

INTL 4315, Spring 2018
Comparative Democracy, Democratization, and Civil Society
MWF 10:10-11:00
Caldwell Hall 105
CRN 36649

Office: 329 Candler Hall
Office Hours: M 3:00-4:00 or by appointment
jadix@uga.edu
Final: May 2, 8-11am

Course Description

In this course, we explore and discuss the cultural, political, and socioeconomic bases of democracy, democratization, and civil society. The course begins by defining the terms, concepts, and measurements that scholars use to understand democracy around the world. Next, we move to the historical development of democratic systems, as well as the spread of democratization around the world. The second section of the course examines theories and explanations of democratization (paying close attention to the roles of political culture, civil society, states within the international context, gender, and religion). The third part of the course examines how key actors and features of democracy affect it in different ways (paying close attention to the effects of electoral systems, the design of institutions, political parties, social movements within civil society, political participation of citizens, as well as the media). In addition to studying when and why democracy works, we will also explore examples of failed democracies and failed democratization. In addition, we will look at hybrid regimes and how they challenge some of the established work on democracy. In the final part of the course, we will look further into the process of democratization, democratic consolidation, and the challenges that these processes bring to many regions around the world. Specifically, we look at post-communist Europe and Russia, the Middle East and North Africa, East Asia, and Sub-Saharan Africa.

Required Texts

- *Democratization*, edited by Christian Haerpfer, Patrick Bernhagen, Ronald Inglehart, and Christian Welzel, Oxford University Press, 2009.
- *The Spirit of Democracy: The Struggle to Build Free Societies Throughout the World* by Larry Diamond (D in Syllabus)
- Journal articles



Grading

Grading Scheme

Grade Composition

A	93-100
A-	90-92
B+	87-89
B	83-86
B-	80-82
C+	77-79
C	73-76
C-	70-72
D+	67-69
D	63-66
D-	60-62
F	0-59

Presentations: 15%
Participation: 15%
Term Paper: 20%
Midterm: 20%
Final Exam: 30%



Course Work

Note on Formatting of all written assignments --

All written work should be typed (unless specified) and be formatted as: 12-point Times New Roman, be single-spaced, and have 2"-left margins. Papers should be titled [the more creative, the better]. Papers can be broken up into sections as long as the sections are titled appropriately.

Bonus

During the course, there will be opportunity for bonus points. In the first few days, I will offer a short bonus paper. This paper is offered so that students have a chance to see "how the professor grades." The paper is optional, and students can receive up to 5 bonus points that will be tacked onto the midterm.

Presentation

In groups of 4-5, students will present on a question related to the course. The presentation should answer all facets of the question. Students can present via debate, presenting all sides of answers. Students will facilitate a class discussion at the end of the presentation. Each presentation will take up one class period.

Quizzes & Homework

There may be a few of short quizzes and homework during the semester, reviewing the week's required readings. This work is factored into your participation grade.

Discussion

Students should have read all the required readings and prepared to both pose and answer questions, and engage in discussion on the subject matter.

Midterm & Final Exams

The midterm exam covers material up to the midterm. The final covers material after the midterm. There are two parts to the exams: an in-class sit-down portion and a take-home essay to be handed in on the day of the exam.



Paper Project

The final assignment will be a research paper of students' choosing (with professor approval). Over the course of the semester, various sections of the paper will be due and graded. The instructor understands that papers change over time, and this will be taken into consideration during the grading process.

The paper should be AT LEAST 12 pages, double-spaced, 12pt Times New Roman. There is no maximum. I expect to receive papers between 12-13 pages double spaced. There is no maximum paper size; if students wish to write 50-page papers, students may.

NOTE: All paper should be converted to the following format before submission to the instructor:

Single-spaced, 2" Left Margins. Students should include section headings for their papers: introduction with a question and a thesis statement, literature review, theory, data, methodology, results, and conclusion. Papers should be stapled with page numbers, class time, and students' last names. Correct formatting, staples, and inclusion of the above information will net +3 bonus points on the paper. Students must have all in order to get the points.



Policies

Academic Integrity

Every student must agree to abide by UGA's academic honesty policy and procedures known as A Culture of Honesty and the University of Georgia Student Honor Code, which work together to define a climate of academic honesty and integrity at the university.

Special Needs

This course is guided by the assumption of dignity and respect for all persons in the classroom. My hope is to support diversity of learners and to provide a non-threatening environment. Students who feel they may need an accommodation based on the impact of a disability should contact me privately to discuss their specific needs. All discussions will remain confidential. To ensure that you receive the most appropriate reasonable accommodation based on your needs, contact me as early as possible in the quarter (preferably within the first week of classes), and make sure that you have contacted the Disability Resource Center: <http://drc.uga.edu>

Attendance

Missing classes and coming late to class will impact a student's grade. Missing more than three classes without prior approval by the instructor will result in an a grade reduction for each class missed.

Reading List -- for the readings, please see the attached reading list in the course folder. It is subject to change.

