CPO 4731
Democratization in Global Perspective
Spring 2013

Course Description

The purpose of this course is to familiarize students with some of the main questions that have characterized the democratization literature. The first part of the course will examine the concept of democracy and its different meanings. In the second part, we will examine the factors favoring or undermining the establishment of democracy, including economic development, culture, and civil society. The third part will be devoted to the analysis of the features and challenges of young democracies. Finally, we will consider the concept of participatory democracy, a potential alternative to representative democracy.

Readings

• One book is required:
• The other readings include book chapters and journal articles. These readings can be accessed through e-reserves or through the online journals available at the UF library’s website.

Grade Components

• Participation (5%): You are required to complete the readings before class. Your participation grade will be based on your participation in class discussions and in two class debates scheduled during the semester (see below). Attendance will be taken regularly and will heavily influence your participation grade.

• Two Exams (30% each): the exam will include short answer and essay questions based on the course readings and the topics examined in class.

• Group Presentations (5%): at the beginning of the semester, small groups of students will be created. Each group will be responsible for gathering material on a regime transition in a country of choice. You will select the country from a list I will provide in class. Students will present their results in the last two weeks of the semester. Further instructions will be provided in class.

• Research Paper (30%): you are required to write a research paper of approximately 2,000 words (1” margins, Times New Roman, size 12 font, double spaced). The research paper should be related to the course. Late papers will not be accepted. Additional instructions will be provided in class. The research paper is due in class on April 24.

Policy on Make-up Exams

Make-up exams will be administered only in the presence of university approved excuses or for medical reasons. In the first case, you will need to present written documentation before the
exam date and to contact me at least one week before the exam date. Make-up exams will be administered for medical reasons only in the presence of a proper doctor’s note.

**Grading Scale**

A: 100-92; A-: 91-90; B+: 89-87; B: 86-83; B-: 82-80; C+: 79-77; C: 76-73; C-: 72-70; D+: 70-68; D: 67-63; D-: 62-60; E: <60

**Attendance**

Attendance will be taken regularly and will heavily influence your participation grade. Moreover, should you miss more than four classes without a university approved excuse, 0.5 points will be subtracted from your final grade for each additional missed class.

**Academic Honesty**

Students are required to comply with the university’s Student Honor Code ([http://www.dso.ufl.edu/sccr/honorcodes/honorcode.php](http://www.dso.ufl.edu/sccr/honorcodes/honorcode.php)). When you commit plagiarism you violate the Student Honor Code. It is important that you fully understand what plagiarism is in order to avoid it. For a better understanding of what plagiarism is, please visit: [http://web.uflib.ufl.edu/msl/subjects/Physics/StudentPlagiarism.html](http://web.uflib.ufl.edu/msl/subjects/Physics/StudentPlagiarism.html)

**Course Outline:**

**First Part - The Concept of Democracy**

**Week 1: Defining Democracy**

*January 7:*
- Introduction

*January 9:*

**January 11:**

**Second Part - Factors Favoring (or Hindering) Democratization and Democratic Survival**

**Week 2: Economic Development and Performance**

**January 14:**

**January 16:**

**January 18:**

**Week 3: Civil Society and Social Movements**

**January 21:**
- *Holiday*

**January 23:**

**January 25:**
Week 4: Culture

January 28:

January 30:

February 1:

Week 5: The Third Wave (I)

February 4:

February 6:
- Huntington, pp. 46-85

February 8:
- Huntington, pp. 85-108

Week 6: The Third Wave (II)

February 11:
- Huntington, pp. 109-142

February 13:
- Huntington, pp. 142-174

February 15:
- Huntington, pp. 174-207

**Week 7:**

*February 18:*
- Class debate on the Third Wave

*February 20:*
- Exam Review

*February 22:*
- Exam# 1

**Week 8: The Arab Spring**

*February 25:*

*February 27:*

*March 1:*
- Class debate: Which factors favor (or hinder) democratization?

**Week 9:**
- Spring Break

**Third Part - Post-Transition Scenarios**

**Week 10: Democratic Consolidation**

*March 11:*

**March 13:**


**March 15:**


**Week 11: The Role of Institutions: Constitutional Design and the Presidentialism vs Parliamentarism Debate**

**March 18:**


**March 20:**


**March 22:**


**Week 12: The Role of Institutions: Parties and Party Systems**

**March 25:**


**March 27:**

**March 29:**


**Week 13: Imperfect Transitions and Hybrid Regimes**

**April 1:**


**April 3:**


**April 5:**


**Week 14: Beyond Representative Democracy? The Deepening of Democracy and Participatory Democracy**

**April 8:**


**April 10:**

- Exam Review

**April 12:**

- Exam#2
Week 15: Group Presentations (I)

April 15:
- Presentation Group 1

April 17:
- Presentation Group 2

April 19:
- Presentation Group 3

Week 16: Group Presentations (II)

April 22:
- Presentation Group 4

April 24:
- Presentation Group 5
- PAPER DUE