

PSCI 1100B Democracy in Theory and Practice

Winter term 2020

Lecture Mondays 9:35-11:25

For location see Carleton Central

<https://carleton.ca/polisci/>

Professor: Dr. Andrea Chandler
Office: Loeb D694
Phone: 613-520-2600 ext 1418
Hours: Mondays and Wednesdays, 11:45-1:45
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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. Class time includes a weekly lecture plus a discussion group. Students are expected to participate actively in discussion groups, 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.

Additional **required** readings are available on Library Reserve, through the ARES system, accessible through the course Webpage on CuLearn.

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 class discussions | 10% |
| Online midterm test, to be completed at CuLearn between 10:30 a.m. on February 3 and 5:00 p.m. on February 13 | 20% |
| Written assignment 1 (Reconciliation and Transitional Justice) | 5%, due online at CuLearn on or before March 9 |
| Written assignment 2 | 30%, due in hard copy on or before March 30 |
| Final examination (three hour time limit) | 35%, to be scheduled during the formal exam period of April 13-25 |

Attendance and participation: 10% Beginning with the second class on January 13, students are expected to attend the discussion group, led by a teaching assistant (TA), in which they have registered. Check your timetable for the exact time and location of this group. Attendance in discussion groups will be recorded and students will be expected to participate in discussions and/or group work held during the final part of each class. 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 class fully prepared to discuss the questions posted in advance on CuLearn. Participation is defined as contributing to the class through respectful listening, informed speaking, and on occasion interaction in small groups. 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 3 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, on their own time and 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. In such cases, the professor may require the make-up quiz 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 1 (Reconciliation and Transitional Justice) All students are expected to be in class on March 2 for this important topic. You will be asked to complete a short

assignment (approximately 500 words) of your reflections of the material that we cover on this topic (including the assigned reading). The precise question for the assignment will be posted to CuLearn. Due March 9 online at CuLearn.

Written assignment 2: 30%, due in hard copy, on or before March 30, 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 13-25. 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.*

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 6)

2. Democracy as an Idea; how democracy evolved (January 13)

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 20)

Required reading:

Dahl, chapters 3-5.

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

4. Critiques of Liberal Democracy: Marxism, Feminism (January 27)

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 3)

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 10)

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.

BUILDING AND RE-BUILDING DEMOCRACIES

7. Building Democracy: First Steps (February 24)

Required reading:

Dahl, chapters 10-11.

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

8. Transitional Justice and Reconciliation (March 2)

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 9)

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 16)

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. Critiques of Liberal Democracy II: Populism and Nationalism (March 23)

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 (March 30)

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.

13. Democracy and Leadership; concluding review (April 6)

Ivan Krastev, “Welcome to the Era of Presidents for Life,” *New York Times*, 15 March 2018.
On Reserve: see CuLearn page, at left menu: Library Reserves – View Course in Ares.

Academic Accommodations

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 obligation

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, visit the Equity Services website: carleton.ca/equity/wp-content/uploads/Student-Guide-to-Academic-Accommodation.pdf

Religious obligation

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, visit the Equity Services website: carleton.ca/equity/wp-content/uploads/Student-Guide-to-Academic-Accommodation.pdf

Academic 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 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, meet with your instructor as soon as possible to ensure accommodation arrangements are made.
carleton.ca/pmc

Survivors of Sexual Violence

As a community, Carleton University is committed to maintaining a positive learning, working and living environment where sexual violence will not be tolerated, and is 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

Accommodation for Student Activities

Carleton University recognizes the substantial benefits, both to the individual student and for the university, that result from a student participating in activities beyond the classroom experience. Reasonable accommodation must be provided to students who compete or perform 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. <https://carleton.ca/senate/wp-content/uploads/Accommodation-for-Student-Activities-1.pdf>

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

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. 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/> and our website <https://carletonpss.com/>, or stop by our office in Loeb D688!"

Official Course Outline

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