

**Political Science 597.02**  
**Contemporary Political Problems: Democratization**  
**Fall 2005**

Central Classroom Building 326  
MW 3:30-5:18pm

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Office hours: MW 2-3pm  
and by appointment

According to one scholar, in the past 30 years both the number and the proportion of democracies in the world have more than doubled.<sup>1</sup> Why did this happen? Why and how do countries become democratic? What factors increase or decrease the chances of a democratic regime surviving? What exactly is democracy anyway?

**Course Objectives**

Students should leave this course with an increased understanding of the issues and debates surrounding contemporary democratization and democratic consolidation, and should be able to apply these ideas to contemporary situations. The course should also further the development of students' analytical skills; ability to evaluate arguments, sources, and evidence; and capability to express ideas and arguments effectively.

In accordance with the University's GEC goals and objectives, this course will be a "capstone experience" requiring students to "synthesize and apply knowledge from diverse disciplines to contemporary issues" and to "conduct research on the contemporary world." This "thematic upper-division course work, drawing upon multiple disciplines, enriches students' experiences of the contemporary world."

**Texts**

There are no books for purchase for this course. Rather, all reading assignments can be found online. Instructions for how to find each reading are listed in the "Accessing Reading Assignments" section later in this syllabus.

**Assignments and Grading**

First Paper	Due October 12	20%
Book Review	Due TBD (Nov. 23?)	25%
Final Exam (take-home)	Due December 5	25%
Quizzes & Assignments		20%
Participation		10%

Participation is a vital aspect of the educational process (and the political process). Therefore, it is essential that you attend class and are engaged in the discussion. It is imperative that all members of the class are treated with respect.

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<sup>1</sup> Diamond, Larry. "Elections without Democracy: Thinking about Hybrid Regimes." *Journal of Democracy*. (13:2) April 2002, pp. 21-35; p. 25.

It is likely that the class discussion will make reference to many events and countries. If something is mentioned about which you are not familiar, ASK QUESTIONS!! Asking a question is not a burden, but rather an indication that one is actively seeking to increase knowledge and understanding.

The first paper will be a case study of one country, applying the material covered in the first section of the course. It is to be 5-6 pages long. More details will be provided separately. The book review is the major writing assignment of the quarter. Each student will select a book relevant to the course and their own interests, and write 8-10 pages analyzing the work. Again, more details regarding this assignment, including a list of suggested books, will be provided later in the quarter.

The final will be take-home essays requiring synthesis of the course material. The questions will be handed out one week before the due date.

Class sessions will complement, not substitute for, the reading assignments, with the class material often building on the reading. Therefore it is very important that you both keep up with the reading and attend class. To ensure both are occurring successfully, there will be unannounced quizzes of multiple-choice or short-answer format, and perhaps short reaction papers, reading presentations, or other such assignments.

There will be opportunities to earn extra credit, both on the quizzes and through additional research, readings, or activities. The points for such work will be added to the “Quizzes and Assignments” grade. Details of specific opportunities will be provided separately. Extra credit work should be turned in by Friday, December 2.

### **Academic Honesty**

Academic dishonesty will not be tolerated. Any instances of cheating will be handled according to University policy and referred to the University’s Committee on Academic Misconduct. If you are unsure of how to avoid plagiarism (particularly, for example, how to cite sources correctly), please ask. Your education (i.e., what you are spending all this time, effort, and money on, and what I am spending all this time, effort, and... nevermind...) will not happen unless the work you turn in is yours and yours alone.

### **Attendance and Late Work Policies**

If you do not attend class, it will be very difficult for you to participate and earn that portion of your grade. If your final grade is borderline, very good attendance and participation may benefit you (i.e., if you have attended and participated constructively and consistently, I am likely to give you the higher grade). Appointments should be made outside of class time. If you miss class, copy notes from someone else in the class, and then see me to talk about anything that remains unclear.

Missed quizzes: You need to make **EVERY** effort to be in class. If you miss a quiz for a “good” reason, I will want to see some sort of documentation (doctor’s note, accident report, letter from your student group advisor, wedding invitation, etc) in order to exclude the quiz from the final grade calculations. I make the final decision of whether a reason is reasonable and documentation sufficient. Unexcused absences when there is a quiz will result in a grade of zero for that quiz. There will be no makeup quizzes. A good way to reduce problems is to tell me about non-emergency absences *before* they happen and to email me about emergency absences *promptly* afterwards.

Late papers and take-home exams: You need to make every effort to turn in papers on time, as otherwise it simply is not fair both to those who meet deadlines and to me in my efforts to grade assignments in a timely manner. For every day a paper is late (including weekends – EMAIL ME THE PAPER IF YOU MUST), 2/3 of a grade (so from an A- to a B, for example) will be deducted from the assignment. If you turn in a paper to my mailbox in Derby Hall *after* the time it was due, ask one of the office staff to note on it what time it was turned in. Sometimes emergencies intervene at the last minute and prevent you from turning in a paper. If this happens, let me know immediately; I will probably want to see proof of significant quantities of work already done and documentation of the reason for the delay (doctor's note, accident report, etc), but we may be able to agree to a mutually acceptable new deadline.

***My bottom line on attendance and late work: be reasonable, keep me informed, work hard, and I'm likely to be flexible and agree to alternative arrangements.***

### **Disability Accommodations**

I am committed to providing reasonable accommodations to students with documented disabilities. The Office for Disability Services (614-292-3307, in 150 Pomerene Hall) coordinates such accommodations. Please speak with me as soon as possible so that we can make appropriate arrangements.

### **Email**

I ask that you provide me with an email address that you check regularly, so that I can contact you between classes if necessary, regarding changing the reading assignments or the like. Please remove my email address from any spam filter you may be using. If you send me an email, please put the course number in the subject line. Because of computer viruses, if I do not recognize the source of an email, I DELETE IT UNOPENED.

I reserve the right to make changes to this syllabus if needed as the quarter progresses.

## **Accessing Reading Assignments**

All readings are available online. You need access to a computer able to read Adobe Acrobat PDF files. The following codes are used below to indicate where each reading can be found:

### ER – Electronic Reserve:

Complete instructions can be found at <http://reserves.lib.ohio-state.edu/current/Eres/eres2001.php>

From off-campus, first sign in.

Go to [library.osu.edu](http://library.osu.edu), then find the button at the top right of the page and sign in.

Click on FIND

Click on FIND RESERVES-BY PROF. and enter “Langfield”

Click on the course listing.

Click on the reading you want.

Enter your name and university ID number, and click SUBMIT.

To print, be sure to choose “print as image” from the Adobe Acrobat toolbar, not the browser toolbar.

If you have problems, contact me, or the E-reserves Office at 292-6448 or [liberes@osu.edu](mailto:liberes@osu.edu).

### LW – Library Website:

Go to <http://library.ohio-state.edu/search>

Click on “Journals (Online)”

If you are using an off-campus computer, click on “off campus sign in” and sign in.

Enter the name of the journal as listed on the syllabus.

Choose the link to the journal online.

For some of the journals, you will be given choices for which database to go to. In my opinion, the easiest to use are (in this order) JSTOR, Ohio Link’s EJC, and Academic Search Premier.

Browse for the journal, the particular issue/date, and then the article.

Again, if you view the article as a PDF file, to print, choose “print as image” from the Adobe Acrobat toolbar, not the browser toolbar.

If you have problems, contact me, or a librarian at 292-6175.

## Reading Assignments

Reading assignments should be completed *before* the class for which they are listed.

In addition to the course material, keeping apprised of current events is likely to benefit your understanding of class discussions. Reading mainstream news sources daily is essential to comprehending international politics. Examples of such sources include the BBC, *The New York Times*, *The International Herald Tribune*, or a weekly magazine such as the *Economist*. Most such sources are available for free online, although some require registration. A list of web resources will be provided separately.

### Week 1

#### September 21

*Introductions and overview*

*The “third wave” of democratization*

*Some vocabulary:*

*stages of democratization: breakdown/liberalization, transition, consolidation.*

## REGIME TYPES

### Week 2

#### September 26

*Non-democratic regime types: totalitarian, authoritarian, etc.*

Linz & Stepan. *Problems of Democratic Transition and Consolidation: Southern Europe, South America and Post-communist Europe*. 1996. Ch. 3: “Modern Nondemocratic Regimes.” Pp. 38-54. [ER]

Bratton & van de Walle. “Neopatrimonial Regimes and Political Transitions in Africa.” *World Politics*. (46), July 1994. [Read pages 458-9, 468-474 ONLY: you will read much of the rest for October 19 and 26.] [LW]

#### September 28

*What is democracy? (minimal, or electoral, definitions)*

*Human rights, political rights, etc.*

*Relationship between democracy and capitalism*

Schumpeter. *Capitalism, Socialism, and Democracy*. 1942. Pp. 240-273. [ER]

Universal Declaration of Human Rights. [<http://www.un.org/Overview/rights.html>]

*Hand out first assignment*

### **Week 3**

#### **October 3**

*What is democracy? (substantive definitions)*

*Democracy versus constitutional liberalism; the multiple definitions of 'liberal'*

*Operationalization: how to identify or measure democracy*

Dahl. *On Democracy*. 1998. Ch. 4 (“What is Democracy?”) and Ch. 8 (“What Political Institutions does Large-Scale Democracy Require?”). [ER]

Zakaria. *The Future of Freedom: Illiberal Democracy at Home and Abroad*. 2004. Pp. 17-21. [ER]

### **EXPLANATIONS FOR TRANSITIONS**

#### **October 5**

*How and why did the first representative democracies democratize? (Otherwise known as several millennia of Western history in 22 pages.)*

*Begin modernization (Barrington Moore, etc)*

Zakaria. *The Future of Freedom: Illiberal Democracy at Home and Abroad*. 2004. Pp. 29-51 (“A Brief History of Human Liberty”). [ER]

### **Week 4**

#### **October 10**

*Structural explanations (“preconditions”) for democratic transitions – modernization*

Lerner. *The Passing of Traditional Society*. 1958. “The Grocer and the Thief: A Parable.” [ER]

#### **October 12– FIRST PAPER DUE**

*Structural explanations continued – modernization and economic development*

Lipset. *Political Man*. Ch. 2: “Economic Development and Democracy.” Pp. 27-63. [ER]

### **Week 5**

#### **October 17**

*Structural explanations continued – economic development (or not)*

Przeworski & Limongi. “Political Regimes and Economic Growth.” *Journal of Economic Perspectives*. (7:3), Summer 1993, pp. 51-69. [LW]

Michael Lewin Ross. “Does Oil Hinder Democracy?” *World Politics*. (53:3), 2001. Pgs. 332-337 ONLY. [LW]

## October 19

*Previous regime type as explanation*

Linz & Stepan. *Problems of Democratic Transition and Consolidation: Southern Europe, South America and Post-communist Europe*. 1996. Ch. 4: "Implications of Prior Regime Type." Pp. 55-65. [ER]

Bratton & van de Walle. "Neopatrimonial Regimes and Political Transitions in Africa." *World Politics*. (46), July 1994. [Read pages 459-468 ONLY.] [LW]

## Week 6

### October 24

*Short-term explanations for transitions ("contingent" explanations):*

*Role of elites vs masses*

*Negotiations: transformations, replacements, and transplacements*

*Diffusion effects*

Huntington. *The Third Wave: Democratization in the Late Twentieth Century*. 1991. pp. 114, 121-124. [ER]

Garton Ash. *We the People: The Revolutions of '89 as Witnessed in...* 1990. "Witness and History." Pp. 11-21. [ER]

Begin reading for October 26. (It is a very long assignment.)

### October 26

*Elites and masses continued: mobilization & institutionalization*

*What matters more, structural conditions or agency?*

Huntington. *Political Order in Changing Societies*. 1968. Ch. 1: "Political Order and Political Decay." Read pgs. 1-32, skim 39-53, read 53-58, 78-92. [ER]

Bratton & van de Walle. "Neopatrimonial Regimes and Political Transitions in Africa." *World Politics*. (46), July 1994. [Pp. 453-457 ONLY.] [LW]

## Week 7

### October 31

*External Agency:*

*Sanctions*

*Military intervention and occupation*

Zakaria. "How to Change Ugly Regimes." *Newsweek*. June 27, 2005. [Available at <http://www.fareedzakaria.com/articles/newsweek/062705.html>]

Baldwin, David. "Sanctions Have Gotten a Bum Rap..." *Los Angeles Times*. August 18, 2004. [ER]

Schear. "Bosnia's Post-Dayton Traumas." *Foreign Policy*. Fall 1996. [LW]

## **November 2**

*External Agency:*

*Foreign aid and debt relief*

*International organizations and aid programs – what do they try to do, how do they try to do it, and what potential problems are there?*

“The \$25 billion question.” *The Economist*. July 2, 2005. pp. 24-26. [ER]

Boyce, James K. “External Assistance and the Peace Process in El Salvador.” *World Development*. (23: 12), 1995. Pp. 2101-2116. [LW]

November 4 – last day to withdraw from a course.

## **CONTEXTS AND CONSOLIDATION**

### **Week 8**

#### **November 7**

*Civil society*

*Mass support for democracy*

Marc Morje Howard. “The Weakness of Postcommunist Civil Society.” *Journal of Democracy*. Jan 2002, pp. 157-169. [LW]

Inglehart. “How Solid is Mass Support for Democracy – And How Can We Measure It?” *PS: Political Science and Politics*. Jan 2003, pp. 51-57. [ER]

#### **November 9**

*Making democracy work:*

*Institutionalization*

*The role of political parties*

*A digression into the debates about transitional justice.*

Diamond. *Developing Democracy: Towards Consolidation*. 1999. Section on “Political Institutionalization.” Pp. 93-116, BUT SKIM 104-111. [ER]

Rigby. *Justice and Reconciliation: After the Violence*. Ch. 1: “Reconciliation and Forgiving the Past.” Pp. 1-14. [ER]

## **CONSEQUENCES OF DEMOCRACY**

### **Week 9**

#### **November 14**

*Consequences of democracy: Possible Positives*

*Human rights*

*Increased representation & equality*

*Economic growth (or not) revisited*

*A democratic peace?*

Dahl. *On Democracy*. 1998. Ch. 5 (“Why Democracy?”). [ER]

Clark & Clark. “The Social and Political Bases for Women’s Growing Political Power in Taiwan.” Pp. 1-39. [ER]

#### **November 16**

*Consequences of democracy: Possible Negatives*

*Nationalism, fascism, etc: When the “Wrong” People Win Elections*

*Ethnic conflict*

*State Disintegration*

Bowen. “The Myth of Global Ethnic Conflict.” *Journal of Democracy*. (7:4) 1996, pp. 3-14. [LW]

Hamzawy. “The Key to Arab Reform: Moderate Islamists.” Carnegie Endowment for International Peace. Policy Brief #40. August 2005.

<http://www.carnegieendowment.org/files/pb40.hamzawy.FINAL.pdf>

## **THE FUTURE OF DEMOCRACY AND DEMOCRATIZATION**

### **Week 10**

#### **November 21 – BOOK REVIEW DUE?? (TBD)**

*Is democracy culturally-bounded? Is it possible in non-Western contexts?*

*(With a digression into the origins of Islamists.)*

Huntington. “After Twenty Years: The Future of the Third Wave.” *Journal of Democracy*. (8:4) 1997, pp. 3-12. [LW]

Zakaria. “Asian Values.” *Foreign Policy*. Issue 133 (Oct/Nov 2002), pp. 38-39. [LW]

Brooks. “Trading Cricket for Jihad.” *The New York Times*. August 4, 2005. [ER]

#### **November 23**

*Class cancelled (day before Thanksgiving)*

## **Week 11**

### **November 28**

*The future of democratization: the Middle East  
Iraq (and US foreign policy)*

\*Fuller. "Islamists in the Arab World: The Dance Around Democracy." *Carnegie Papers*. Number 49, Sept. 2004. [ER or [www.ceip.org/files/pdf/cp45.fuller.final.PDF](http://www.ceip.org/files/pdf/cp45.fuller.final.PDF)]  
Ottaway. "Promoting Democracy in the Middle East: The Problem of US Credibility." *Carnegie Papers*. March 2003. [www.ceip.org/files/pdf/wp35.pdf](http://www.ceip.org/files/pdf/wp35.pdf)

*Handout Final questions.*

\*This link to the Fuller article appears to not work anymore. The article is still available from the Carnegie website if you use the search functions, but I will have it placed on e-reserve as well.

### **November 30**

*The future of democratization: China?*

*Is the third wave over? Will there be a reverse wave? What would a fourth wave look like?*

"Seeds of change?" *The Economist*. June 15, 2002. [ER]  
L. Kaplan. "Trade Barrier: Why Trade Won't Bring Democracy to China." *The New Republic*. July 9, 2001. Pp. 23- [ER]  
Carothers. "Democracy's Sobering State." *Current History*, December 2004, pp. 412-416. <http://www.carnegieendowment.org/pdf/CurHistTC.pdf>

**All extra credit work must be turned in by Friday, December 2.**

### **Exam Week: December 5-8**

FINAL EXAM DUE on Monday, December 5 at 3:30pm (this class's exam time).