

Department	International College of Liberal Arts		
Semester	Fall 2026	Year Offered (Odd/Even/Every Year)	Every Year
Course Number	PSCI270		
Course Title	Democracy and Democratization		
Prerequisites	PSCI220 Comparative Politics		
Course Instructor	HARAGUCHI Koji	Year Available (Grade Level)	2
Subject Area	Political Science	Number of Credits	3
Class Style	Lecture	Language of instruction	English

(NOTE 1) Depending on the class size and the capacity of the facility, we may not be able to accommodate all students who wish to register for the course

Course Description	<p>Cap (registrant capacity): 20 students</p> <p>The course is designed to develop a theoretical and empirical understanding of democracy and democratization. First, the course will introduce the key concepts, theories, and models of democracy and democratization. Based on the analytical frameworks developed in the first section, the second section will survey competing and sometimes conflicting factors of democratization. The third section takes on the issues of democratic retreat and declines and examines the major causes of the issue. In the fourth section, the students will compare democratic developments in Latin America, Asia, the Middle East, and Africa. The course will conclude by speculating on the future of democracy across the globe.</p>
Class plan based on course evaluation from previous academic year	The instructor is open to suggestions for ideas to improve the learning experiences of this brand-new course.
Course related to the instructor's practical experience (Summary of experience)	Not applicable
Learning Goals	<p>Through the course, the students will</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> (1) be familiar with major scholarship on democracy and democratization (2) understand the promise and the challenges democracy faces in the 21st century (3) identify the causes of democratization and democratic retreat (4) propose solutions to challenges related to democratization and democratic backsliding in a country of the student's interest

iCLA Diploma Policy	DP1/DP2/DP3/DP4
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iCLA Diploma Policy

(DP1) To Value Knowledge – Having high oral and written communication skills to be able to both comprehend and transfer knowledge

(DP2) To Be Able to Adapt to a Changing World – Having critical, creative, problem-solving, intercultural skills, global and independent mindset to adopt to a changing world

(DP3) To Believe in Collaboration – Having a disposition to work effectively and inclusively in teams

(DP4) To Act from a Sense of Personal and Social Responsibility – Having good ethical and moral values to make positive impacts in the world

Active Learning Methods	Problem-Based Learning/Discussion, Debate/Group Work/Presentation				
More details/supplemental information on Active Learning Methods	The course requirements include class discussions on reading assignments, group discussion, and an oral presentation on the research paper.				
Use of ICT	The course will use a learning management system, UNIPA, to receive course materials, submit assignments, view scores of and comments on submitted assignments, contact the instructors and other students, engage in group work, check the attendance records, and more. To ensure access to course materials and the full functions of UNIPA students should use a laptop or tablet computer, not a smartphone. The use of electronic devices may be restricted in case the instructor finds that the students are not engaging in class.				
Contents of class preparation and review	Outside class sessions, the students are required to finish reading assignments, submit written answers to discussion questions, prepare for group debates with other students, prepare for an oral presentation of research, and write a research paper. After submission of the research proposal, the student will have an individual meeting with the instructor to receive feedback and discuss the plan to complete the research paper. The use of artificial intelligence should follow the AI Policy Syllabus Statement in general and the assignment instructions for details.	Hours expected to be spent preparing for class (hours per week)	2 hours	Hours expected to be spent on class review (hours per week)	3 hours
Feedback Methods	Feedback to assignments will be done mainly on UNIPA. Upon requests, the instructor will be available for additional comments and discussion during regular office hours searchable on UNIPA. Please make an appointment for consultation outside office hours.				

Grading Criteria		
Grading Methods	Grading Weights	Grading Content
Discussions or quizzes	30%	Weekly discussions or quizzes based on reading assignments
Debates	30%	Group debates on the major issues of global governance
Research Presentation and Paper	40%	An oral presentation of research on the topic of the student's interest and a paper based on it

Required Textbook(s)	Haerpfer, C. et. al (2019). Democratization (Second edition.). Cambridge University Press. This book costs approximately 15,000 JP yen on Amazon. * A copy of the required books will be reserved in the Course Reserve Section (貸出禁止図書) in the YGU Library.
Other Reading Materials/URL	Brennan, J. (2023). Democracy: A Guided Tour. Oxford University Press Dahl, R. A. (2000). On democracy. Yale University Press. Held, D. (1998). Models of democracy (2nd ed.). Polity Press. Levitsky, S. & Ziblatt, D. (2018). How Democracies Die. Crown Publishing *Because of the dynamic nature of the course subject, additional or alternative academic and magazine articles and book chapters will be assigned to fit the times of the course and be available on LMS Freedom House https://freedomhouse.org/ Polity Project https://www.systemicpeace.org/polityproject.html Varieties of Democracy (V-Dem) https://www.v-dem.net/

Plagiarism Policy	The course follows the Plagiarism Guidelines of iCLA. "Plagiarism is the unauthorized duplication or reproduction of another author's reports, academic papers, or other published works, when represented as one's own original work without reference to the source..... At iCLA, plagiarism is regarded as a dishonest practice, the results of which are unworthy of evaluation. Whether intentional or unintentional, acts of plagiarism lead to strict punishments equivalent to those given to students who are found guilty of dishonest practices during examinations or any other forms of evaluated work." For more details, please consult the section of Plagiarism Guidelines in the Student Handbook. The use of artificial intelligence should follow the AI Policy Syllabus Statement in general and the assignment instructions for details.
Other Additional Notes (Outline crucial policies and info not mentioned above)	*The course schedule may be readjusted as the semester proceeds. *The use of electronic devices may be restricted in case the instructor finds that the students are not engaging in class. *Class attendance is mandatory. The absence from class discussions, research presentations, group debates, and other in-class assignments will have negative impacts on your course grade, and make-up opportunities for missed assignments will not be offered unless it is an excused absence.

(NOTE 2) Class schedule is subject to change

Class Schedule	
Class Number	Content
Class 1	Course introduction Haerpfer's textbook Introduction Brennan, J. (2023). Democracy: Why or Why Not? from Democracy: A Guided Tour. Dahl, R. (1998) Do We Really Need a Guide? from On Democracy
Class 2	Defining Democracy Dahl, R. (1998) What is Democracy? from On Democracy Schmitter & Karl (1991) What democracy is ... and is not . Journal of Democracy Vol.2, No.3
Class 3	Democratic and undemocratic states Haerpfer's textbook Chapter 3 Huntington (1991) The Waves of Democratization from The Third Wave
Class 4	Measuring democracy Coppedge, M. (2012) Defining and measuring democracy from Democratization and Research Method
Class 5	Historical evolutions of democracy Haerpfer's textbook Chapter 4
Class 6	Theories of democratization Haerpfer's textbook Chapter 2
Class 7	Economic factors of democratization Haerpfer's textbook Chapter 8 Dahl (2000) Why Market Capitalism Favors Democracy from On Democracy
Class 8	Political culture of democratization Haerpfer's textbook Chapter 9
Class 9	Social capital, civil society, and democracy Haerpfer's textbook Chapter 11 Almond & Verba (1963) The Civic Culture

Class 10	Social movements and democratization Haerpfer's textbook Chapter 12
Class 11	Institutional factors of democratization Haerpfer's textbook Chapter 15
Class 12	International factors of democratization Haerpfer's textbook Chapter 7
Class 13	Pre-Debate meetings
Class 14	Gender and democratization Haerpfer's textbook Chapter 10
Class 15	Debate 1
Class 16	Debate 2
Class 17	Debate 3
Class 18	Theories of democratic Retreat and decline Haerpfer's textbook Chapter 12
Class 19	Economic factors of democratic retreat and decline Plattner, (2011). The Impact of the Economic Crisis. Journal of Democracy Vol.22, No.1
Class 20	Cultural and social factors of democratic retreat and decline Plattner, (2010) Populism, Pluralism, and Liberal Democracy. Journal of Democracy Vol.21, No.1
Class 21	Information technologies and democracy Haerpfer's textbook Chapter 17
Class 22	International context of democratic retreat and decline Kupchan, C. A. (2012). The democratic malaise: globalization and the threat to the west. Foreign Affairs, 91(1), 62-67.

Class 23	Regions of democratization 1: Middle East Haerpfer's textbook Chapter 23 *Research Paper Submission
Class 24	Regions of democratization 2: Africa Haerpfer's textbook Chapter 24
Class 25	Regions of democratization 3: Asia Haerpfer's textbook Chapter 25
Class 26	Regions of democratization 4: Latin America Haerpfer's textbook Chapter 20
Class 27	Status of advanced democracies Levitsky, S. & Ziblatt, D. (2018). Fateful Alliances from How Democracies Die.
Class 28	Research presentation
Class 29	Research presentation
Class 30	Conclusion: Future of Democracy Haerpfer's textbook Conclusion: The Future of Democratization Levitsky, S. & Ziblatt, D. (2018). Saving Democracy from How Democracies Die.