I. Description

This graduate seminar will introduce major scholarly debates about democratization. It covers the classical works and contemporary research in the field. The readings survey a vast array of themes about social and economic determinants of democracy, transition and consolidation, historical foundations of democracy, contentious politics and democratization, cultural roots of democracy, democracy and redistribution, and subnational democratization. During the first two weeks, the conceptual and methodological foundations of democratization research will be discussed. The remaining 12 weeks are organized around the questions related to the above themes. The main goal of the course is to introduce students to some of the most influential works in comparative democratization. By the completion of this course, the students are expected to identify major lines of inquiry within this research program. In addition, students should be able to identify the theoretical and methodological differences among the scholarly works about comparative democratization. The course will help students to develop critical perspectives about democratization and allow them to articulate their own research projects.

II. Requirements

The reading load for this course is extensive. Students are expected to complete the readings in a timely manner and come to class well prepared to carry a good discussion. Grading is based on review papers, participation, and discussion leadership. The grading components are as follows:

- 4 Review Papers (60%)
- Discussion Leadership (15%)
- Participation (25%)

Student will write four review papers (each 15%). Review papers should not only summarize the readings but also compare them. They should engage in the theoretical and methodological aspects of the readings and provide a critical overview. Students should come up with some questions at the end of the review papers pointing to the weak areas in the assigned readings. The questions should also introduce new research ideas. Each paper should be about 2000-2500 words, double-spaced, and typed with 10-12 font size. The review papers are due by noon on the day of class meeting.
Students will assume a **discussion leadership** role for multiple sessions. A discussion leader will facilitate the discussion by providing a brief overview and identifying theoretical/methodological weakness or strengths of the readings. The group, however, will collectively carry the rest of the discussion. **Student participation** is essential for a scholarly environment in the class. Each student should actively contribute to the class discussion during all sessions. All students should be professional, respectful, and courteous during the class discussion.

**III. Grading and Make-Up Policy**

Attendance is required. Students are expected to actively and substantially participate in class discussions and do not miss a session. Each absence without proper documentation will result in 1% point deduction from the final grade. Late submissions are not allowed. The following grade scale is applicable in this class: A: 100-90, B: 89-80, C: 79-70, D: 69-60, F: 59-0. Grades are rounded to the nearest integer.

**IV. Academic Honesty & Accommodations for Students with Disabilities**

Kansas State University has an Honor & Integrity System based on personal integrity which is presumed to be sufficient assurance in academic matters one’s work is performed honestly and without unauthorized assistance. Undergraduate and graduate students, by registration, acknowledge the jurisdiction of the Honor & Integrity System. The policies and procedures of the Honor System apply to all full and part-time students enrolled in undergraduate and graduate courses on-campus, off-campus, and via distance learning. A component vital to the Honor & Integrity System is the inclusion of the Honor Pledge which applies to all assignments, examinations, or other course work undertaken by students. The Honor Pledge is implied, whether or not it is stated: "On my honor, as a student, I have neither given nor received unauthorized aid on this academic work."

The default in this class is that ALL work will be accomplished individually, UNLESS my permission is given in advance of an assignment/quiz/exam/take-home exam/final. If you are in doubt, please ask. A grade of XF can result from a breach of academic honesty. The F indicates failure in the course; the X indicates the reason is an Honor Pledge violation. For more information, visit the Honor & Integrity System home web page at: [http://www.k-state.edu/honor/](http://www.k-state.edu/honor/)

Any student with a disability that needs a classroom accommodation, access to technology or other assistance in this course should contact Disability Support Services and/or their instructor.

**V. Reading Requirements**

There are **no required texts**, but we will read multiple chapters from the following books. You may purchase them or make copies of the relevant chapters.

*Coppedge, Michael. Democratization and Research methods. Cambridge University Press, 2012*


*Guillermo O’Donnell and Phillippe Schmitter, Transitions from Authoritarian Rule: Tentative Conclusions about Uncertain Democracies (Johns Hopkins UP, 1986)*


Charles Tilly, Coercion, Capital, and European States: AD 990-1990 (Blackwell Publishers, 1992),


VI. Schedule

What is democracy and how should we study it?

Week 1: January 26


Week 2: February 2


Gerardo L. Munck and Jay Verkuilen, Conceptualizing and Measuring Democracy: Evaluating Alternative Indices, Comparative Political Studies February 2002 35: 5-34,


Giovanni Capoccia and Daniel Ziblatt, The Historical Turn in Democratization Studies: A New Research Agenda for Europe and Beyond, Comparative Political Studies, August/September 2010; vol. 43, 8-9: pp. 931-968.
**Paths and Transitions to Democracy**

**Week 3: February 9**


**Week 4: February 16**


**Economic Development and Democracy**

**Week 5: February 23**


**RECOMMENDED**


Samuel P. Huntington, Political Order in Changing Societies. Yale University Press, 1968


Democracy and Distribution

Week 6: March 2


Week 7: March 9


Ben Ansell and David Samuels, *Inequality and Democratization: A Contractarian Approach,"* Comparative Political Studies 43.12 (December 2010), pp. 1543-1574


March 16-March 22 Student Holiday

Historical Foundations of State and Democracy

Week 8: March 23

Tilly, Charles, (1985). War making and state making as organized crime (pp. 169-191). In Tilly, C., Evans, P. B., Rueschemeyer, D., & Skocpol, T. Cambridge University Press. et al. in War making and state making as organized crime


Recommended


Week 9: March 30


Daniel Ziblatt, How did Europe Democratize?" World Politics 58.2 (January 2006), pp. 311-338.


Recommended


Culture and Democracy

Week 10: April 6


Social Capital and Democratization

Week 11: April 13


Oil and Democracy

Week 12: April 20

Dunning, Thad. Crude democracy: Natural resource wealth and political regimes. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, 2008., ch. 1, 2, 5, 8


Contention and Democracy

Week 13: April 27


Recommended

Charles Tilly, Democracy. 2007. Cambridge University Press


Subnational Comparative Research and Democratization

Week 14: May 4


Recommended