

SOSC 3630 Democracy and Democratization around the World

Spring semester, 2023

Wednesday and Friday, 13.30-14.50

Room: LSK 1032

Instructor: Prof. Wenkai He

Course Description:

The rise and fall of democracy is one of the most important political and social phenomenon in the nineteenth and twentieth centuries. A deep understanding of how such phenomenon occurred in various times and places has both theoretical and practical implications. There are quite different research paradigms to address this issue in existing literature of social science, including individual-rationality based political economy, class-based or social group-based political sociology, and both agent-based or structure-oriented approaches in historical sociology. Meanwhile, the scholarship to study the rise and fall of democracy is one active field in social science. Scholarship of state formation and state legitimation is increasingly integrated to the study of democratization and failure of democracy. It is thus important for the students to learn to evaluate the merits and defects in each research paradigm. This training of critical reasoning is also important to cultivate the students' ability to come up with new research questions or research agendas.

The course aims to introduce the classical and cutting edge studies in the scholarship to study the rise and fall of democracy to the students. It aims to train the students' ability to critically evaluate the existing scholarship and think about new research questions. It also aims to encourage the students understand the interactions between context and social science theories, as well as the relationship between normative theories of democracy and empirical studies of democracy.

Grading:

Course participation (10%): class attendance and participation in class discussion.

Writing assignment in the form of three shorter responses to weekly assigned readings (30%): A response should be 2-3 pages, which critically evaluate the reading in one week. You need to examine how the author justify the argument by empirical evidence. You can choose to write the fourth response if you are not satisfied with the grade in the previous three responses, and the lowest grade will be dropped. If you receive three A in responses, then no need to write the fourth one.

One final term paper (60%): 10-12 pages, either on a topic that you choose in consult with me; or I give you an essay topic.

Week 1: Minimal Democracy for Democratization?

Joseph Schumpeter, *Capitalism, Socialism and Democracy* (), 250-296.

Robert Dahl, *Polyarchy: Participation and Opposition* (New Haven: Yale University Press, 1971), 1-32

Recommended: Phillippe C. Schmitter and Terry Lynn Karl, "What Democracy Is ... and Is not," *Journal of Democracy* 2, no. 3 (1994): 75-88.

Week 2: Three Waves of Democracy

Samuel P. Huntington, *The Third Wave: Democratization in the Late Twentieth Century* (Norman: University of Oklahoma Press, 1991), 3-108.

Week 3: Structural Approaches to democratization: The Modernization School

Seymour Martin Lipset, "Some social requisites of democracy," *American Political Science Review*, 53, no. 1 (March 1959): 69-105.

Recommended:

Evelyn Huber, Dietrich Rueschemeyer and John D. Stephens, "The Impact of Economic Development on Democracy," *Journal of Economic Perspectives*, vol. 7, no. 3 (Summer 1993): 71-85.

Week 4: Actor-based approaches to democratization

Dankwart A. Rustow, "Transitions to Democracy: Toward a Dynamic Model," *Comparative Politics*, 2, no. 3 (April 1970): 337-63.

Juan Linz and Alfred Stepan, *Problems of Democratic Transition and Consolidation: Southern Europe, South America, and Post-Communist Europe* (Baltimore: The Johns Hopkins University Press, 1996): 3-65.

Recommended:

Thomas Carothers, "The End of the Transition Paradigm," *Journal of Democracy*, 13, no. 1 (January 2002): 5-21.

Week: 5 The Bureaucratic Authoritarian State and Democratization

Samuel J. Huntington, *Political Order in Changing Societies* (New Haven: Yale University Press, 1968),

Recommended: Hyug Baeg Im, "The Rise of Bureaucratic Authoritarianism in South Korea," *World Politics*, vol. 39, no. 2 (January 1987): 231-257.

Week 6: Social Origins of Dictatorship and Democracy

Barrington Moore, *Social Origins of Dictatorship and Democracy: Lord and Peasant in the Making of the Modern World* (Boston: Beacon Press, 1966),

Deborah J. Yashar, *Demanding Democracy: Reform and Reaction in Costa Rica and Guatemala, 1870s-1950s* (Stanford: Stanford University Press, 1997),

Week 7: Elite Origins of Democracy

Michale Albertus and Victor Menaldo, *Authoritarianism and the Elite Origins of Democracy* (New York: Cambridge University Press, 2018),

Week 8 Conservative Parties and Democratization

Daniel Ziblatt, *Conservative Parties and the Birth of Democracy* (New York: Cambridge University Press, 2017),

Week 9: Civil Society and Democratization:

Dylan Riley, *The Civic Foundations of Fascism in Europe: Italy, Spain, and Romania, 1870-1945* (Baltimore: The Johns Hopkins University Press, 2010), pp. 1-22.

Theda Skocpol, "The Tocqueville Problem: Civic Engagement in American Democracy," *Social Science History*, Vol. 21, Issue 4 (Winter 1997): 455-79.

Week 10: Natural Resources and Democracy

Thad Dunning, *Crude Democracy: Natural Resource Wealth and Political Regimes* (New York: Cambridge University Press, 2008), 1-60 and 148-209.

Recommended:

Terry Lynn Karl, *The Paradox of Plenty: Oil Booms and Petro-States* (Berkeley: University of California Press, 1997),

Week 11: Contention and Democracy

Evelyn Huber, Dietrich Rueschemeyer and John D. Stephens, *Capitalist Development and Democracy* (New York: Cambridge University Press, 1992), 1-140.

Week 12 Regime Cycles

Steven Levitsky and Lucan Way, *Competitive Authoritarianism: Hybrid Regimes after the Cold War* (New York: Cambridge University Press, 2010), chapters 1, 2, and 8.

Recommended:

Axel Hadenius and Jan Teorell, "Pathways from Authoritarianism," *Journal of Democracy*, 18, no. 1 (January 2007): 143-56.

Dan Slater, "Democratic Careening," *World Politics*, vol. 65, no. 4 (2013):

Week 13: The collapse of democracy

Daniel Ziblatt and Steven Levitsky, *How Democracies Die* (New York: Crown, 2018)