

**POLS 3345 Democracy and Democratization  
Spring 2017**

Instructor: Dr. Taeko Hiroi

Office: Benedict Hall 312

Office Hours: M 1:30-2:30, W 1-2, and by appointment

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Class Time/Location: MW 10:30-11:50/ Liberal Arts (LART) Building 103

### **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?; and (4) How does the design of political institutions foster or hinder the stability and effectiveness of democracy? This course is organized around thematic topics and analyze specific examples from around the world.

### **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;
- 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.

### Course assignments

#### ***Readings***

You are expected to complete reading assignments before the class period for which they are assigned. Doing assigned readings before class 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 specific instructions on the course's Blackboard page. The evaluation report is *due on February 13 at the beginning of the class*. Because we will discuss these materials in class, you will not receive a grade if you turn in your report late.

#### ***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 30-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. Specific instructions will be given on the course's Blackboard page. The assignment is *due on April 5 at the beginning of the class*. Because we will discuss these materials in class, 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 prior to this assignment. Assignment # 4 is due on *April 24* in class.

### Course exam: May 3

A comprehensive course exam will be given on **May 3**. Questions will be based on the readings, lectures, and class discussions. A study guide will be available on the Blackboard page prior to the exam. The exam will be in closed-book, closed-notes format and use a bluebook.

\*Please do not be late. No student will be allowed to enter the room after 10 minutes past the beginning of the scheduled exam time unless prior arrangements are made with me. 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 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 in order to maintain an effective and pleasant learning environment for everyone.

- **No electronic devices are allowed during the class.** This includes, but not limited to, cell phones, laptops, and netbook and tablet computers. If you bring them to class, they must be turned off and stored in your bag all the time. If you need to keep your cell phone on for emergency, please notify me ahead of time.

- No chatting, napping, e-mailing, internet browsing, or any activity not related to class is allowed during class hours. Those activities disturb other students who want to learn.
- Please check the course's Blackboard page often.
- **Arrive early on the exam day.** No student will be allowed to enter the classroom after 10 minutes past the beginning of the scheduled exam time unless prior arrangements are made with me. Tardiness will not be a valid excuse to request a make-up exam.
- I will consider giving make-up exams under valid, documented emergencies. If you need to take a make-up exam under these circumstances, please contact me prior to the exam (if you can).
- If you need to contact me, please send email to me ([thiroy@utep.edu](mailto:thiroy@utep.edu)) from your UTEP email address and include the course title, your name, and UTEP ID number.

### **Academic Dishonesty Policy**

Academic dishonesty is prohibited and is considered a violation of the UTEP Handbook of Operating Procedures. It includes, but is not limited to, cheating, plagiarism, and collusion. Cheating may involve copying from or providing information to another student, possessing unauthorized materials during a test, or falsifying research data on laboratory reports. Plagiarism occurs when someone intentionally or knowingly represents the words or ideas of another person's as one's own. And, collusion involves collaborating with another person to commit any academically dishonest act. Any act of academic dishonesty attempted by a UTEP student is unacceptable and will not be tolerated. Violations will be taken seriously and will be referred to the Office of Student Life for possible disciplinary action. Students may be suspended or expelled from UTEP for such actions. Refer to <http://sa.utep.edu/osccr/academic-integrity/> for further information.

### **Disabilities**

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.

### **January 18: Introduction**

Haerpfer et al. Introduction.

### **January 23-25: What Is Democracy—Defining Democracy**

Haerpfer et al., Ch. 2 and pp. 24-28

Clucas & Valdini, Ch. 1

### **January 30-February 1: 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)

### **February 6-8: Waves of Democratization**

Haerpfer et al., Chs. 4 & 5

### **February 13: Evaluating Democracy: Discussion of Assignment #1**

*\*Assignment #1 due in class.*

### **February 15: Patterns of Democratization**

Haerpfer et al., Ch. 6

### **February 20-22: Economic Causes of Democratization**

Haerpfer et al., Ch. 8

### **February 27-March 1: Cultural & Societal Causes of Democratization**

Haerpfer et al., Chs. 9 & 11

- Regions of democratization presentation 1.

### **March 6-8: Democratization and the International Context**

Haerpfer et al., Ch. 7

- Regions of democratization presentation 2.

### ***March 13-17: Spring Break!***

### **March 20-22: Democratic Consolidation & Failed Democratization**

Haerpfer et al., Ch. 17

- Regions of democratization presentation 3.

### **March 27-29: Elections & Electoral Systems**

Haerpfer et al., Ch. 15

Clucas & Valdini, Ch. 3

- Regions of democratization presentation 4.

### **April 3: Political Parties**

Haerpfer et al., Ch. 14

Clucas & Valdini, Ch. 4

### **April 5-10: 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).

**\*Assignment #3** due at the beginning of class on April 5

### **April 12-17: 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.

### **April 19-24: 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.

**\*Assignment #4** due at the beginning of the class on April 24

### **April 26-May 1: Issues in Political Representation: Women**

Haerpfer et al., Ch. 10

- Regions of democratization presentation 6.

### **May 3: Course Exam**