Course Description, Aims and Objectives

This course aims to provide the foundations to conceptualize and study the process of democratization in a comparative perspective. The course is designed to familiarize students with theoretical approaches to democratization, various paths to democratization, and the challenges involved in getting and keeping democracy both past and present.

The course is divided into two sections:

1. Democracy in Theory: A critical examination of what democracy is, how it evolved, and why democracy has become one of the most enduring and respected ideas of our time. This section explores competing concepts of democracy and what this might mean in practice.
2. Democracy in Practice: This section builds on the practical applications of competing definitions of democracy and democratization. It explores various paths to democracy, what conditions support democracy, what conditions challenge democracy, the implications of alternatives to democracy, and, finally, the challenges of keeping a functioning democratic system.

Learning objectives and how to achieve them:

1. Gain an understanding of the history, development, and current state of democracy and democratization. Students who complete this course should be able to show knowledge of basic concepts and definitions of democracy and think critically and constructively about democracy and democratization.
• Read the assigned readings before class attend lectures, take notes.
• Study for and complete assignments and exams.
• Participate in tutorials.
• Note: Power point slides give headings only. Substance is covered in class.

2. Become familiar with how to undertake academic research.
• Research a topic in the Carleton University online data base.

3. Develop written communication skills.
• Write a research paper and final exam.

4. Develop verbal communication skills.
• Complete the assigned readings before the tutorial. Read critically. Organize thoughts. Listen to other students and contribute to furthering the discussion in the tutorial.

**Texts**

There two required textbooks for this course:


All other readings can be accessed from ARES (the library’s online reserves).

Students are strongly encouraged to purchase the required textbooks.

**Evaluation**

The course is organized around a combination of weekly lectures and tutorials. Students are asked to read material for each lecture and tutorial. You are also asked to read and use material related to the completion of assignments. Please note that you are expected to be conversant with all this material for the final exam. Attendance at lectures and tutorial seminars is not mandatory, however, attendance is highly advisable and strongly encouraged. In the case of tutorials, if you do not attend you will forfeit the opportunity to earn oral participation marks. Attending and contributing to tutorial discussion is the only way to earn your oral participation.

**I. Grading Summary**

1. Tutorial participation 20%
2. Research Paper Outline due in tutorial 5%
3. Research Paper due in tutorial 35%
4. Final Exam in exam period 40%
Students must complete all the components of the class to receive a grade other than F.

II. Grading Details

i) Tutorial participation (20%)

As noted in the schedule you will meet for one hour tutorials organized around a set of suggested questions and the lecture topic for that week. Tutorials will follow a seminar format. They will consist of small group discussion and general debate with some open format discussion. You will also have the opportunity to discuss upcoming assignments. While attendance is not compulsory, you cannot earn participation grades if you are absent and your grade cannot be made up after the fact. Attendance will be taken. Each tutorial you miss will affect your final grade.

Both quantity and quality of participation will be taken into account. Good quality active participation should reflect the student’s knowledge and understanding of the readings and their ability to engage in constructive discussion with other students. It is important to complete all required readings and give them some thought before coming to class.

At the end of each tutorial you will be asked to submit a card naming one thing that worked for you in the tutorial, one thing that could be improved in the tutorial, and one thing that you agreed with, disagreed with, learnt or found interesting in the lecture or the tutorial.

ii) Research Paper (5%+35%)

Students are required to write a 2000-2500 word research paper (7-8 pages text, double spaced) excluding bibliography. Please use 12 point Times New Roman Font with one inch margins.

Further details and a list of possible topics will be posted in CU Learn. Please note this list is by no means exhaustive. You are welcome to choose your own topic and confirm with your TA or myself that your topic is acceptable. You are encouraged to read ahead for topic ideas.

Research Paper Outline (5%)

To be sure your paper is on the right track a brief one page single spaced preliminary outline must be submitted in hard copy in tutorial to your TA on February 13, Week 6. This should include:

- The provisional title of your paper
- The research question your paper will address
- A main argument (or “thesis statement”)
- An “roadmap” or preliminary indication of how you intend to make your supporting arguments and what kind of evidence you intend to use to support your supporting arguments
- A preliminary list of at least three references drawn from scholarly sources (i.e. peer reviewed books or refereed journal articles).
Research Paper (35%)

The content of your paper should follow the following structure:

- In a paragraph or two highlight/discuss the importance of your topic/question.
- State your research question. What is it about this topic that you want to investigate?
- State your hypothesis, your argument as it pertains to the research question.
- Conduct an analysis of your hypothesis. Present evidence and arguments. Briefly address counter arguments.
- Bring together conclusions.
- Complete reference list

Papers will be evaluated on form (grammar, syntax, and presentation), content (use of relevant material), and analysis (nuance, balance and critical assessment). Papers should include at least four references from academic sources. Use Chicago style for citations and references. A style guide will be posted on CU Learn. Don’t forget page numbers!

A hard copy of the Research Paper must be submitted in tutorial to your TA on April 3, Week 12. Please note the original marked copy of your research paper proposal must be resubmitted attached to your final paper. Only a hard copy of the term paper will be accepted, unless permission is granted by the instructor.

There will be a penalty for late papers. Extensions can only be granted by the instructor and, with few exceptions, are granted only for documented medical reasons. Late assignments will be deducted one letter grade category per calendar day. For example, a B paper that is one day late will be reduced to a B-. Students are strongly encouraged to organize their time to avoid late penalties! Aim to have your paper complete before the deadline so you can resolve any printing problems. Remember to back up your work and keep a copy for your records in case of problems.

Please note the Political Science drop box is intended for late assignments or for students who, due to extenuating circumstances, are unable to submit the paper directly in tutorial. Please note the Departmental Drop box is emptied and date stamped at 4 pm Monday to Friday and penalties are assessed based on the date stamp.

iii) Final Examination (40%)

The final exam will be three hours long and consist of short answers as well as two essay questions. It is designed to test your overall comprehension of the course material. The last class of the semester will provide an overview of what to expect in the exam. It will be held in the formal exam period. The date and location will be announced later in the semester.

Other issues

It is important to arrive on time and participate in the entire lecture and tutorial. Late arrivals and early departures are disruptive to other students. It is recommended that the instructor be informed when students have to miss tutorial for legitimate reasons.
Students are expected to demonstrate ongoing mutual respect for one another in all class activities and discussion. This entails speaking respectfully, listening carefully, supporting one another, offering constructive feedback, being open to alternate points of view, and generally giving each other the opportunity to express and develop ideas. The class agrees to use their personal devices with respect and consideration for those around them.

In addition to attending lectures and tutorials, students are encouraged to follow the news on world politics available from credible news sources (e.g. the Globe and Mail, Wall Street Journal, New York Times, Financial Times, The Guardian, CBC, PBS, BBC, The Economist). Official websites and social media can also be useful sources but always remember to think critically and consider the source.

Course Schedule, Topics, and Assigned Readings

*The instructor reserves the right to make changes.

Part I
Democracy in Theory

Week 1 (Wednesday January 9) Introduction
No tutorial this week.

Week 2 (January 16) Democracy as an idea, How democracy evolved
No tutorial Week 2.

Required
“Preface.” to the Second Edition  Chapter 1 “Do we really need a guide?” and Chapter 2 “Where and how did democracy develop?”

Week 3 (January 23) What is democracy? Part 1
Tutorials start Week 3

Required
“Introduction.”

Week 4 (January 30) What is democracy? Part 2

Required

Supplementary
“Appendix C. On Counting Democratic Countries.”, “Appendix D. On Counting Democratic Countries II.”

Week 5 (February 6) Why democracy?
Required

Part II
Democracy in Practice or “Getting and keeping democracy”

Week 6 (February 13) Paths to democracy
Research Paper Outline due in tutorial
Required
Supplementary

Reading Week

Week 7 (February 27) Explaining Democratization
Required
Chapter 3 “Explaining Democratization.” In Grugel, Jean and Matthew Louis Bishop. 2014.
Supplementary

Week 8 (March 6) Democratization and the State
Required


**Supplementary**


“Appendix A. On Electoral Systems”


**Week 9 (March 13) Underlying Conditions and Obstacles**

**Required**

Chapter 12 “What Underlying Conditions Favour Democracy?”


Chapter 4 “Democratization and the State.” And Chapter 5 “Democratization and Civil Society.”


**Supplementary**


“Appendix B. Political Accommodation in Culturally or Ethnically Divided Countries.”


**Week 10 (March 20) Capitalism and democracy**

**Required**


**Supplementary**


**Week 11 (March 27)**

No lecture, instructor at conference

Work on research papers in tutorials

**Week 12 (April 3) Continuing the Journey**

Research Paper due in tutorial

**Required**

Chapter 15 “The Unfinished Journey.” Chapter 16 “Continuing the Journey.”


“Conclusion.”
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:

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<thead>
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<th>Percentage</th>
<th>Letter grade</th>
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<th>Percentage</th>
<th>Letter grade</th>
<th>12-point scale</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>90-100</td>
<td>A+</td>
<td>12</td>
<td>67-69</td>
<td>C+</td>
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<tr>
<td>85-89</td>
<td>A</td>
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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.

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