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**Authoritarians and Democrats  
CPO 3055  
Summer 2016**

When: T-Th 10:50 am-2:10 pm  
Where: ZEB 150  
Office Hours: T 9:00-10:30 a.m.

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### **Course description**

The study of democracy is one of the core problems in the field of comparative politics. Democracy has been the dominant political regime type or form of government in the advanced industrialized countries of the West since the end of WWII. More recently, since 1974, a wave of democratization has swept southern Europe, Latin America, former-Soviet Union, as well as parts of Asia and Africa. We have also seen some recent movement towards democratization as well as regressions in the Middle East. Increasingly, the study of processes of democratization and the resulting democratic regimes is at the center of current efforts to understand and explain politics around the globe.

This course addresses the political process of democratization as a global phenomenon by focusing on the following questions: How and why have countries become democratic? Are currently authoritarian regimes likely to become democratic? To address these questions, this course compares the experience with democratization of various regions: Western Europe, Latin America, Asia, Eastern Europe and the Soviet Union/Russia, and Africa. Within these regions, special attention will be given to these cases: Great Britain, Germany, Spain, Portugal, Argentina, Chile, Russia, Korea, South Africa and Egypt.

### **Course Objectives**

1. Students will be able to learn about different theories of democratization.
2. Students will develop an understanding on how different variables can influence democratization.
3. Students will learn about the political history of regime change in different regions.

### **Global Learning Objectives**

1. Students will be able to demonstrate knowledge on how different cultural, domestic, international, and global variables can influence democratization.
2. Students will be able to present different explanations and factors for democratization (or lack of) in a region of the world.
3. Students will be able to show engagement with issues of democratization and its opportunities and problems beyond cases discussed in class.

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## Requirements

When the assignment consists of watching a movie, the instructor will show the movie at the time of the class. If you have access to the movie, you do not have to come to class but you have to submit the assignment. In line with this format, a greater percentage of the grade will come from work done throughout the semester, as opposed to the work done at certain points in the semester. This course is not suited for students who prefer to “tune out” until the exams come around.

### 1. Examinations

Students will have a midterm and a final examination. Each examination will be worth 30% of the overall grade.

### 2. Writing assignments.

Every other week students will submit a short response essay (minimum 2 pages and maximum 5 pages long) on a film or readings chosen by the instructor for each case study. The essays should not be a summary of the film or readings but an analysis on how the film and the readings connect with the themes of the course. The instructor will provide a guide for the writing assignments. The written work and comments should be posted no later than Sunday at 11:59 pm. Failure to submit written work on time will entail a no grade for that assignment. These assignments will account for 30% of the total grade.

### 3. Class participation

All students must read all the assigned material before each class and come prepared to participate in the discussion. I will monitor class participation if necessary, I will ask questions directly to individual students; and on the basis of this assessment a grade for class participation will be assigned, accounting for 10 % of the total grade.

## Course policies

1. All grades are based on a 100 point grade scale, with the following letters and corresponding numbers:

A	95-100	B	85-87.99	C	75-77.99	D	65-67.99
A-	90-94.99	B-	80-84.99	C-	70-74.99	D-	60-64.99
B+	88-89.99	C+	78-79.99	D+	68-69.99	F	0-59.99

### 2. Makeups

Examinations, if missed, can only be made up if a) a student confronts sickness or medical emergency, or b) if there are other extenuating circumstances that the instructor deems justifiable. In case of sickness/medical emergency, the student will be required to present written and verifiable documentation from medical personnel. In the case of other extenuating circumstances, the instructor will require similar documentation appropriate to the situation. Normally, such special circumstances must be communicated to the instructor before rather than after the date in question. All justification

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must be presented to the instructor verbally and directly, and not through written notes or phone calls to the secretaries of the Department of Political Science and International Relations.

### 3. Academic Honesty

All students in this course are expected to be familiar with the Student Code of Conduct, especially the provisions pertaining to academic dishonesty. No student in this course may claim ignorance of these rules. Accordingly, all potential violations of academic dishonesty will be vigorously prosecuted. For information on the latest policies relating to academic misconduct, see: <http://www.fiu.edu/~oabp/misconductweb/unitinstructions.htm>

### 4. Extra Credit and Second Chances

The instructor will not accept students' offers to retake an exam, or to rewrite an assignment or to do extra work for extra credit.

## Readings

I will post all the readings on Blackboard.

## Course Outline and Assignments

### Part I Concepts and Methods

#### 1. Concepts and Causes of Democratization

June 28

#### 2. Analyzing Democratization or lack of Democratization

June 28

Assignment:

-Potter, "Explaining Democratization," Chapter 1 in Potter et. al. Democratization, and Appendix (pp. 37-38).

-Haerpfer, Democratization, Chapters 2, 3, 4 and 6

-Linz and Stepan, Problems of Democratic Transition and Consolidation, Chapters 1-5.

### Part II Case Studies

#### Western Europe: Great Britain and Germany

June 30

-Goldblatt, "Introduction [to Part II]," in Potter et. al. Democratization, pp. 41-45.

-Goldblatt, "Democracy in the 'Long Nineteenth Century': 1760-1919," Chapter 2 in Potter et. al. Democratization.

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-Bessel, "The Crisis of Modern Democracy, 1919-45," Chapter 3 in Potter et. al. Democratization.

-Goldblatt, "Democracy in Europe: 1939-89," Chapter 4 in Potter et. al. Democratization.

### **Analyzing Democratization in Germany**

July 5

Assignment:

- a) Watch one movie: "Goodbye Lenin" available on the internet or FIU Libraries.
- b) Write an essay in reaction to the movie. Questions/Guidelines will be posted on Blackboard.

*Essay due on Friday July 8, 2016 at 11:59 p.m.*

### **Southern Europe: Portugal and Spain**

July 5-7

-Linz and Stepan, Problems of Democratic Transition and Consolidation, Part II: "Southern Europe: Completed Consolidations." Read chapters on Spain and Portugal

-Goldblatt, "Afterword [to Part II]," in Potter et. al. Democratization, pp. 139-44.

-Haerpfer, Chapter 18, pp. 269-70 and 275-78.

### **Analyzing Democratization in Portugal and Spain**

July 7

Assignment:

- a) Watch one movie. Options: "Ay Carmela" (Spain) available on the internet or FIU Libraries (DVD or VHS format) or "Night Train to Lisbon" (Portugal) available on Netflix.
- b) Write an essay in reaction to one movie. Questions/Guidelines will be posted on Blackboard.

*Essay due Friday July 15, 2016 at 11:59 p.m.*

### **Latin America: Argentina and Chile**

July 12

-Linz and Stepan, Problems of Democratic Transition and Consolidation, Part III: "South America: Constrained Transitions." Read chapters on Argentina and Chile

-Haerpfer, Chapter 19.

*First Exam- July 14, 2016*

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### **Analyzing Democratization in Argentina and Chile**

July 14

#### **Assignment:**

- a) Watch one movie. Options: "The Official Story" (Argentina) or "Missing" (Chile). Both movies are available at FIU Library (DVD or VHS format). The "Official Story" is also available on Netflix.
- b) Write an essay in reaction to one movie. Questions/Guidelines will be posted on Blackboard.

***Essay due Friday July 22, 2016 at 11:59 p.m.***

### **Soviet Union and Korea**

July 19

- Linz and Stepan, Problems of Democratic Transition and Consolidation, Part IV: "Post-Communist Europe: The Most Complex Paths and Tasks." [Read chapter 19, on USSR/Russia]
- Haerpfer, Democratization, Chapter 20
- Potter, "Democratization at the Same Time in South Korea and Taiwan," Chapter 9 in Potter et. al. Democratization.
- Potter, "Afterword [to Part III]," in Potter et. al. Democratization, pp. 264-67.
- Haerpfer, Democratization, Chapter 23

### **Analyzing Lack of Democratization in North Korea or Democratization in Russia**

July 21

#### **Assignment:**

- a) Watch one movie. Options: "My Perestroika" (Soviet Union) or "Inside Under Cover in North Korea." Both movies are available on the internet.
- b) Write an essay in reaction to one movie. Questions/Guidelines will be posted on Blackboard.

***Essay due Friday July 29, 2016 at 11:59 p.m.***

### **South Africa and Egypt**

July 26

- Filip Reyntjens, "Constructing the truth, dealing with dissent, domesticating the world: Governance in Post genocide Rwanda" African Affairs (2010)
- Filip Reyntjens, "Rwanda, Ten Years On: From Genocide to Dictatorship" African Affairs

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(2004)

-Kiloh, "South Africa: Democracy Delayed," Chapter 12 in Potter et. al. Democratization.

-Kiloh, "Afterword [to Part IV]," in Potter et. al. Democratization.

-Haerpfer, Democratization, Chapters 22

-Bellin, "Explaining democratic divergence: Why Tunisia has succeeded and Egypt has failed,"  
Project on Middle East Political Science (December 10, 2014)

(<http://pomeps.org/2014/12/10/explaining-democratic-divergence/>).

Diane Singerman, "Youth, Gender, and Dignity in the Egyptian Uprising," Journal of Middle East Women's Studies 9.3 (Fall 2013): 1-27

### **Analyzing Democratization in South Africa and Egypt**

July 28

#### **Assignment:**

a) Watch one movie. Options: Winnie Mandela (South Africa) or "The Square" (Egypt). Both movies are available on Netflix.

b) Write an essay in reaction to movie. Questions/Guidelines will be posted on Blackboard.

***Essay due August 3, 2016 at 11:59 p.m.***

***Take Home Final Exam-Due on August 5, 2016***

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