

PSCI 1100 Democracy in Theory and Practice
 Winter term 2017
 Lecture Mondays 8:35-10:25
 For location see Carleton Central

Professor: Andrea Chandler
Office: Loeb D694
Phone: 613-520-2600 ext 1418
Hours: Monday, 10:45-12:45; Tuesday, 11:30-1:30
E-mail: Andrea.Chandler@carleton.ca

Course Description:

This course will introduce students to political science by exploring one of its major themes. We will examine selected ideas and debates about democracy: what it is, how it works, and whether there is room for improvement. Democracy has many critics – most of whom focus on the practical difficulties of governing by popular consent -- but it remains one of the most enduring and respected political ideas that we have. Studying the concept of democracy allows us to bridge the historical past with contemporary politics, and to examine the many complexities facing states who make democratic commitments to their citizens. Students who complete this course successfully should be able to:

- show knowledge of basic concepts, and definitions of democracy,
- use critical reading effectively in order to demonstrate analytical understanding of key texts appropriate to first-year study,
- discuss, in a nuanced way, examples of how ideas about democracy are reflected and communicated in contemporary political life,
- write succinct and clear prose developing sound arguments on these themes, informed by careful reading and research.

The course is organized in order to meet these objectives. Students are expected to attend all lectures and to complete the required reading in advance of the class for which it is assigned. Students are expected to participate actively in a weekly discussion group, led by a teaching assistant (TA), in order to contribute to active group learning and to practice speaking skills. Students are encouraged to keep up with current events, in order to begin to appreciate how controversies over democracy are revealed in day-to-day political life.

Textbook: There are two textbooks for the course, which have been ordered for purchase for the Carleton University Library.

Robert A. Dahl, *On Democracy*, 2nd edition (with Ian Shapiro). New Haven, CT: Yale University Press, 2015. pbk ISBN 978-0-300-19446-3

Ricardo Blaug and John Schwarzmantel, eds. *Democracy: a Reader. Second edition.* New York: Columbia University Press, 2016. pbk ISBN 978-0-231-017413-8.

Course Requirements: The table below illustrates how the final grade will be calculated. A description of each component follows the table.

Attendance and participation in weekly discussion group, led by a teaching assistant	15%
Online midterm test, to be completed at CuLearn between 10:30 a.m. on February 6 and 5:00 p.m. on February 13	20%
Written assignment	30%, due in hard copy on or before March 27
Final examination	35%, to be scheduled during the formal exam period of April 10-25

Attendance and participation: 15% Beginning January 23, students are required to attend a weekly discussion group, led by a teaching assistant. Students are expected to participate actively in class discussions, and to demonstrate an understanding of the readings on the day for which they are assigned. Students should arrive in discussion groups prepared to discuss questions posted in advance on CuLearn. Participation is defined as contributing to the class through respectful listening, informed speaking, and interaction in small groups on occasion. Of this component of the course grade, 50% will be based on attendance and 50% on constructive participation in class discussions.

Online midterm test, 20%. The goal of this early test will be to measure students' comprehension of basic concepts, and their ability to apply them. The test is to be completed on CuLearn between 10:30 a.m. on February 6 and 5:00 p.m. on February 13. The test will consist of twenty multiple-choice questions. Students will have one hour to write the test; do not open the test until you are prepared to complete and submit it. Questions will be based on course material, including lectures, readings, and study question material posted online. Students will be responsible for accessing a computer to write the quiz from a computer on their own time, within the specified time range. Therefore, by definition it is an open book test; however, it is strongly recommended that students study for the quiz and write it without referring to notes. The questions will require the use of reasoning, not simply the memorization of information. Students are expected to write the test on their own, on the honour system, without sharing their answers with their fellow students. University examination rules can be found online at <http://www2.carleton.ca/ses/exams/examination-regulations/> Students who miss quiz deadlines for documented medical reasons or family emergencies may request a make-up quiz; however, in such cases, the professor may require the make-up quiz to be written in person using pen and paper, rather than online, at a time and place convenient to the professor. University deadlines for completing term work will apply.

Written assignment: 30%, due in hard copy, on or before March 27, and to be handed in personally. Early in the term, the professor will post a short list of topics for the assignment on CuLearn. Students are expected to choose one topic, and write an original analysis, 8-11 pages long, which develops a clear argument on a theme relating democracy as an idea to its practice in the contemporary world. The assignment should demonstrate thoughtful, original reflection on key texts assigned for the course. Arguments made should be backed up with analytical reasoning and consideration of appropriate evidence (from peer-reviewed sources or primary sources). Papers will be evaluated according to their originality, cohesion, depth of analysis and research, and precision of communication. See additional information, "Statement on Written Work," and "Late Papers" below.

Final examination: 35%, to be scheduled during the formal exam period of April 10-25. Students will be expected to demonstrate understanding of all course material, including all assigned readings, course lectures, discussion groups, and discussion questions posted on CuLearn. Clear writing, in complete sentences, is expected on the final examination.

STATEMENT ON WRITTEN WORK

*All written assignments should answer a specific question and should analyze, rather than describe, the issues and events discussed. Papers should use footnotes, endnotes or parenthetical references as appropriate to acknowledge sources, and provide a complete bibliography. Footnotes should be complete and accurate, inserted into the text of your paper as appropriate whenever you have referred to someone else's idea, argument, or research. Any time you quote directly from a source, the citation should be indicated in quotation marks and footnoted. Quotations from secondary sources are to be avoided, as are quotations of more than fifty words in length from any one source. *** If you are unsure about how to use footnotes or endnotes, please see the professor for advice. Students who do not write the final examination, but whose term work is otherwise complete and satisfactory, will receive a grade of ABS.*

LATE ASSIGNMENTS

Assignments are expected to be submitted on or before the deadline. When assignments are submitted on time, it facilitates prompt marking which benefits your fellow students. Extensions for written assignments will be considered only for family emergencies and for documented medical reasons. Marks will be deducted for lateness, and the university schedule establishes a final deadline of April 7 for all assignments.

CONSULTATIONS WITH THE PROFESSOR

The professor holds scheduled office hours that are specifically dedicated to answering questions from students. Students are encouraged to come to these office hours (or to phone during these times, if that is more convenient). When students have questions related to the course material, the content of assignments, and research strategies, it is useful to discuss those questions in person with the professor. Do not hesitate to ask for help in finding research sources, or to ask further questions about material covered in course lectures. If you miss a lecture, please feel welcome to come to office hours to discuss the missed work. Students may also contact the professor to make an appointment for a meeting time outside of scheduled office hours. Students can use e-mail to contact the professor; e-mail communication works best for brief exchanges of factual information. The instructor normally replies to e-mail messages within 2 days, Monday through Friday. Students are encouraged to check CuLearn before class for possible announcements.

Schedule of Course Topics:

THE ORIGINS OF DEMOCRACY

1. Introduction (January 9)

2. Democracy as an Idea; how democracy evolved (January 16)

Required reading:

Dahl, chapters 1 and 2.

Aristotle, "The Politics" (excerpts) in Blaug and Schwartzmantel, pp. 28-32, and 200-202.

T.H. Marshall, "Class, Citizenship and Social Development," (excerpt) in Blaug and Schwartzmantel, pp. 203-205.

3. Liberal Democracy; Suffrage (January 23)

Required reading:

Dahl, chapters 3-5.

Joseph A. Schumpeter, "Capitalism, Socialism and Democracy" (excerpt) in Blaug and Schwartzmantel, pp. 91-94.

4. Critiques of Democracy: Marxism, Feminism (January 30)

Required reading:

Dahl, chapter 6.

Vladimir Ilich Lenin, "The State and Revolution," (excerpt) in Blaug and Schwartzmantel, pp. 278-81.

Mary Wollstonecraft, "Vindication of the Rights of Women," (excerpt) in Blaug and Schwartzmantel, pp. 297-306.

COMPONENTS OF DEMOCRACY

5. Citizenship and the State: Rights vs. Responsibilities (February 6)

Required reading:

Dahl, chapter 7

Jean-Jacques Rousseau, "The Social Contract" (excerpts) in Blaug and Schwartzmantel, pp. 145-7, 174-6.

6. Ethnicity, Identity and the Nation (February 13)

Required reading:

The National Assembly of France, "Declaration of the Rights of Man and Citizen," in (excerpt) in Blaug and Schwartzmantel, pp. 87-89.

Ghia Nodia, "Nationalism and Democracy," (excerpt) in Blaug and Schwartzmantel, pp. 444-6.

FALL BREAK FEBRUARY 20-24: NO CLASS

BUILDING AND RE-BUILDING DEMOCRACIES

7. Building Democracy: First Steps (February 27)

Required reading:

Dahl, chapters 10-11.

John Stuart Mill, "Representative Government," in Blaug and Schwartzmantel, pp. 179-82.

8. Transitional Justice and Reconciliation (March 6)

Required reading:

Truth and Reconciliation Commission of Canada, *Honouring the Truth, Reconciling for the Future: Summary of the Final Report of the Truth and Reconciliation Commission of Canada*, 2015. "Introduction," pp. 1-22. Available online at <http://www.trc.ca/websites/trcinstitution/index.php?p=890>

Ta-Nahisi Coates, "The Case for Reparations," *Atlantic Monthly*, 13/315, June 2014, pp. 54-71. On Reserve: see CuLearn page, at left menu: Library Reserves – View Course in Ares.

9. Sustaining Democracy (March 13)

Required reading:

Dahl, chapter 8, 12.

Alexis de Tocqueville, "Democracy in America" (excerpt) in Blaug and Schwartzmantel, pp. 183-91.

CHALLENGES TO DEMOCRACY

10. Globalization and Capitalism (March 20)

Required reading:

Dahl, chapter 13-14.

Merlyna Lim and Mark E. Kann, "Politics: Deliberation, Mobilization and Networked Practices of Agitation," and Manuel Castells, "Networks of Outrage and Hope: Social Movements in the Internet Age," in Blaug and Schwartzmantel, pp. 428-32 and pp. 433-35.

11. Populism and Nationalism (March 27)

Required reading

Dahl, chapter 10.

Robert Michels, "Political Parties," (excerpts) in Blaug and Schwartzmantel, pp. 252-4.

Giovanni Sartori, "Anti-Elitism Revisited," (excerpt) in Blaug and Schwartzmantel, pp. 255-58.

12. Inclusion, Exclusion and Equality (April 3)

Required reading:

Dahl, chapters 15-17.

Charles Taylor, "The Dynamics of Democratic Exclusion," and Will Kymlicka, "Multicultural Citizenship," (excerpts) in Blaug and Schwartzmantel, pp. 544-52.

Academic Accommodations

The Paul Menton Centre for Students with Disabilities (PMC) provides services to students with Learning Disabilities (LD), psychiatric/mental health disabilities, Attention Deficit Hyperactivity

Disorder (ADHD), Autism Spectrum Disorders (ASD), chronic medical conditions, and impairments in mobility, hearing, and vision. If you have a disability requiring academic accommodations in this course, please contact PMC at 613-520-6608 or pmc@carleton.ca for a formal evaluation. If you are already registered with the PMC, contact your PMC coordinator to send me your **Letter of Accommodation** at the beginning of the term, and no later than two weeks before the first in-class scheduled test or exam requiring accommodation (*if applicable*). After requesting accommodation from PMC, meet with me to ensure accommodation arrangements are made. Please consult the PMC website for the deadline to request accommodations for the formally-scheduled exam (*if applicable*).

For Religious Observance: Students requesting accommodation for religious observances should apply in writing to their instructor for alternate dates and/or means of satisfying academic requirements. Such requests should be made during the first two weeks of class, or as soon as possible after the need for accommodation is known to exist, but no later than two weeks before the compulsory academic event. Accommodation is to be worked out directly and on an individual basis between the student and the instructor(s) involved. Instructors will make accommodations in a way that avoids academic disadvantage to the student. Instructors and students may contact an Equity Services Advisor for assistance (www.carleton.ca/equity).

For Pregnancy: Pregnant students requiring academic accommodations are encouraged to contact an Equity Advisor in Equity Services to complete a *letter of accommodation*. Then, make an appointment to discuss your needs with the instructor at least two weeks prior to the first academic event in which it is anticipated the accommodation will be required.

Plagiarism: The University Senate defines plagiarism as “presenting, whether intentional or not, the ideas, expression of ideas or work of others as one’s own.” This can include:

- reproducing or paraphrasing portions of someone else’s published or unpublished material, regardless of the source, and presenting these as one’s own without proper citation or reference to the original source;
- submitting a take-home examination, essay, laboratory report or other assignment written, in whole or in part, by someone else;
- using ideas or direct, verbatim quotations, or paraphrased material, concepts, or ideas without appropriate acknowledgment in any academic assignment;
- using another’s data or research findings;
- failing to acknowledge sources through the use of proper citations when using another’s works and/or failing to use quotation marks;
- handing in "substantially the same piece of work for academic credit more than once without prior written permission of the course instructor in which the submission occurs.

Plagiarism is a serious offence which cannot be resolved directly with the course’s instructor. The Associate Deans of the Faculty conduct a rigorous investigation, including an interview with the student, when an instructor suspects a piece of work has been plagiarized. Penalties are not trivial. They may include a mark of zero for the plagiarized work or a final grade of "F" for the course.

Student or professor materials created for this course (including presentations and posted notes, labs, case studies, assignments and exams) remain the intellectual property of the author(s). They

are intended for personal use and may not be reproduced or redistributed without prior written consent of the author(s).

Submission and Return of Term Work: Papers must be submitted directly to the instructor according to the instructions in the course outline and will not be date-stamped in the departmental office. Late assignments may be submitted to the drop box in the corridor outside B640 Loeb. Assignments will be retrieved every business day at **4 p.m.**, stamped with that day's date, and then distributed to the instructor. For essays not returned in class please attach a **stamped, self-addressed envelope** if you wish to have your assignment returned by mail. Final exams are intended solely for the purpose of evaluation and will not be returned.

Grading: Standing in a course is determined by the course instructor, subject to the approval of the faculty Dean. Final standing in courses will be shown by alphabetical grades. The system of grades used, with corresponding grade points is:

Percentage	Letter grade	12-point scale	Percentage	Letter grade	12-point scale
90-100	A+	12	67-69	C+	6
85-89	A	11	63-66	C	5
80-84	A-	10	60-62	C-	4
77-79	B+	9	57-59	D+	3
73-76	B	8	53-56	D	2
70-72	B-	7	50-52	D-	1

Approval of final grades: Standing in a course is determined by the course instructor subject to the approval of the Faculty Dean. This means that grades submitted by an instructor may be subject to revision. No grades are final until they have been approved by the Dean.

Carleton E-mail Accounts: All email communication to students from the Department of Political Science will be via official Carleton university e-mail accounts and/or cuLearn. As important course and University information is distributed this way, it is the student's responsibility to monitor their Carleton and cuLearn accounts.

Carleton Political Science Society: The Carleton Political Science Society (CPSS) has made its mission to provide a social environment for politically inclined students and faculty. Holding social events, debates, and panel discussions, CPSS aims to involve all political science students at Carleton University. Our mandate is to arrange social and academic activities in order to instill a sense of belonging within the Department and the larger University community. Members can benefit through numerous opportunities which will complement both academic and social life at Carleton University. To find out more, visit

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/politicalsciencesociety/>

or come to our office in Loeb D688.

Official Course Outline: The course outline posted to the Political Science website is the official course outline.