COURSE DESCRIPTION: Today, for the first time in history, a majority of the world’s nation-states qualify, in some sense, as democracies. While all of these regimes are characterized by relatively free and open elections, the nature and extent of democracy vary substantially across these nations, as do their basic structures, their effectiveness, and their political stability. This research seminar uses comparative methods to explore the nature and extent of democracy and to assess competing theories advanced to explain the character, effectiveness, legitimacy and survival of democratic regimes.

Specifically, the seminar will attempt to define democracy and to explore competing theories that explain what democracies are and under what conditions they operate most effectively. During the first part of the semester we will read and discuss a broad selection of literature -- some old, some recent -- on the nature and operation of democracies paying attention not only the questions asked in this literature and the answers provided but also to the research methods and data employed in this research. During the second part of the semester, students will present and critique their own research on the structure and operation of democracy. The seminar also includes practical instruction on concept formation and measurement and on comparative research methods.

REQUIREMENTS

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>REQUIREMENTS</th>
<th>Percentage of Grade</th>
<th>Due Date</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Research Design</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>March 3rd</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Research Paper</td>
<td>40</td>
<td>April 14(draft)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>May 15 (final)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Final Exam</td>
<td>30</td>
<td>May 10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Seminar Participation</td>
<td>20</td>
<td>Weekly</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

READINGS


COURSE OUTLINE

January 11  Topic I:  Organizational Meeting

January 18  Topic II:  Why Democracy?

Required:


January 25  Topic III:  Defining Democracy?

Required:


February 1  Topic IV: Measuring Democracy


Data Base Sites (Optional: For Use With Papers)
World Values Survey:  http://www.worldvaluessurvey.org/
Asia Barometer:  http://avatol.ioc.u-tokyo.ac.jp/~asiabarometer/
Afro-Barometer:  http://www.afrobarometer.org/
LatinoBarometer:  http://www.latinobarometro.org/index.php?id=150
New Democracies Barometer, New Europe Barometer, New Russia Barometer: http://www.cspp.strath.ac.uk/index.html?catalog4_0.html
Polity Data Base:  http://www.cidcm.umd.edu/inscr/polity/
Bank’s CrossNational Data Bank:  http://www.databanks.sitehosting.net/
Misc Data Sets:  http://einstein.library.emory.edu/govinstlinks.html
Freedom House:  http://www.freedomhouse.org/
Transparency International:  http://www.transparency.org/
February 8  Topic V:  Political Culture and Democracy


February 15  Topic VI: Institutions and Democracy


February 22 Topic VII: Consequences of Democracy

Economic Development


Peace


February 22  Topic VIII:  Trust, Legitimacy and Popular Support for Democracy


William Mishler and Richard Rose, “What are the Consequences of Political Trust: A Test of Cultural and Institutional Theories in Russia.” *Comparative Political Studies* (November, 2005). On course Homepage at http://www.u.arizona.edu/~mishler/courses.htm

March 1     Topic IX: Electoral Systems and Democracy


March 8    Topic X:    Research Design Presentations

    Each Student Have 5 minutes to explain basic question, theoretical perspective and basic research design including data base.

March 15    SPRING BREAK
March 22    Topic XI:    Participation and Representation

Participation:


Representation:


March 29    Topic XII:  Executive-Legislative Relations


April 5  Topic XIII:  A Return to the Bigger Picture


April 19, 26  Topic XIV:  Paper Presentations

Each student has 10 minutes to present paper.
Supplementary Readings:


Gary King, Robert Keohane and Sidney Verba, Designing Social Inquiry Princeton University Press, 1994, pp 208-228


Arend Lijphart, "The Comparable Cases Strategy in Comparative Research," Comparative Political Studies, 8, 1975, pp. 158-77 EBSCO


Adam Przeworski and H. Teune, *The Logic of Comparative Social Inquiry*, pp 17-74


Brian Silver and Kathleen Dowley. 2000. Measuring Political Culture in Multiethnic Societies, Comparative Political Studies, 33:4


