

PSC 407U
Democratization
Spring 2007
M 04:00 PM-06:45 PM
WRI C237

Professor: Dr. Michele Kuenzi
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Office Hours: T 1:30-3:30 p.m. and W 4-5 p.m.
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*I will not be holding office hours on Wednesday, February 1 but will be happy to make an appointment to meet at another time.

Course Description

Perhaps one of the most salient and pertinent topics in the field of comparative politics today is that of democratization. This course focuses on the phenomenon of democratization. We will seek to answer questions such as: What factors are likely to cause the initiation of the democratization process? What factors affect the prospects for democracy to survive and thrive in a country? What institutional arrangements are most likely to maximize the prospects for the consolidation of democracy? How satisfactory are the theories of democratization? We will begin by focusing on some of the key concepts in the course. We will then explore the process of the transition to democracy, looking at different types of transitions and explanations of transitions. Next, we will look at the process of the consolidation of democracy, as well as the factors that bear upon this process. Finally, we will assess the state of and prospects for the consolidation of democracy in the world today.

Course Requirements

Required Texts and Reading:

Howard Wiarda, ed., *Comparative Democracy and Democratization* (Wadsworth Group, 2004). ISBN 0-534-61300-4

Fareed Zakaria, *The Future of Freedom: Illiberal Democracy at Home and Abroad* (W. W. Norton & Company, 2004). ISBN 0-393-32487-7 pbk.

Developing democracy : toward consolidation / Larry Diamond. Baltimore : Johns Hopkins University Press, 1999. ISBN 080186156X (pbk.)

Transitions from authoritarian rule : tentative conclusions about uncertain democracies / Guillermo O'Donnell and Philippe C. Schmitter. Baltimore : Johns Hopkins University Press, c1986. ISBN: 0801826829

Electronic Reserve Readings: I will designate reserve readings with an **R** in the list of readings. The web site is: <http://ereserves.library.unlv.edu/eres/default.aspx>

Grades

The total number of points that can be achieved in this course is 400. The points are allocated in the following way:

	Percent	Points
Participation	10	40
Attendance	5	20
Reaction Papers	10	40
Midterm	25	100
Paper	20	80
Final	30	120
	100	400

In other words, reaction papers count for 10% of your grade, the mid term for 25%, the paper for 20%, attendance for 5%, participation for 10%, and the final examination for 30%.

According to the point system, final grades will be assigned in the following way:

A	374 points to 400 points
A-	358 points to 373 points
B+	346 points to 357points
B	330 points to 345 points
B-	318 points to 329 points
C+	306 points to 317 points
C	290 points to 305 points
C-	278 points to 289 points
D+	266 points to 277 points
D	250 points to 265 points
D-	238 points to 249 points
F	237 points and below

Exams

Exams will be based on material covered during class in lectures, films, class discussions or class presentations and from the required readings. I will periodically introduce current event articles or materials as they relate to the topics and concepts being covered in class. Students will, of course, be responsible for this material as well as material covered in films, guest lectures and student presentations. **Make-up exams will not be given** except in the case of extreme circumstances. The student must provide documentation that the absence is for a reason recognized by the university (e.g., illness, death in the family, observance of a religious holiday) and make arrangements with me **prior** to the scheduled exam date. If it is not possible to make prior arrangements, then the student must make arrangements with me as soon as possible. The final examination will be cumulative, although the emphasis will be on the material covered *after* the midterm examination. (Please notify me of any planned absences for religious holidays or official extracurricular activity for UNLV by **February 19, 2007.**)

Reaction Papers

You will be required to write two reaction papers during the course. I will provide you with a handout on these assignments.

Term Paper

A research paper of 10 double spaced typed pages (with 11 or 12 point font size and one inch margins) is due in class on **April 23, 2007**. **No extensions will be granted**. Four points will be subtracted from your grade for each day that the paper is late. You are expected to make use of the writing center so that your paper is free of grammatical errors and clearly written and organized. You will be given a handout with a description of the paper topic and requirements during the course.

The University requires all members of the University Community to familiarize themselves with and to follow copyright and fair use requirements. **YOU ARE INDIVIDUALLY AND SOLELY RESPONSIBLE FOR VIOLATIONS OF COPYRIGHT AND FAIR USE LAWS. THE UNIVERSITY WILL NEITHER PROTECT NOR DEFEND YOU NOR ASSUME ANY RESPONSIBILITY FOR EMPLOYEE OR STUDENT VIOLATIONS OF FAIR USE LAWS.** Violations of copyright laws could subject you to federal and state civil penalties and criminal liability as well as disciplinary action under University policies. To familiarize yourself with copyright and fair use policies, the University encourages you to visit its copyright website at: <http://www.unlv.edu/committees/copyright>.

Attendance, Participation and General Expectations

Attendance will be taken at each class. Students may miss up to two classes without losing attendance points. Because students are already allowed two absences during the term, three points will be subtracted from the attendance points for every absence beyond two, whatever the reason for the absence. Attending class is a very important part of the learning process. If anyone foresees the possibility of missing class more than two times, she/he should consider taking PSC 407U when she/he will be able to attend all of the classes. **Signing the attendance sheet for another student is a form of fraud**, and anyone participating in this activity will be penalized.

Participation in class discussions is strongly encouraged. Of course, participation should be constructive, and all comments should be relevant to the material being covered in class. Students must **do all of the reading!** I will call on students in class and expect their answers to reflect familiarity with the ideas and information in the readings. Respect should be shown for all other class members at all times. Inappropriate and disruptive participation/behavior will result in a drop in the student's grade.

Students are expected to attend class regularly, arrive promptly and have a collegial demeanor. Students are not allowed to sleep, read newspapers, listen to headphones, or talk to others during class. Engaging in these behaviors will result in a drop in the student's grade. **You must turn off all cell phones, pagers, and other electronic devices during class. Any exceptions must be cleared with me in advance. If you look at your cell phone during a quiz or exam, you will receive a zero for that quiz or exam.** Arriving late, leaving early, or interrupting class with a cell phone or other electronic device will also result in a drop in the student's grade. **Students**

are not allowed to tape record, photograph, video tape or otherwise electronically record any of the class.

I reserve the right to modify the course syllabus. Students will be responsible for knowing any changes made to the syllabus during class time whether they were in attendance or not. The instructor’s lecture notes are not available to students; it is the student’s responsibility to obtain class notes from a classmate, should class be missed.

Learning Enhancement Services (LES) is the office to provide Disability Services. If you have a documented disability that may require assistance, you will need to contact LES for coordination in your academic accommodations. LES is located in the Reynolds Student Services Complex, suite 137. The phone number is 702-895-0866, or TTD 702-895-0652, or you may visit the website at www.unlv.edu/studentlife/les.

Academic Honesty:

All breaches in academic honesty will be handled in accordance with the UNLV Student Conduct Code and Policies, which can be accessed at <http://www.unlv.edu/studentlife>.

Week One, Monday, 1/22	Course Introduction: Purchase Text In-class exercise
Week Two, Monday, 1/29	Conceptions and Origins of Democracy Diamond, Chapter One. Wiarda, Chapter 1 Zakaria, pp. 13-58
Week Three, Monday, 2/5	Democracy Around the World Democracy Assessments on the Internet Students will share findings based on review of internet sites in class. Introduction to Democratization O’Donnell and Schmitter, Chapters 1, 2 Requisites of Democracy and Structural Explanations of Transitions R: Lipset, Seymour 1959 “Some Social Requisites of Democracy: Economic Development and Political Legitimacy.” <i>The American Political Science Review</i> 53(1): 69-105. [Also Available on JSTOR]
Week Four, Monday, 2/12	“A Dynamic Model” of Transitions to Democracy R: Rustow, Dankwart A. “Transitions to Democracy: Toward a Dynamic Model.” <i>Comparative Politics</i> 1970 2(3): 337-363. [Also Available on JSTOR] Contingent Explanations of Transitions O’Donnell and Schmitter Chapters 3-4 The Consolidation of Democracy: Fundamental Issues Diamond 2, Chapter 3
Week Five, Monday, 2/19	President’s Day Recess
Week Six, Monday, 2/26	Reaction Paper I Due

	<p>Challenges and Dilemmas of Democratization O'Donnell and Schmitter Chapters 5-6</p> <p>Institutional Choices and Democratization Diamond, Chapter 4</p> <p>Democratization and Ethnic Conflict R: Saideman, Stephen M. et al. 2002 "Democratization, Political Institutions, and Ethnic Conflict: A Pooled Time-Series Analysis, 1985-1998." <i>Comparative Political Studies</i> 35(1): 103-129.</p> <p>Review for the Midterm</p>
Week Seven, Monday, 3/5	Midterm Exam
Week Eight, Monday, 3/12	Spring Break: No Class
Week Nine, Monday, 3/19	<p>Political Culture and Public Opinion Diamond, Chapter 5</p> <p>The Consolidation of Democracy and Civil Society Diamond, Chapter 6</p> <p>The Spread of Hybrid Regimes Diamond, Chapter 2 Zakaria, Chapter 3</p>
Week Ten, Monday, 3/26	<p>Democratization in Iberia and Latin America Wiarda, Chapter 3</p> <p>Democratization in Eastern and Central Europe Wiarda, Chapter 4</p>
Week Eleven, Monday, 4/2	<p>Democratization in Asia Wiarda, Chapters 5 and 6</p> <p>Democratization in Africa Wiarda, Chapter 8</p>
Week Twelve, Monday, 4/9	<p>Islam and Democratization Zakaria, Chapter 4 Wiarda, Chapter 7 TBA</p>
Week 13, Monday, 4/16	<p>Reaction Paper II Due</p> <p>Democracy in Europe and the United States Wiarda, Chapter 2 Zakaria, Chapters 5 and 6</p>
Week 14, Monday, 4/23	<p>Research Paper Due</p> <p>Future Trends and Options Diamond Chapter 7 Zakaria, Conclusion (pp. 239-256)</p>
Week 15, Monday, 4/30	Review for the Final Examination
Monday May 7 6:00 PM	FINAL EXAMINATION