

Political Science 437:  
**Democracies, Emerging and Evolving**

Summer Session II, July 12<sup>th</sup> - August 11<sup>th</sup>, 2010  
Online

---

Instructor: Michael Slobodchikoff  
E-mail: [slobodcm@email.arizona.edu](mailto:slobodcm@email.arizona.edu)

---

## SYLLABUS

### Course Description and Objectives:

Today, a majority of the world's nation states are considered to be democratic. Yet, the nature, extent, and "quality" of democracy vary considerably among these states. In 2007, for example, *The Economist* identified 28 regimes as "full democracies," 54 as "flawed democracies," 30 as hybrid regimes, and 55 as authoritarian regimes.<sup>1</sup> What distinguishes full democracies from flawed democracies? How do we know what a democracy *is*, versus what a democracy *is not*? These are the types of questions that are explored in the first half of the course, as well as the major theoretical approaches that seek to answer what the goal of democracy is and how it might best be achieved. The second part of the class examines emerging democracies and the role of democracy in the international system, with a focus on the practical application of these different theoretical insights. The objective of this class is develop a more complete understanding of what a democracy is, as well as why and how democracies develop and under what conditions they operate most effectively.

### Course Requirements:

#### *Required Text*

Robert Dahl, Shapiro, and Cheibub (Eds.), *The Democracy Sourcebook*, MIT Press.  
(2003)

The text is available at the campus book store, or can be purchased on-line from your preferred retailer. Additional readings are provided on the D2L course homepage, and are marked with an @ in the course schedule.

---

<sup>1</sup> *The Economist's* "The Economist Intelligence Unit's index of democracy" is available on-line at the course's D2L site.

*Grading Information:*

<b>Requirements</b>	<b>Percentage of Grade</b>	<b>Dates</b>
Mid-Term	20%	July 23 <sup>rd</sup>
Responses	10%	July 14 <sup>th</sup> and 19 <sup>th</sup>
Final Paper	20%	August 9 <sup>th</sup>
Presentation	20%	August 9 <sup>th</sup>
Simulation	20%	August 2 <sup>nd</sup> - 6 <sup>th</sup>
Participation	10%	Daily

*Attendance:*

You are expected to access the class materials and discussions every day. Given the nature of summer classes, missing even one day of materials and discussion will leave you at a considerable disadvantage. Note that attendance is not part of your grade, but participation is. Keep in mind that you cannot participate if you do not access the class materials.

*Midterm Exam:*

There will be a mid-term exam. The exam is worth 20% of your grade. More details will be given in class. Keep in mind that the exam questions can come from the lectures as well as the assigned readings and discussions.

*Missed/late assignments and Make-up Exams*

Assignments are due by 5:00 PM on the due date. Late papers will be penalized one letter grade for each calendar day late. Late penalties may be waived for excused absences only (religious observances, hospitalization, dean's excuse, etc.) Late papers will not be accepted more than one week past the due date. Exam dates are already set and noted below. These dates will not change – please make any adjustments necessary to your own schedule to ensure you can attend the exam periods. Make up exams will be given only under your instructor's heavy protest, and only after you have provided extensive documentation. They also run the risk of being spitefully difficult – you have been warned.

*Response Papers:*

As this is a writing emphasis course, there are two response papers due. Together, these papers constitute 10% of your grade. Both papers should be double spaced with 12 point font and 1-inch margins. There is no minimum or maximum number of sources that you must use. However, you must cite your sources. You may use whichever format you feel most comfortable with (APA, APSR, MLA, Chicago, etc.), but make sure to create a works cited page for each of these response papers, and be consistent. You will be marked off for spelling and grammatical mistakes, so please proofread your papers carefully. The papers are due to me by e-mail no later than 5:00 PM on the date due. No late papers will be accepted.

## *Papers*

All papers submitted for this course should be typed, 1-inch margins, and double-spaced. All work submitted for this class is expected to conform to academic standards as regards sourcing and citation of information.

Please consider the following when preparing your papers:

(1) Suggestions regarding the length of your paper are just that, suggestions. They reflect what I think would be about the right amount of discussion for you to fully respond to any given assignment, assuming you are generally direct and to-the-point. Please consider this in conjunction with:

(2) The best papers (those that get As) are just long enough to contain all the relevant information and argumentation and none of the irrelevant fluff. A complete, parsimonious discussion is your goal. Your grade starts slipping when you start adding “fluff” and/or subtracting real content.

(3) You were not born knowing the myriad reasons for the fluctuations in GDP/capita in PPP for China, nor that Secularism is one of the main principles of Kemalism. I do not expect you to have known that without looking it up, so please do not be embarrassed to give credit where it is due and CITE YOUR SOURCES.

(4) Proofreading is not the same things as hitting the spell check button. Yes, that still holds true even if you have a grammar check. It actually requires you to read your own work, before you turn it in. Not only that, but while you read it you should look for any mistakes and then go back and fix them. I will appreciate it, and so will your grade.

## *Country Study and Group Presentations*

A central component of this course is a research project. Students will examine a “developing” democracy with regards to its political history and current socio-political circumstances, evaluating its democratic progress and future prospects. In conjunction with the individual country studies, students will be grouped according to the region in which your country is based for the purpose of developing an in-class presentation regarding the prospects for democratic development in your respective area. Additional details and country selection will be forthcoming once the “Add” period has expired and the class size is officially set.

## **Academic Integrity:**

I take academic integrity very seriously, and hold all students accountable to the highest levels of academic integrity. Cheating, plagiarism, and other forms of academic dishonesty will not be tolerated and will be subject to disciplinary action as prescribed by University of Arizona rules and regulations. If you have any doubts about what constitutes academic dishonesty, please consult the following:

<http://dos.web.arizona.edu/uapolicies>

Any act of plagiarism or will result in an automatic zero for that assignment, with additional action as warranted.

### **Proper Conduct:**

As this is a political science class, opinions are likely to be diverse and not everyone will share your view. Please keep online discussions respectful and focused on the issues at hand. Personal attacks will not be permitted at any time. If you would like more information on the university's policy against threatening behavior by students, please consult the following:

<http://policy.web.arizona.edu/~policy/threaten.shtml>.

### **Contacting Me:**

As this is an online class, our interactions will be online either through live discussions or through e-mail. I check my e-mail frequently, and normally respond to questions the same business day. However, please keep in mind that e-mails sent to me after 5:00 PM will be answered the next business day. Thus, please plan your schedule accordingly. Also, I am happy to set up an appointment to meet in a live chat so that we can discuss questions live. If you wish to do so, please email me, and we will set up a time of the live chat.

### **Students with Disabilities:**

If you anticipate issues related to the format or requirements of this course, please meet with me. I would like us to discuss ways to ensure your full participation in the course. If you determine that formal, disability-related accommodations are necessary, it is very important that you be registered with Disability Resources (621-3268; drc.arizona.edu) and notify me of your eligibility for reasonable accommodations. We can then plan how best to coordinate your accommodations.

### **Readings:**

You are expected to complete the readings each day. Failure to complete the readings will reflect itself in your participation grade. See the course schedule for a list of required readings. The course schedule is attached to this syllabus.

**I, as the instructor, reserve the right to modify the syllabus, with reasonable, advanced notice, if needed.**

## **COURSE SCHEDULE**

Readings marked with the @ symbol are available online at our D2L course website, the rest can be found in the course text, marked in the schedule as DS (See Course Information). Schedule and reading assignments may be subject to change with advanced notice.

*Week 1* (July 12-16)

### **What is Democracy**

- 7/12 M Introduction to the Course  
**Readings:** @Lecture 1, @Syllabus
- 7/13 T What is Democracy?  
**Readings:** @Lecture 2, @Democracy Index, DS pp. 1-28
- 7/14 W What is Democracy?  
**Readings:** @Lecture 3, DS pp. 29-53, @Iran Case Study  
**Homework:** Response 1 due in D2L Dropbox by 5:00 PM Wed. July 14:  
*What is a democracy? How do you define democracy?*
- 7/15 TH Prerequisites to Democracy  
**Readings:** @Lecture 4, DS pp. 56-64, 71-75
- 7/16 F Spread of Democracy  
**Readings:** @Lecture 5, DS pp. 76-98, @Dr. Dunford Bio, @General Adams Bio  
**Homework:** Due by 5:00 PM: Develop 5 questions for Dr. Dunford and 5 questions for General Adams (Total of 10 questions)
- 7/19 M Types of Democracy  
**Readings:** @Lecture 6, DS pp. 258-271, 284-295  
**Homework:** Response 2 due in D2L Dropbox by 5:00 PM Mon. July 19:  
*Which is more stable, a Presidential Democracy or Parliamentary Democracy? Why?*
- 7/20 T Representation  
**Readings:** @Lecture 7, DS pp. 312-316, 354-361
- 7/21 W Interest Groups  
**Readings:** @Lecture 8, DS pp. 364-380

- 7/22 TH Democratic Peace  
**Readings: @Lecture 9, @Russett and Starr**
- 7/23 F Midterm Review  
**Homework: Due by 5:00 PM: Post 1 possible exam question in the discussions and respond to 2 others**
- 7/26 M Midterm Exam  
**On D2L Website under quizzes section. Due by 5:00 PM. You have 1 hour to complete the exam, and 1 Attempt only.**
- 7/27 T Spreading Democracy as Foreign Policy  
**Readings: @Bringing Democracy, @Military Intervention Democracy  
Watch: @Spreading Democracy Video**
- 7/28 W Guest Lecture: General Adams (Live Chat TBA)  
**Readings: @General Adams Bio, @General Adams Lecture, @Special Briefing 2010, @Goldgeier 2008, @Rynning 2007; Recommended: @Adler 2008, @Wallander 2000**
- 7/29 TH Guest Lecture: Dr. Dunford (TBA)  
**Readings: @Dr. Dunford Bio, @Dr. Dunford Lecture**
- 7/30 F Simulation Preparation  
**Readings: @Simulation Rules, Your Simulation Role (Sent by e-mail)**
- 8/2 M Simulation
- 8/3 T Simulation
- 8/4 W Simulation
- 8/5 TH Simulation
- 8/6 F Simulation Wrap-up  
**Homework: Must have finished a constitution with a vote of 2/3 of the class voting to adopt the constitution.**
- 8/9 M Wrap-up of Class  
**Readings: @Lecture 11  
Homework: Final Paper Due by 5:00 PM, Final Power Point Presentation Due by 5:00 PM**
- 8/10 T Presentations  
**Readings: @Presentations**

8/11 W Presentations  
**Readings: @Presentations, Evaluations Due by 5:00 PM.**