

POLS 3345 Democracy and Democratization

Fall 2022

Instructor: Dr. Taeko Hiroi

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Office Hours: Tuesdays 1:30-2:30 and by appointment

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Class Time/Location: TR 10:30-11:50/ Physical Science Building 314

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.

UTEP Edge: Throughout this course, you will develop global awareness, critical thinking, and research skills through both individual and teamwork.

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 breakdown;
- 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, Christian Welzel, and Ronald F. Inglehart, eds. 2019. *Democratization*. Second Edition. 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 occur online through Blackboard and Zoom 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.

Assigned Reading

You are expected to complete assigned readings before the class period for which they are assigned. Doing assigned reading 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 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 20 at the beginning of the class*. Because we will discuss evaluation reports in class on the due date, you will receive no more than 70% of the grade if you turn in your report late. Assignments that are more than two days late will not be accepted for grade.

Assignment #2: Redistricting (Gerrymandering) and Democracy

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, including assigned readings for this exercise, will be given on Blackboard. Assignment # 2 is due on *Thursday, October 6. Submit your report and required documents on Blackboard's designated submission area*. One full letter grade will be subtracted for each day of delay past the due date. Assignments that are more than two days late will not be accepted for grade.

Assignment #3: Electoral Systems Simulation and 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 October 13 at the beginning of the class*. We will discuss and solve the questions in class on the due date. Therefore, you will not receive a grade if you turn in your assignment late.

Assignment #4: 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 15-minute power point presentation. Teams will present their work on **December 1**. The power point presentation slides should be submitted at the beginning of class.

Course Exam: Thursday, December 8 @ 10 am-12:45 pm

A **comprehensive online course exam** will be given on *December 8* via Blackboard. Questions will be based on the readings, lectures, and class discussions. A study guide will be available on Blackboard prior to the exam. You must enable the online proctoring software Repondus Lockdown Browser and Monitor to take the exam. You must start the exam at 10 am. Please do not be late. No make-up exam will be given except under a valid documented emergency.

Grades

Course grades are determined as follows:

Course Requirement	Weight
Course exam	30%
Assignment #1	15%
Assignment #2	15%
Assignment #3	15%
Assignment #4	15%
Class Participation	10%

Course Grade Scale	
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 or teaching assistant. They include, but are not limited to, materials made available on Blackboard (such as power point slides, lecture outlines, and supplementary readings), assignment instructions, study guides, and exams.

Course Policy

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

- **No electronic and/or recording devices are allowed during the class session without permission.** This includes, but is not limited to, cell phones, laptops, and tablet computers. If you would like to use a laptop for note-taking, please ask first. No internet browsing, texting, and other activities unrelated to class is allowed. Please keep your electronic devices, including your phone, in silent mode during class meetings.
- **Please maintain respectful and appropriate behavior.** 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 the police. Expectation of respectful and appropriate behavior extends beyond the physical classroom.
- Please note that some of the class sessions will occur online. The course schedule indicates scheduled online sessions. There may be additional online sessions as needed. You will be notified ahead of time if additional online 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.
- **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 as soon as possible.** 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, 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. CASS staff are the only individuals who can validate and if need be, authorize accommodations for students with disabilities. Please see me at the beginning of the semester to discuss your accommodations.

Course Schedule

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

Aug 23: Introduction

Haerpfer et al. Ch. 1 Introduction.

Aug 25, 30: What Is Democracy—Defining Democracy

Haerpfer et al., Ch. 3 Democratic and Undemocratic States

Sep 1, 6: How Do We Know—Measuring Democracy

Haerpfer et al., Ch. 4 Measuring Democracy and Democratization

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

Sep 8, 13: Historical Waves of Democratization

Haerpfer et al., Ch. 5 Long Waves and Conjunctures of Democratization; Ch. 6 The Global Wave of Democratization

Sep 15: Academic Integrity Presentation

by the Office of Student Conduct and Conflict Resolution (OSCCR)

Sep 20: Evaluating Democracy: Discussion of Assignment #1

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

Sep 22, 27, 29: Elections & Electoral Systems

Haerpfer et al., Ch. 13 Conventional Citizen participation; Ch. 15 Institutional Design in New Democracies

Oct 4, 6: Issues in Political Representation 1--Malapportionment and Redistricting (online)

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. An assignment instruction, including readings for this week, will be available on Bb.

**Assignment #2 due on Thursday, October 6. Submit on Bb's designated submission area.*

October 11 Electoral Systems Simulation Help Session (online)

**Assignment #3 due at the beginning of class on October 13*

October 13: Political Parties

Haerpfer et al., Ch. 14 Political Parties

Oct 18: Issues in Political Representation 2—Descriptive and Substantive Representation
Haerpfer et al., Ch. 10 Gender and Democratization

Oct 20: Regions of Democratization Team Work Session
Haerpfer et al., Part Four—Read the chapter on your team’s region

Oct 25, 27: Presidentialism, Parliamentarism, and Executive-Legislative Relations
Juan Linz. 1990. “The Perils of Presidentialism.” *Journal of Democracy* Volume 1, Number 1: 51-69 (Library e-journal).

Nov 1 : Constitutional Design for Divided Societies
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).

Nov3: Patterns of Democratization
Haerpfer et al., Ch. 2 Theories of Democratization; Ch. 12 Social Movements and Contention in Democratization Processes; Ch. 17 Social Media

Nov 8, 10: Economic Causes of Democratization
Haerpfer et al., Ch. 8 The Political Economy of Democracy

Nov 15: Cultural & Societal Causes of Democratization
Haerpfer et al., Ch. 9 Political Culture, Mass Beliefs, and Value Change; Ch. 11 Social Capital and Civil Society

Nov 17: Democratization and the International Context
Haerpfer et al., Ch. 7 The International Context; Ch 16 The Media

Nov 22: Regions of Democratization Team Work Session

Nov 29: Democratic Consolidation & Failed Democratization
Haerpfer et al., Ch. 18 A Decade of Democratic Decline and Stagnation

Dec 1: Regions of Democratization Presentations
**Assignment #4 due at the beginning of class on December 1*

Dec 8: Course Exam 10 pm-12:45 pm (online)