

GOVT 434-001
Democracy—Global Perspective
Spring 2019
Email: tghosh@gmu.edu

Arlington: Founders Hall 468
Class Hours: 10:30-11:45 PM (T R)
Office hrs: Founders Hall 468.
11:50 AM- 12:30 PM

Democracy has emerged as the most enduring value in the last hundred years. It is undoubtedly a complex and a challenging phenomenon with many ramifications. The overarching purpose of this class would be to examine the many facets of democratization in a comparative fashion. The aim will be threefold: to gain a theoretical perspective by asking the questions why, when and how; to gain an empirical understanding of democracy by focusing on the studies that have been undertaken to analyze democratization globally and finally to develop a critical perspective by applying these concepts to events on the ground as they unfold sometimes with mesmerizing speed and sometimes slowly. In this class we will explore, for instance, the notion of democratic waves, the relationship between democratization and culture, economic development and democracy, role of external actors in aiding and abetting democracy, gender and democracy, impact of media and technology in democratic transformations and why democratization fails or succeeds. Students are expected to be aware of developments that are taking place around the world to fully appreciate the nuances of global democratization.

Required Readings:

1. Christian W. Haerpfer, Patrick Bernhagen, Ronald F. Inglehart and Christian Welzel Democratization Oxford University Press USA, 2009.

2. Democracy's Next Wave. Current History : A Journal of Contemporary World Affairs v110 Issue 739 November 2011.

3. Short articles on topical events will be given out as needed.

Resources :

4. www.freedomhouse.org; www.owl.edu.

Evaluations:

In class quizzes (2) 25% TBA

Midterm 25%

Short Papers (3) 15%

Final Exam 30%

Attendance and Participation 5%

You can earn extra credit (2 pts) by presenting a relevant news story or article to the class. Notify me in advance, if you are planning to do the presentation.

*A hand out will specify the requirements for the short papers. Delayed submissions will be graded down.

** One make-up exam is allowed per student on medical grounds, for which proper documentation must be provided. No early finals !

*** In class computer use is strictly restricted to class work only.

Grading Scale:

A+ (100) B+ (86-89) C+ (75-79) D (60-69)

A (94-99) B (83-85) C (73-74) F (59 or less)

A- (90-93) B- (80-82) C- (70-72)

Important Dates:

Last Day to add class: January 29, 2019

Midterm: March 19, 2019.

Final: May 14, 2019. 10:30 AM -12:30 PM.

Paper Proposals due: February 5, March 5, April 2.

Papers Due on: February 28, March 28, April 25.

The Instructor can change the announced dates, if needed.

Consult me on all matters and use gmu email accounts for communication.

Blackboard Site may be found at: <http://mymasonportal.gmu.edu>. Access this class by clicking the courses tab and then the appropriate course in the Blackboard Learning 9.1 section of the page.

Course Outline:

Week 1. January 22 and 24. Democratization . Ch 1 and 2.

Francis Fukuyama, "Is there a proper sequence in Democratic Transitions?" Current History v110 Issue 739 Nov 2011, pp. 308-310.

Week 2. January 29 and January 31. Democratization . Ch 3 and 4.

Larry Diamond, "Democracy's Third Wave," Current History v110 Issue 739 Nov 2011, pp. 299-307.

Week 3. February 5 and 7. Democratization. Ch 5 and 6.

Week 4. February 12 and 14. Democratization. Ch 6 and 7.

Lincoln Mitchell, "The New World of Democracy Promotion," Current History v110 Issue 739 Nov 2011, pp. 311-316.

Week 5. February 19 and 21. Democratization. Ch 8 and 9.

Week 6. February 26 and February 28. Democratization. Ch 10 and 11.

Week 7. March 5 and 7. Democratization . Ch 12.

Week 8. **March 11-15. Spring Break.**

Week 9. **March 19. MIDTERM EXAM.**

Week 10. March 21 and 26. Democratization. Ch 13 and 14.

Week 11. March 28 and April 2. Democratization. Ch 15 and 16.

Week 12. April 4 and 9. Democratization. Ch 17 and 18.

Week 13. April 11 and 16. Democratization. Ch 19 and 20.

Week 14. April 18 and 23. Democratization. Ch 21.

Jason Brownlee, "The Transnational Challenge to Arab Freedom," Current History v110 Issue 739 Nov 2011, pp. 317-pp. 323.

Week 15. April 25 and April 30. Democratization. Ch 22 and 23.

Richard Joseph, "Democracy and Reconfigured Power in Africa," Current History v110 Issue 739 Nov 2011, pp. 324-330.

"Democracy in Africa," *The Economist* v 420 August 20-16th 2016.

Bruce Gilley, "Could China Be the Next Wave?" Current History v110 Issue 739 Nov 2011, pp. 331-333.

Week 16. May 2. Democratization. Ch 24.

Summation and Class Debate on Democracy.

FINAL EXAM ON MAY 14, 2019 10:30 AM-12:30 PM.

Please contact Office of Disability Services at <http://ods.gmu.edu> if required.

GMU Honor Code: The Honor Code policy endorsed by the members of the Department of Public and International Affairs relative to the type of academic work indicated below is set out in the appropriate paragraphs:

1. Quizzes, test, and examination. No help may be given or received by students when taking quizzes, tests, or examinations, whatever the type or whenever taken, unless the instructor specifically permits deviation from this standard.
2. Course requirements. All work submitted to fulfill course requirements is to be solely the product of the individual(s) whose name(s) appears on it. Except with permission of the instructor, no recourse is to be had for projects, papers, lab reports, or any other written work previously prepared by another student, and except with permission of the instructor, no paper or work of any type submitted in partial fulfillment of the requirements of another course may be used a second time to satisfy a requirement of any course in the Department of Public and International Affairs. No assistance is to be obtained from commercial organizations which sell or lease research help or written papers. With respect to all written work as appropriate, proper footnotes and attribution are required.