exams.
- You are welcome to email me if you have questions or need to make an appointment. Please **use your UTEP email and provide your name, your UTEP ID number, and the class to which you are referring.** Please do not call to inquire about your class performance. Due to confidentiality, I will not be able to discuss these matters over the phone.

### **Academic Integrity and Scholastic Dishonesty**

Academic dishonesty is NEVER tolerated by UTEP or the Department of Political Science. All cases are reported to the Dean of Students for possible disciplinary action. All work submitted must be original and your own; students may not submit graded work from another course. Forms of academic dishonesty include, but are not limited to, cheating, collusion, and plagiarism. **Cheating** may involve communicating with another student or possessing unauthorized materials during a test. Falsifying research data, reports, or academic work offered for credit is also a form of cheating. **Collusion** involves collaborating with another person to commit any academically dishonest act. One example of collusion is preparing a discussion post for another person or having someone prepare a discussion post for you. **Plagiarism** involves the presentation of another person's work as your own, whether you mean to or not. For example, if you copy parts of or whole papers off the Internet without proper citation of the sources, it is a form of plagiarism. Lack of proper citation of sources is considered plagiarism even if borrowed ideas are paraphrased.

### **Accommodations**

If you have a disability and need classroom accommodations, please contact the Center for Accommodations and Support Services (CASS) at 747-5148, or by email to [cass@utep.edu](mailto:cass@utep.edu), or visit their office located in UTEP Union East, Room 106. For additional information, please visit the CASS website at [www.sa.utep.edu/cass](http://www.sa.utep.edu/cass). CASS staff are the only individuals who can validate and if need be, authorize accommodations for students with disabilities.

## Course Schedule

Note: The following is a *tentative* schedule. You will be notified of any changes made to this schedule.

### **Aug 27: Introduction**

Haerpfer et al. Introduction.

### **Aug 29, Sep 5, 10: What Is Democracy—Defining Democracy**

Haerpfer et al., Ch. 2

Clucas & Valdini, Ch. 1

### **Sep 12, 17: How Do We Know—Measuring Democracy**

Haerpfer et al., Ch. 3

David Collier and Steven Levitsky (1997), “Democracy with Adjectives,” *World Politics*, Vol. 49, No. 3, pp. 430-451. (Library e-journal)

### **Sep 19, 24: Waves of Democratization**

Haerpfer et al., Chs. 4 & 5

### **Sep 26: Evaluating Democracy: Discussion of Assignment #1**

*\*Assignment #1 due at the beginning of the class.*

### **Oct 1: Patterns of Democratization**

Haerpfer et al., Ch. 6, pp. 82-89

### **Oct 3, 8, 10: Economic Causes of Democratization**

Haerpfer et al., Ch. 6, pp. 74-81, Ch. 8

### **Oct 15, 17: Cultural & Societal Causes of Democratization**

Haerpfer et al., Ch. 6, p. 80, Chs. 9 & 11

- Regions of democratization presentation 1.

### **Oct 22, 24: Democratization and the International Context**

Haerpfer et al., Ch. 6, pp. 81-82, Ch. 7

- Regions of democratization presentation 2.

### **Oct 29, 31: Democratic Consolidation & Failed Democratization**

Haerpfer et al., Ch. 17

- Regions of democratization presentation 3.

### **Nov 5, 7: Elections & Electoral Systems**

Haerpfer et al., Ch. 15

Clucas & Valdini, Ch. 3

**Nov 12, 14: Political Parties**

Haerpfer et al., Ch. 14

Clucas & Valdini, Ch. 4

- Regions of democratization presentation 4.

**\*Assignment #3** due at the beginning of class on **Nov 19**

**Nov 19, 21: Presidentialism, Parliamentarism, and Executive-Legislative Relations**

Clucas & Valdini, Ch. 5

Juan Linz. 1990. "The Perils of Presidentialism." *Journal of Democracy* Volume 1, Number 1: 51-69 (Library e-journal).

**Nov 26: Constitutional Design for Divided Societies**

Clucas & Valdini, Ch. 7

Arend Lijphart. 1985. "Non-Majoritarian Democracy: A Comparison of Federal and Consociational Theories." *Publius*, Vol. 15, No. 2, Federalism and Consociationalism: A Symposium: 3-15 (J-stor).

- Regions of democratization presentation 5.

**Nov 28, Dec 3: Issues in Political Representation: Malapportionment and Redistricting**

You will perform a series of exercises using online resources to understand how citizens' representational rights can be infringed upon even in a democratic country and think about how to ensure that everyone's vote counts equally.

- Regions of democratization presentation 6.

**\*Assignment #4** due at the beginning of the class on **Nov 28**

**Dec 5: Course Exam**