

**PCSI 1100 A**  
**Democracy in Theory and Practice**  
**Wednesday & Friday 18:05 – 20:55**  
**Online Course**

Instructor: Said Yaqub Ibrahim  
Office: Online  
Office Hours: by appointment  
Email: [said.yaqub@carleton.ca](mailto:said.yaqub@carleton.ca)

## **Course Description**

This course introduces students to democracy as a key concept and topic of political science. The course helps students learn about basics of political science and various political regimes including democracy and authoritarianism. This course contains theoretical, historical, critical, and case-specific issues that help students learn democracy as a key political science topic. The course will start with theories of political science and democracy, continue with historical and critical perspectives, and conclude with case studies from both the global north and the global south. The course is taught online every Wednesday and Friday via zoom. The zoom link to the course is available on the course's Brightspace page.

## **Textbooks**

Dahl, Robert A. 2015. *On Democracy*. 2<sup>nd</sup> edition (with Ian Shapiro). New Haven, CT: Yale University Press.

Grugel, Jean and Matthew Louis Bishop. 2014. *Democratization: A Critical Introduction*. 2<sup>nd</sup> edition. New York: Palgrave Macmillan.

## **Course Evaluation**

Course evaluation includes three assignments and a final exam and will be calculated on the following basis:

**A. Reaction paper I (15%):** Due, July 19

Students should write a 2-3 pages paper (double-spaced in 12-point font – including footnote and bibliography, excluding the cover page) to address the following question: **What is democracy?** The paper should be based on assigned readings and course discussions.

**B. Reaction paper II (15%):** Due August 4

Students should write a 2-3 pages paper (double-spaced in 12-point font – including footnote and bibliography, excluding the cover page) to address the following question: **Why democracy is successful in western countries like Canada and US but not in developing countries like Afghanistan, Iraq...?** The paper should be based on assigned readings and course discussions.

**C. Assignment 3: Term Paper (40%):** Due August 16

Students should write a mini-research paper on democracy in a specific country. You should select a country where you want to examine democracy/democratization. You have to review 6 to 8 scholarly sources to write a well-organized mini-research paper that should not exceed 8-10 pages (double-spaced in 12-point font) – detailed instruction will be provided in due course.

**E. Final Exam (30%)**

Open book online examination, will be scheduled during the regular exam period. Instruction will be provided on August 11<sup>th</sup>.

**F. Citation**

Assignments must follow standard citation formats including MLA, APA, and Chicago Manual of Style. For each assignment select one citation format and use it consistently throughout the paper.

**G. Submission Policy**

All assignments should be submitted electronically in Brightspace. E-mailed assignments will not be accepted. Late submissions will be penalized 3 percent per 24 hours. If you need an extension for an assignment, contact the instructor prior to the due date.

## **Course Schedule**

**Lecture 1 (July 5):** Introduction to Course

No required reading

**Lecture 2 (July 7):** Democracy as a political idea

Reading:

Dahl, 2015, reface: vii-xiv & chapters: 1-3.

**Lecture 3 (July 12):** What is democracy?

Reading:

Dahl, 2015, chapter 4.

Schmitter, Philippe C. and Terry Lynn Karl. 1991. "What Democracy is... and is not." *Journal of Democracy* 2(3): 75-88 (available online).

**Lecture 4 (July 14):** Why democracy?

Reading:

Dahl, 2015, chapters 5-7 & chapter 16.

**Lecture 5 (July 19):** Paths to democracy & democratization

Reading:

Grugel and Bishop, 2014, chapters 1 & 2.

Huntington, Samuel P. 1991. "Democracy's Third Wave." *Journal of Democracy* 2(2): 12-34.

**Lecture 6 (July 21):** Democratization and the State

Reading:

Grugel and Bishop, 2014, chapters 3 & 4.

Carothers, Thomas. 2002. "The End of the Transition Paradigm." *Journal of Democracy* 13(2):5-21. (available online)

**Lecture 7 (July 26):** Democracy: context, conditions, and requirements

Reading:

Dahl, 2015, chapters 8-11.

**Lecture 8 (July 28):** Democracy: opportunities and challenges

Reading:

Dahl, 2015, chapter 12

Grugel and Bishop, 2014, chapter 5

Fareed Zakaria. 1997. "The Rise of Illiberal Democracy." *Foreign Affairs* November/December: 22-43

**Lecture 9 (August 2):** Distribution and democracy: contexts of capitalism, socialism, and postcolonialism

Reading:

Dahl, 2015, chapters 13-14 & 17

**Lecture10 (August 4):** Democratization journey: case study (United States)

Reading

Dahl, 2015, chapters 15-16

Grugel and Bishop, 2014, conclusion

**Lecture 11 (August 9)** Democratization journey: case study (Canada)

Reading

Dahl, 2015, chapters 15-16

Grugel and Bishop, 2014, conclusion

## Lecture 12 (August 11): Democratization journey (Global South) & Exam Instruction

Reading:

Della Porta, Donatella. 2005. "Globalizations and Democracy." *Democratization* 12(5): 668-685.

Guillermo O'Donnell 2007. "The Perpetual Crises of Democracy." *Journal of Democracy* 18(1): 5-11.

Patrick Heller. "Democracy in the Global South." *Annu. Rev. Sociol.* 2022. 48:463–84.

---

## Appendix

---

### **Student Mental Health**

As a university student, you may experience a range of mental health challenges that significantly impact your academic success and overall well-being. If you need help, please speak to someone. There are numerous resources available both on- and off-campus to support you. Here is a list that may be helpful:

**Emergency Resources (on and off campus):** <https://carleton.ca/health/emergencies-and-crisis/emergency-numbers/>

- **Carleton Resources:**

- Mental Health and Wellbeing: <https://carleton.ca/wellness/>
- Health & Counselling Services: <https://carleton.ca/health/>
- Paul Menton Centre: <https://carleton.ca/pmc/>
- Academic Advising Centre (AAC): <https://carleton.ca/academicadvising/>
- Centre for Student Academic Support (CSAS): <https://carleton.ca/csas/>
- Equity & Inclusivity Communities: <https://carleton.ca/equity/>

- **Off Campus Resources:**

- Distress Centre of Ottawa and Region: (613) 238-3311 or TEXT: 343-306-5550, <https://www.dcottawa.on.ca/>
- Mental Health Crisis Service: (613) 722-6914, 1-866-996-0991, <http://www.crisisline.ca/>
- Empower Me: 1-844-741-6389, <https://students.carleton.ca/services/empower-me-counselling-services/>
- Good2Talk: 1-866-925-5454, <https://good2talk.ca/>
- The Walk-In Counselling Clinic: <https://walkincounselling.com>

### **Requests for Academic Accommodation**

You may need special arrangements to meet your academic obligations during the term. For an accommodation request, the processes are as follows:

**Pregnancy accommodation:** Please contact your instructor with any requests for academic accommodation during the first two weeks of class, or as soon as possible

after the need for accommodation is known to exist. For accommodation regarding a formally-scheduled final exam, you must complete the Pregnancy Accommodation Form ([click here](#)).

**Religious accommodation:** Please contact your instructor with any requests for academic accommodation during the first two weeks of class, or as soon as possible after the need for accommodation is known to exist. For more details [click here](#).

**Accommodations for students with disabilities:** If you have a documented disability requiring academic accommodations in this course, please contact the Paul Menton Centre for Students with Disabilities (PMC) at 613-520-6608 or [pmc@carleton.ca](mailto:pmc@carleton.ca) for a formal evaluation, or contact your PMC coordinator to send your instructor your Letter of Accommodation at the beginning of the term. You must also contact the PMC no later than two weeks before the first in-class scheduled test or exam requiring accommodation (if applicable). After requesting accommodation from PMC, reach out to your instructor as soon as possible to ensure accommodation arrangements are made. For more details, [click here](#).

**Accommodation for student activities:** Carleton University recognizes the substantial benefits, both to the individual student and to the university, that result from a student participating in activities beyond the classroom. Reasonable accommodation will be provided to students who engage in student activities at the national or international level. Please contact your instructor with any requests for academic accommodation during the first two weeks of class, or as soon as possible after the need for accommodation is known to exist. For more information, please [click here](#).

For more information on academic accommodation, please contact the departmental administrator or visit: [students.carleton.ca/course-outline](http://students.carleton.ca/course-outline).

### **Sexual Violence Policy**

As a community, Carleton University is committed to maintaining a positive learning, working and living environment where sexual violence will not be tolerated. Survivors are supported through academic accommodations as per Carleton's Sexual Violence Policy. For more information about the services available at the university and to obtain information about sexual violence and/or support, visit: [carleton.ca/sexual-violence-support](http://carleton.ca/sexual-violence-support).

### **Academic Integrity**

Academic integrity is an essential element of a productive and successful career as a student. Carleton's [Academic Integrity Policy](#) addresses academic integrity violations, including plagiarism, unauthorized collaboration, misrepresentation, impersonation, withholding of records, obstruction/interference, disruption of instruction or examinations, improper access to and/or dissemination of information, or violation of

test and examination rules. Students are required to familiarize themselves with the university's academic integrity rules.

### ***Plagiarism***

The Academic Integrity Policy defines plagiarism as “presenting, whether intentional or not, the ideas, expression of ideas or work of others as one’s own.” This includes 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. Examples of sources from which the ideas, expressions of ideas or works of others may be drawn from include, but are not limited to: books, articles, papers, websites, literary compositions and phrases, performance compositions, chemical compounds, art works, laboratory reports, research results, calculations and the results of calculations, diagrams, constructions, computer reports, computer code/software, material on the internet and/or conversations.

Examples of plagiarism include, but are not limited to:

- Any submission prepared in whole or in part, by someone else;
- Using ideas or direct, verbatim quotations, paraphrased material, algorithms, formulae, scientific or mathematical concepts, or ideas without appropriate acknowledgment in any academic assignment;
- Using another’s data or research findings without appropriate acknowledgement;
- Submitting a computer program developed in whole or in part by someone else, with or without modifications, as one’s own; and
- failing to acknowledge sources through the use of proper citations when using another’s work and/or failing to use quotations marks.

### ***Use of Artificial Intelligence***

Unless explicitly permitted by the instructor in a particular course, any use of generative artificial intelligence (AI) tools to produce assessed content (e.g., text, code, equations, image, summary, video, etc.) is considered a violation of academic integrity standards.

### ***Procedures in Cases of Suspected Violations***

Violations of the Academic Integrity Policy are serious offences which cannot be resolved directly with the course’s instructor. When an instructor suspects a violation of the Academic Integrity Policy, the Associate Dean of the Faculty conducts a rigorous investigation, including an interview with the student. Penalties are not trivial. They may include a mark of zero for the assignment/exam in question or a final grade of "F" for the course. More information on the University’s Academic Integrity Policy can be found at: <https://carleton.ca/registrar/academic-integrity/>.

### **Intellectual property**

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. The departmental office will not accept assignments submitted in hard copy.

### **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

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 Brightspace. As important course and university information is distributed this way, it is the student's responsibility to monitor their Carleton University email accounts and Brightspace.

### **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. By hosting social events, including Model Parliament, debates, professional development sessions and more, 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 our networking opportunities, academic engagement initiatives and numerous events which aim to complement both academic and social life at Carleton University. To find out more, visit us on Facebook <https://www.facebook.com/CarletonPoliticalScienceSociety/>.

## **Official Course Outline**

The course outline posted to the Political Science website is the official course outline.

---