

GLB/Democracy and Democratization
PSCI 332
Spring 2019
Wednesdays (6:00pm-8:40pm)
SS 313

Dr. Robert G. Rodríguez
Associate Professor, Political Science

Office: Social Science Building 149

email: robert.rodriguez@tamuc.edu

Office Hours: T/Th 10:30am-11:00am and 1:45pm-3:15pm; W 5:00pm-6:00pm; or by appointment

The BEST way to contact me is via email.

Course Description:

Welcome to *Intro to Comparative Politics!*

Welcome to Democracy and Democratization! In this course, we will study the major theories concerning cultural, social, economic and political conditions that are favorable to the development of democracy (as well as those conditions that inhibit the development of democracy). The course will have a regional focus on the transitions to democracy in Latin America.

The first half of the course will be an overview of democracy in Latin America. Then, we will examine democratic theories, measurements of democracy, and an examination of historical “waves” of democratization. In the last part of the course, we will explore concepts that relate to democracy and democratization such as: economics, security issues, nationalism, gender, ethnicity, the media, and globalization.

Format:

Each class session will involve lectures, student presentations and discussions about the assigned readings. Please note that you will not be taught what to think about political issues in this course. Rather, you will be provided with the knowledge base to determine how to think about political issues for yourself.

You will regularly be asked to contribute your opinions about the assigned readings and answer questions about the readings. In addition to the assigned readings listed in the syllabus, we will regularly discuss current international political events, since developments in global politics occur on a daily basis.

This syllabus is subject to change at any time at the professor's discretion.

Learning Objective:

Students will understand and employ significant theoretical and analytical approaches to explain democracy and democratization.

Global Learning Objectives:

Learning Outcome 1: Students will be able to demonstrate *knowledge* of the interconnectedness of global dynamics (issues, processes, trends, and systems).

Learning Outcome 2: Students will be able to *apply* knowledge of the interconnectedness of global dynamics.

Learning Outcome 3: Students will be able to view themselves as *engaged* citizens within an interconnected and diverse world.

NO PERSONAL ELECTRONIC DEVICES ARE ALLOWED IN CLASS AT ANY TIME.

THIS INCLUDES (BUT IS NOT LIMITED TO):

CELL PHONES,

LAPTOPS,

iPADS,

iPODS,

MP3 Players/Recorders,

Translation Devices

VIDEO CAMERAS

OR ANY OTHER AUDIO AND/OR VIDEO RECORDERS OF ANY KIND

IF ANY OF THESE DEVICES ARE PRESENT IN CLASS THE ENTIRE CLASS WILL HAVE A POP QUIZ AND THE INDIVIDUAL(S) RESPONSIBLE MAY BE DIRECTED TO LEAVE THE CLASSROOM IMMEDIATELY.

Requirements/Assignments

Examinations: In this course, all students are required to take TWO exams, each of which will consist of Identification/short answer questions that stem directly from the readings. Together, these exams will comprise **60%** of your grade (each exam is worth 30%). Although Exam 2 will be given during Finals Week, it will only cover the material presented after Exam 1-- there is NOT a comprehensive final exam in this course.

If you miss an exam, you will receive 0% for that exam.

If you have a **legitimate reason** for missing an exam (e.g. severe illness or injury requiring professional medical care, emergencies in your immediate family, participation in official university activities, legal obligations) **AND** you have **supporting documentation** for your absence, then you may request taking the MAKE-UP EXAM, which will take place at a mutually-agreed upon time and date **-ONLY IF APPROVED.** Exam 2 will be held during Finals Week, therefore no make-up exams will be scheduled, except in the most extraordinary, legitimate, and documented circumstances.

Requests for taking the make-up exam must be **submitted in writing within 24 hours** of the scheduled exam **AND include documentation** explaining and substantiating why the absence was legitimate. An approval to take the make-up exam will be based solely upon the professor's evaluation of your request and any supporting documentation.

Attendance: **10%** of your grade is based on your class attendance. Students are required to attend class and attendance will be taken at the end of each class session using a sign-in sheet. **Signing in a student who is not present or asking a student to sign you in when you are absent constitutes academic dishonesty** (see p.3). It is the student's responsibility to ensure that they have signed in. Arriving late and/or leaving early will negatively impact your attendance grade. *Attendance is critical, discussions are irreplaceable, and course sessions cannot be "made up."* **I will not be managing any excuses for absences.** It is not necessary to provide me with any excuses for absences (unless you are absent during an examination-read previous section.) **You can miss up to two class sessions without penalty for any reason. More than two absences will result in a reduction in your grade, REGARDLESS of the reason (excused OR unexcused).**

The attendance grade scale appears below.

- **0 absences = you will get a bonus of 2% added to your grade**
- **1 absence= no penalty**
- **2 absences= -2% from your grade**
- **3 absences= -4% from your grade**
- **4 absences= -6% from your grade**
- **5 absences= -8% from your grade**
- **6 or more absences= -10% from your grade**
- **Attendance Note 1: If a pop quiz or any other assignment is given when you are absent, you CANNOT make it up, regardless of the reason for your absence (excused or unexcused).**
- **Attendance Note 2: I will NOT reply to any emails asking what we did in class during your absence- We will follow the syllabus. If you miss class, get notes from a classmate and ask him/her if there were any announcements.**
- **Attendance Note 3: Students who attend ALL class sessions and do not have ANY unexcused OR excused absences will receive a bonus of 2% added to their attendance grade.**
- **Attendance Note 4: ARRIVE ON TIME! The classroom door will not be opened for late arrivals 15 minutes after class starts. Notify the professor in advance if you need to arrive late or leave early.**

Participation: Your participation in this class is worth up to **4%** of your grade.

Your contributions to the class discussions are highly desirable and will make class sessions more interesting. Positive participation includes responding to my questions, asking your own questions, and contributing to class discussions. All of these activities will positively impact your participation grade.

Negative participation includes: sleeping in class, side-talk with your neighbors, coming to class late, and any other class disruptions- any of these activities will negatively impact your participation grade, even if you contribute to class discussions. If you use personal electronic devices in class that will result in a pop quiz for the entire class and your removal from the classroom, and it will negatively impact your participation grade. Also, if you misbehave in class or disrupt class in any way you may be directed to leave the classroom and your participation grade will be negatively impacted.

Your participation grade will be calculated as follows:

Never Contributes to Class Discussions:	0%
Rarely/Sometimes Contributes to Class Discussions:	1%
Often Contributes to Class Discussions:	2%
Almost Always Contributes to Class Discussions:	3%
Always Contributes to Class Discussions:	4%

Pop Quizzes: These will be assigned only if anyone is found to be using an electronic device in class, and will count for a total of **2%** of your grade. Pop quizzes will be very difficult to pass. If you are *absent* when a pop quiz is given, you cannot make it up, irrespective of the circumstances, and will earn 0% for any quiz you miss. Pop quizzes will be graded on the basis of the content and clarity of your answers.

Writing Assignment: There will be one short (5 page) writing assignment in this course, which will be a case study of democratization. This writing assignment is designed to provide political science majors and LALS minors with an artifact for their senior portfolio. (This course will count toward the minor in Latin American & U.S. Latino Studies. Anyone minoring -or considering minoring- in LALS must select a Latin American country for this assignment.) More details on the short writing assignment, which is worth **10%** of your grade, will be provided later in the course.

Readings Presentations: Each student will be assigned to present 1 to 2 chapters throughout the semester on an equitable and rotating basis. These presentations must be accompanied by a strictly formatted 2 page handout to be distributed to all of the students in the class. (The handout format will be distributed to the class and must be followed.) Each presentation will be strictly limited to 20 minutes. Your presentations are worth 14% of your grade.

Grades:

Your grade in this course will be determined by the criteria listed below. The following scale will be used to determine your grade:

- Exam #1 (**March 13**): 30%
- Writing Assignment (**April 3**): 10%
- Exam #2 (**May 9**): 30%
- Readings Presentations: 14%
- Attendance: 10%
- Participation: 4%
- Pop Quizzes: 2%

A 90-100%; B 80-89.9%; C 70-79.9%; D 60-69.9%; F Below 60%

Notes on Academic Dishonesty of ANY kind: Any student who is caught committing any kind of academic dishonesty will receive an “F” in this course and will be reported to the University administration. “Academic dishonesty includes, but is not limited to, plagiarism (the appropriation or stealing of the ideas or words of another and passing them off as one’s own), cheating on exams or other course assignments, collusion (the unauthorized collaboration with others in preparing course assignments), signing the attendance sheet for a student who is absent (or asking another student to sign you in when you are absent), and abuse (destruction, defacing, or removal) of resource material” (Texas A&M University-Commerce Procedures A13.12). If you have any doubt as to what may constitute academic dishonesty, please consult with me prior to submitting any assignments.

Notes on plagiarism: All writing assignments will be submitted to *turnitin.com*, a digital plagiarism detection system. Any student who is caught plagiarizing will receive an “F” in this course and will be reported to the University administration for academic dishonesty. If you have any doubt as to what may constitute plagiarism, please consult me prior to submitting any written work.

In order to maximize your performance in this course, you must:

- ***TURN OFF ALL PERSONAL ELECTRONIC DEVICES BEFORE CLASS BEGINS. THIS INCLUDES (BUT IS NOT LIMITED TO): CELL PHONES, LAPTOPS, iPADS, iPODS, MP3 Players/Recorders, Translation devices, VIDEO CAMERAS, OR ANY OTHER AUDIO AND/OR VIDEO RECORDERS OF ANY KIND***
- **IF ANYONE IS FOUND TO BE TEXTING OR ANSWERS A PHONE CALL DURING CLASS, THE ENTIRE CLASS WILL TAKE A POP QUIZ ON THE SPOT.**
- Attend each class session AND arrive ON TIME (**the classroom door will not be opened for late arrivals 15 minutes after class starts**; Notify the professor in advance if you need to arrive late or leave early;
- Read the assigned material before class;
- Be prepared to discuss the topics presented in class;
- Refrain from reading materials or working on other homework during class;
- Do NOT get up in the middle of class to go to the bathroom unless absolutely necessary;
- Be courteous to -and respectful of- your fellow students and professor.

Email Policy: Before you ask me a question in an email, check to see if the syllabus answers your question FIRST. I generally reply to emails within 24 hours, Monday-Friday. Emails sent to me over weekends will be replied to on Mondays. I do not reply to emails that ask questions about items covered in the syllabus, such as what chapters are covered on an exam or what the assigned readings are for a given week.

Code of Student Conduct: All students enrolled at the university shall follow the tenets of common decency and acceptable behavior conducive to a positive learning environment. Faculty have the authority to request students who exhibit inappropriate behavior to leave the class and may refer serious offenses to the University Police Department and/or the Dean of Students for disciplinary action. Failure to comply with the Code of Student Conduct and commonsensical directions listed above may result in a verbal request to cease inappropriate behavior, your immediate removal from the class, being immediately dropped from the class, and/or a review by an appropriate university disciplinary agency. For more information on this subject, please see the Student Guidebook.

Campus Carry: Texas Senate Bill - 11 (Government Code 411.2031, et al.) authorizes the carrying of a concealed handgun in Texas A&M University-Commerce buildings only by persons who have been issued and are in possession of a Texas License to Carry a Handgun. Qualified law enforcement officers or those who are otherwise authorized to carry a concealed handgun in the State of Texas are also permitted to do so. Pursuant to Penal Code (PC) 46.035 and A&M-Commerce Rule 34.06.02.R1, license holders may not carry a concealed handgun in restricted locations. For a list of locations, please refer to <http://www.tamuc.edu/aboutUs/policiesProceduresStandardsStatements/rulesProcedures/34SafetyOfEmployeesAndStudents/34.06.02.R1.pdf> and/or consult your event organizer). Pursuant to PC 46.035, the open carrying of handguns is prohibited on all A&M-Commerce campuses. Report violations to the University Police Department at 903-886-5868 or 9-1-1.

Note to Students with Disabilities: The Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) is a federal anti-discrimination statute that provides comprehensive civil rights protection for persons with disabilities. Among other things, this legislation requires that all students with disabilities be guaranteed a learning environment that provides for reasonable accommodation of their disabilities. If you have a disability requiring an accommodation, please contact:

Office of Student Disability Resources and Services
Texas A&M University-Commerce
Gee Library Room 132
Phone (903) 886-5150 or (903) 886-5835 Fax (903) 468-8148 StudentDisabilityServices@tamuc.edu

Non-discrimination notice: A&M-Commerce will comply in the classroom, and in online courses, with all federal and state laws prohibiting discrimination and related retaliation on the basis of race, color, religion, sex, national origin, disability, age, genetic information or veteran status. Further, an environment free from discrimination on the basis of sexual orientation, gender identity, or gender expression will be maintained.

Required Readings:

There are TWO required texts for this course:

- Democracy in Latin America (THIRD EDITION, 2019)
Smith and Sells
ISBN 978-0-19-061134-7 Softcover
- Democratization (SECOND EDITION, 2019) **Not available until February 6, 2019*
Haerpfer, Bernhagen, Welzel, and Inglehart
ISBN 978-0-19-873228-0 Softcover

You will not be able to access electronic versions of these books in class. Please purchase the printed versions.

Course Schedule:

Week 1 Introduction to the Course

January 16

Read:

- Buy your books
- Readings for this session will be distributed in class

Week 2 Democracy in Latin America: Historical Perspectives Part 1

January 23

Read:

- *Statement of Personal Responsibility DUE ON WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 23*
- Smith & Sells Introduction: Dimensions of Democracy (15)
- Smith & Sells Chapter 1: Cycles of Electoral Democracy (26)
- Smith & Sells Chapter 2: Transitions and Continuities (18)

Week 3 Democracy in Latin America: Historical Perspectives Part 2**January 30**

Read:

- Smith & Sells Chapter 3: The Military: Heading for the Exits? (33)
- Smith & Sells Chapter 4: Global Contexts, International Forces (24)

Week 4 Guest Lecture**February 6**

Read:

- Attend a special guest lecture. Details TBA

Week 5 Democracy in Latin America: The Electoral Arena**February 13**

Read:

- Smith & Sells Chapter 5: Presidents or Parliaments? (19)
- Smith & Sells Chapter 6: Institutional Designs (35)
- Smith & Sells Chapter 7: Elections: Voters, Winners, Losers (28)

Week 6 Democracy in Latin America: Qualities of Democracy Part 1**February 20**

Read:

- Smith & Sells Chapter 8: State Capacity and Policy Performance (23)
- Smith & Sells Chapter 9: The Politics of Social Equity (26)

Week 7 Democracy in Latin America: Qualities of Democracy Part 2**February 27**

Read:

- Smith & Sells Chapter 10: Illiberal Democracy (24)
- Smith & Sells Chapter 11: The People's Verdict (19)

Week 8 Democracy in Latin America: Democracy Considered**March 6**

Read:

- Smith & Sells Chapter 12: The Dialectic of Democracy (17)
- Smith & Sells Epilogue: The Future of Democracy (12)

Week 9 Exam #1; Film Night**March 13**

Read:

Exam #1 will take place at the beginning of class on WEDNESDAY, the 13th of March. You will have one hour and fifteen minutes to complete it. The exam will cover all of the material presented since the first day of class. After the exam, we will watch a film relating to democratization in class.

Week 10 SPRING BREAK (No Classes)**March 20**

Read:

Nothing

Week 11 Democratization Theory**March 27**

Read:

- Democratization, Chapter 1: Introduction (18)
- Democratization, Chapter 2: Theories of Democratization (19)

Week 12 Writing Assignment DUE; Historical Perspectives of Democratization**April 3**

Read:

- *Your Writing Assignment is DUE on Wednesday, APRIL 3rd. You must submit this assignment as a printed AND electronic copy.*
- Democratization, Chapter 3: Democratic and Undemocratic States (12)
- Democratization, Chapter 4: Measuring Democracy and Democratization (15)

Week 13 Waves of Democratization**April 10**

Read:

- Democratization, Chapter 5: Long Waves and Conjunctures of Democratization (15)
- Democratization, Chapter 6: The Global Wave of Democratization (19)

Week 14 Causes and Dimensions of Democratization**April 16, 18**

Read:

- Democratization, Chapter 9: Political Culture, Mass Beliefs, and Value Change (24)
- Democratization, Chapter 10: Gender and Democratization (13)

Week 15 Role of the Media and Social Media in Democratization**April 24**

Read:

- Democratization, Chapter 16: The Media (14)
- Democratization, Chapter 17: Social Media (14)

Week 16 Decline in Democratization**May 1**

- Read:
- Democratization, Chapter 18: A Decade of Democratic Decline and Stagnation (16)

FINALS Week Exam #2**May 9**

- *Exam #2 will take place on Wednesday, MAY 8th at 6:00pm in our classroom. It is not cumulative, and will only cover the material presented after Spring Break.*

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STUDENT STATEMENT OF PERSONAL RESPONSIBILITY

I, _____, have read the syllabus in its entirety, and understand the guidelines and agree to the policies detailed therein as a condition of being enrolled in this course. I understand my obligation to adhere to these guidelines and policies in this course, and that failure to do so may result in serious consequences, including (but not limited to) being dropped from the course, and/or receiving a grade of "F" in the course.

Student Signature: _____

Student PRINTED Name: _____

Date of Signature: _____

**FAILURE TO RETURN THIS SIGNED STATEMENT BY THE SECOND CLASS SESSION
(January 23, 2019) WILL RESULT IN YOUR BEING DROPPED FROM THIS COURSE.**