Professor Natasha Borges Sugiyama, Ph.D.  Office Hours in BOL: Thursdays 1:30-3:30
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CLACS Office: NWQ-B 2498               (*NOTE SPELLING OF ADDRESS)

COURSE DESCRIPTION

This course provides an overview of the literature in comparative politics on democratization. We will address longstanding conceptual questions including definitions of democracy, democratic transitions, consolidation, and reversal. The seminar will also tackle debates related to the preconditions for democratization and as well as different accounts for democratic successes and failures. Readings will draw on case studies from around the world, including Asia, Europe, Middle East and North Africa (MENA), Latin America, and the former Soviet Republics. Throughout the semester we will examine a variety of analytic approaches and methodologies scholars employ in the subfield of comparative politics.

This course draws on several types of readings: classics in democratic theory and democratization, as well as contemporary analysis of current political processes. Thus, we will read works that are varied in length and style. As the field of comparative politics includes scholarship that appears in full-length monographs, the syllabus includes some books to be read in their entirety. Other readings appear in the form of articles and book chapters.

Books to Purchase:

We will be reading the following books in the course. Purchase or rent from a bookseller of your choosing.

Required:


Most books will be on 2-hour reserve at the UWM Library. (New books published in 2014 and 2015 are on order). Please check the Library catalog for availability.

**ASSIGNMENTS**

I) **In-Class Participation (20%)**

This is a discussion-based course that requires regular and active participation on a weekly basis. All class members should come to the weekly seminar with comments, questions, and having completed all the course readings thoroughly.

II) **Weekly Short Papers (60%)**

Students will submit ten (10) weekly short papers (2-3 pages). Each paper should address the entirety of the week’s assigned reading. The papers should analyze the core themes, debates, methods, and approaches employed the authors. Effective analysis in such a short format will require avoidance of summary. Short papers are **due in hard copy on the day the readings are to be discussed** in class.

III) **Final Exam (20%)**

The exam will be comprehensive in scope (i.e. include all course reading materials) and questions will be similar in vein to the doctoral prelim exams in political science, which includes broad themes on theories of democratization, democracy-building, and democratic governance. This take home exam will simulate a doctoral preliminary exam. I.e. students will complete the exam in one day (6 hours) and answer two questions. One important difference however, is that students will be able to refer to their course notes and materials. No other materials (e.g. classmates, friends, Internet searches, book reviews, etc.) will be allowed for consultation. The window to take the exam as well as further instructions on its administration will be provided at the end of the semester.

**COURSE POLICIES**

**Academic Misconduct:** Students who violate University rules on scholastic dishonesty are subject to disciplinary action and disciplinary sanctions by the University. Since such dishonesty harms the individual, all students, and the integrity of the University, policies on academic misconduct will be strictly enforced. For more information, see: [http://www.uwm.edu/Dept/OSL/DOS/conduct.html](http://www.uwm.edu/Dept/OSL/DOS/conduct.html)

**Disability Accommodations:** At the beginning of the semester, students with disabilities who need special accommodations should notify the instructor by presenting a letter prepared by the Student Accessibility Center (SAC). To ensure that the most appropriate accommodations are provided, students should contact the SAC Office. For more information, see: [http://www.uwm.edu/Dept/DSAD/SAC/SACltr.pdf](http://www.uwm.edu/Dept/DSAD/SAC/SACltr.pdf)
Religious Beliefs Accommodation: On occasion, students may find it necessary to miss class in order to observe a religious holiday. In order to ensure reasonable accommodation, students should inform the instructor of the conflict prior to the holiday. Any conflicts with assignments, tests, or other coursework must be addressed before the due date. For more information, see http://www.uwm.edu/Dept/SecU/acad%2Badmin_policies/S1.5.htm

Incompletes: For more information on UWM’s policy on incompletes, see: http://www.uwm.edu/Dept/SecU/acad%2Badmin_policies/S31.pdf

Military Duty: Students called up for active military duty should contact the instructor for accommodation. For more information on the university’s policies, see: http://www3.uwm.edu/des/web/registration/militarycallup.cfm

Discriminatory Conduct: For information on definitions of discrimination, harassment, abuse of power, and the reporting requirements of discriminatory conduct, see: http://www.uwm.edu/Dept/SecU/acad%2Badmin_policies/S47.pdf


SEMINAR MEETING CALENDAR

Thursday, January 23rd
Introduction to the Course

No readings

Thursday, January 30th
Concepts: Democracy, Democratization, and Consolidation


Recommended further reading:

**Thursday, February 6th**  
**Historical Approaches**


Recommended further reading:  


**Thursday, February 13th**  
**Modernization Theory and Democratization**


Recommended further reading:  

**Thursday, February 20th**  
**Processes-Oriented Approaches**


Recommended further reading:

**Thursday, February 27th**


Recommended:

**Thursday, March 5th**


**Thursday, March 12th**


**Elites**

**Class & Workers**

**Social Movements**
Recommended:

**Thursday, March 19th**
No readings

**Thursday, March 26th**

**Economy & Democratization**


Recommended

**Thursday, April 2nd**

**Political Culture**


Recommended further reading:
Thursday, April 9th

Civil Society


Thursday, April 16th

Race, Ethnicity & Democratization


Recommended further reading:

Thursday, April 23rd

Persistent Authoritarianism


Thursday, April 30th

International Pressures & Democracy
Diffusion:


Democracy Assistance:


Recommended:

**Thursday, May 7th**

--- *This session will be rescheduled based on a mutually agreed upon date with class ---*


*Deadline to submit Exams – Monday, May 11th at midnight *