Course Syllabus: Dr. Rita Kiki Edozie, Associate Professor of International Relations
MC492 Senior Seminar Topics in International Relations
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MW12:40 - 2:30PM 369L North Case Hall

Comparative Democratization

Course Summary

The proliferation of democratically elected governments around the world since the mid-1970s has resulted in the reference of the contemporary world as the “democratic age”. Samuel Huntington argues that we are in the Third Wave of Democratization (Huntington, 1991). Freedom House has characterized the trend toward democratization as reinforcement that humankind is rejecting oppression and opting for greater freedom and openness. The 80s and 90s, especially, underscored an apparent belief that authoritarianism had served people ill, in terms of failing to provide material prosperity, stability, human rights or political inclusion of the masses in decision-making. As a result of these events, comparative democratization has become an important area of academic study for scholars of comparative politics and international relations.

This course is a senior level undergraduate seminar and it examines the core conceptual features of democratic theory, complex democratic transitions in practice, as well as varying configurations of democratic consolidation and performance. Topics to be examined are the democratic idea, democracy and institutions, the political-economy of democracy, and democracy and culture. The course will cover countries in key advanced industrial world, developing world and ‘transitional’ regions including the North America and Europe, Asia, Africa, the Middle East, Latin America, as well as Post-Communist Central-Eastern Europe-the former Soviet Union and its successor states.
Teaching/Learning Format

MC492 is a senior seminar and thus will be delivered in a non-traditional teaching format. Rather than viewing this course merely as a series of professor lectures through which you will gain information, approach the course as a semester long research workshop in which you are a central facilitator-agent. The seminar is reading, writing and oral presentation intensive. I will not provide lectures but instead act as the lead facilitator of numerous books and journal article readings. Together, we will gain content knowledge of democracy through our elaborate, critical discussions and analyses on each session’s readings. While there will be a number of smaller individualized assignments as well as group assignments to gauge your acquisition of the content knowledge required throughout the course; your main assignment – final research paper- will be to successfully develop, write and present a 20 page research paper on an issue in democracy that we have learned applied to a country of your choice. It is important that you approach this assignment in a simulative manner as a kind of practicum. What I mean is that you’ll be expected to make gradual progress toward your final papers at each stage of the course.

Please also note that formal classroom instruction will be conducted utilizing effective learning technologies, including instructional audio-visual props and Angel online resources. In addition to exposing you to and delivering to you complex, deep, broad and interdisciplinary knowledge about democracy in comparative, historical and theoretical contexts, at this stage of your academic rank, the senior seminar delivery method seeks to capstone the skills and talents that require your success in the social science careers. Also, remember that the senior seminar research paper fulfills your IR writing portfolio requirement. Please consult with your advisor or with me regarding graduation procedures for submittal of your portfolio.

Books

Required Books


Review Group Books


Required Online Resources

**Journal of Democracy MSU Online Articles (Project Muse)**
- MSU Homepage (use Web Proxy.MSI.Edu for off campus JOD web link)
- Library Resources Page (e-journals search category)
- Project Muse Link (under Journals)
- Search Journals: Enter Journal of Democracy
- Journal of Democracy Link- Home Page
- Write in **assigned article title** in JOD search category

**Freedom House** [http://www.freedomhouse.org/](http://www.freedomhouse.org/)
- For Ratings, Go to [FH Country Ratings]
- Select from Link on Right Column A-Z (Countries)
- For Country Reports, Go to Left Column [Research and Publications] to [Freedom in the World]
- Right Column – Country and Territory Report, Select Region and Country

- BBC News World Edition Homepage
- For Country Profile, Go To Left Column, Select a country from Region Menus
- For In-depth Country Profile, Search for [Timeline: {Country}]}
Assignment Requirements

1. Seminar participation notes and class participation & attendance. Full attendance is required. Class participation is measured by the rate and quality of your demonstration of having done the readings, your response to the professor’s questions, your initiation of relevant questions in class. Your seminar participation typed notes of at least two readings should be submitted at the end of every scheduled session. **10 points**

2. Preceptor reading discussion: lead response for reading roundtable assignments, I, II, III (1 page of talking points for each). Select at least THREE presentations from the Seminar Presentation Preceptor Panels; your presentation will act as support for the seminar. You will be expected to submit a one-page summary (main talking points only) of your presentation. While your presentation may summarize main points of the reading, it is important that your presentation be analytical and constructively critical. The presentation serves to provoke class discussion; and that day you serve as a facilitator of the seminar sessions. Due on *scheduled preceptor presentation date* (sign up with for preceptor role early; you must select at least two before October 19 and 1 after October 19)) **15 points**

3. Book chapter review (class) presented at individual roundtable discussion (3 page review). Due on *scheduled presentation date* **10 (2.5 per book) points**

4. Book review group presentation (5 page review) Due on *scheduled presentation date* (sign up for ‘volunteer reviews’ now) **10 points**

5. Freedom House assignment (Use Freedom House.org) (1 page) Due on *September 9* **5 points**

6. Country Profile/Political Context Paper (Use BBC country case timelines) (1 page) Due on *October 7* **5 points**

7. Term report. This will be a two page research paper proposal. Due on *October 19* **points**

8. Regional Democratization Trends Profile Paper. Write a one-page paper describing the democratization trends in your region. How is your country similar or different from the trends (1 to 2 pages) Due on *November 23* **5 points**

9. Seminar presentation: Present and discuss highlights of your research paper(prepare and post 5 slide power point presentation) Due on *Scheduled Date of Presentation TBA* **10 points**

10. Final ‘democracy in a comparative case country’ research paper (twenty to twenty five pages, excluding cover page and bibliography). Higher grades go to papers that are analytical, selecting a thesis/topic/issue area of democracy and examining the issue in a thesis argument, analytically and critically throughout the
paper and using research methodology. **Due on December 14** Scheduled Final Exam

**Date for Course** 25 points

Grading Scale (You must attain the minimum points to achieve your GPA point grade)

1. at least 95 - 4.0  
2. at least 90 - 3.5  
3. at least 85 – 3.0  
4. at least 80 – 2.5  
5. at least 75 – 2.0  
6. at least 70 – 1.5  
7. at least 65 – 1.0

**Code of Conduct**

** Refer to Student Handbook for Academic Honesty Policy  
** I cannot accept emailed copies of assignments.  
** Assignments submitted after the due date and class session cannot be accepted. Exceptions can be made to major assignments, but there will be heavy penalties.  
** Remember that this is a 5-credit course based on JMC's distinctive office hours model (this means that office hours and other professor-student sessions are highly encouraged. My office is open and I am happy to assist you in any way that I can)  
** Office hours: **Tuesday and Wednesday - 10:30 – 12:00pm; and Thursday** by appointment only
CALENDAR OF EVENTS

PART I

TOPIC OF THE DAY!

UNDERSTANDING DEMOCRACY: IDEAS AND VALUES

September 2nd

Introduction to the Seminar

- Content objective
- Seminar format and research
- Book preview and democracy issues
- JOD articles and country case studies
- Freedom House: Survey Methodology
- Assessment & Seminar Assignments

September 7

Discussion Roundtable 1: Democracy as Idea

What Democracy Is. and Is Not
Schmitter, Philippe C., Karl, Terry Lynn, 1947-

From Liberalism to Liberal Democracy
Plattner, Marc E., 1945-

Howard-Hassmann, Rhoda E., 1948-
Human Rights Quarterly. Volume 27, Number 1, February 2005, pp. 1-40 (Article)

Democracy as a Universal Value
Sen, Amartya Kumar
Journal of Democracy. Volume 10, Number 3, July 1999, pp. 3-17 (Article)
DOI: 10.1353/jod.1999.0055
September 9

Discussion Roundtable 2:
Liberalism and Illiberalism - Western and Non-Western

Confucianism and Democracy
Fukuyama, Francis.
Journal of Democracy, Volume 6, Number 2, April 1995, pp. 20-33 (Article)

Buddhism, Asian Values, and Democracy
Bstan-dzin-rgya-mtsho, Dalai Lama XIV.
Journal of Democracy, Volume 10, Number 1, January 1999, pp. 3-7 (Article)

Muslims and Democracy
Filali-Ansary, Abdou.
Journal of Democracy, Volume 10, Number 3, July 1999, pp. 18-32 (Article)

Where East Meets West
Król, Marcin.
Journal of Democracy, Volume 6, Number 1, January 1995, pp. 37-43 (Article)

Human Rights in Africa: The Limited Promise of Liberalism
Makau Mutua
African Studies Review, Volume 51, Number 1, April 2008, pp. 17-39 (Article)

September 14

Book Review Discussion Panel 1 (Class 1)
Is Democracy Just about Freedom?

PART 2

UNDERSTANDING DEMOCRACY II: POLITICAL DEVELOPMENT, TRANSITIONS, INSTITUTIONS AND PROCESSES

September 16

Discussion Roundtable 3: Democracy, Transition and Sustainability

The Democratic Moment
Plattner, Marc F., 1945-
*Journal of Democracy*, Volume 2, Number 4, Fall 1991, pp. 34-46 (Article)
DOI: 10.1353/jod.1991.0054

What Makes Democracies Endure?
Cheibub, Jose Antonio., Przeworski, Adam., Limongi Neto, Fernando Papaterra., Alvarez, Michael M., 1954-
DOI: 10.1353/jod.1996.0016

What is Democratic Consolidation?
Schedler, Andreas, 1964-
*Journal of Democracy*, Volume 9, Number 2, April 1998, pp. 91-107 (Article)
DOI: 10.1353/jod.1998.0030

How Democracies Control the Military
Kohn, Richard H.
*Journal of Democracy*, Volume 8, Number 4, October 1997, pp. 140-153 (Article)
DOI: 10.1353/jod.1997.0060

Is Pakistan the (Reverse) Wave of the Future?
Diamond, Larry Jay.
*Journal of Democracy*, Volume 11, Number 3, July 2000, pp. 91-106 (Article)

September 21st Class Cancelled

Research Update
September 23

Book Review Roundtable Discussion Panel 2 (Class 2):
How is Democracy First Established?


September 28:

Discussion Roundtable 4: Institutions-Polities & Regimes

Comparing Democratic Systems
Horowitz, Donald L.
*Journal of Democracy*. Volume 1, Number 4, Fall 1990, pp. 73-79 (Article)
DOI: 10.1353/jod.1990.0056

Constitutional Choices for New Democracies
Lijphart, Arend.
*Journal of Democracy*. Volume 2, Number 1, Winter 1991, pp. 72-84 (Article)
DOI: 10.1353/jod.1991.0011

The Perils of Presidentialism
Linz, Juan J. (Juan José), 1926-
*Journal of Democracy*. Volume 1, Number 1, Winter 1990, pp. 51-69 (Article)
DOI: 10.1353/jod.1990.0011

The Virtues of Parliamentarism
Linz, Juan J. (Juan José), 1926-
*Journal of Democracy*. Volume 1, Number 4, Fall 1990, pp. 84-91 (Article)
DOI: 10.1353/jod.1990.0059

Delegative Democracy
O'Donnell, Guillermo A.
*Journal of Democracy*. Volume 5, Number 1, January 1994, pp. 55-69 (Article)
DOI: 10.1353/jod.1994.0010
September 30:

Discussion Roundtable 5: Institutions- Electorates & Parties

PR and Democratic Statecraft
Quade, Quentin L.
*Journal of Democracy*, Volume 2, Number 3, Summer 1991, pp. 36-41 (Article)

Party Systems in the Third Wave
Mainwaring, Scott, 1954-
DOI: 10.1353/jod.1998.0049

The Indispensability of Political Parties
Lipset, Seymour Martin.
*Journal of Democracy*, Volume 11, Number 1, January 2000, pp. 48-55 (Article)
DOI: 10.1353/jod.2000.0016

What Makes Elections Free and Fair?
Elklit, Jorgen. Svensson, Palle.
*Journal of Democracy*, Volume 8, Number 3, July 1997, pp. 32-46 (Article)
DOI: 10.1353/jod.1997.0041

Why Elections Matter
Clark, Elizabeth Spiro.

October 5th

Book Roundtable Discussion Panel 3 (Class 3):
What is the relationship between political institutions and democratic performance?
PART 3:

DEMOCRACY, POLITICAL-ECONOMY AND CULTURE

October 7

Discussion Roundtable 6: Democracy and Pluralism

Distribution and Redistribution: The Shadow of the Nineteenth Century
Torben Iversen, David Soskice
World Politics, Volume 61, Number 3, July 2009, pp. 438-486 (Article)

The Centrality of Political Culture
Lipset, Seymour Martin
Journal of Democracy, Volume 1, Number 4, Fall 1990, pp. 80-83 (Article)

Civil Society Then and Now
Geremek, Bronisław
Journal of Democracy, Volume 3, Number 2, April 1992, pp. 3-12 (Article)
DOI: 10.1353/jod.1992.0020

Reconstructing Contemporary Democracy
Jan Aart Scholte
DOI: 10.1353/gls.0.0014

Deliberative Democracy in Severely Fractured Societies
Adeno Addis
DOI: 10.1353/gls.0.0039

Federalism and Democracy: Beyond the U.S. Model
Stepan, Alfred C.
Journal of Democracy, Volume 10, Number 4, October 1999, pp. 19-34 (Article)
DOI: 10.1353/jod.1999.0072

October 12

Book Review Roundtable Discussion Panel 4 (Group 1): Democracy and Identity
Amy Chua
PART 4:

COMPARATIVE AREAS AND DEMOCRACY

October 14

Book Review Roundtable Discussion Panel 5 (Group 2):
Robert Pinkney *The Frontiers of Democracy: Challenges in the West, the East and the Third World* by, (Ashgate, 2005)

October 19

Research Update – Midterm

Discussion Roundtable 7: The Asian Spectrum

The Asian Spectrum

Surveying South Asia
Discussion Roundtable 8: Iconic Case Studies – From Myanmar to China

Is China Ready for Democracy?
Nathan, Andrew J. (Andrew James)
*Journal of Democracy, Volume 1, Number 2, Spring 1990*, pp. 50-61 (Article)
DOI: 10.1353/jod.1990.0026

Why Democracy Survives in India
Varshney, Ashutosh, 1957-
*Journal of Democracy, Volume 9, Number 3, July 1998*, pp. 36-50 (Article)
DOI: 10.1353/jod.1998.0053

In Quest of Democracy
Aung San Suu Kyi.
*Journal of Democracy, Volume 3, Number 1, January 1992*, pp. 5-14 (Article)

History Repeats Itself in Pakistan
Haqqani, Husain, 1956-
*Journal of Democracy, Volume 17, Number 4, October 2006*, pp. 110-124 (Article)

Discussion Roundtable 9: Africa's Surprising Universalism

Rethinking African Democracy
Ake, Claude.
*Journal of Democracy, Volume 2, Number 1, Winter 1991*, pp. 32-44 (Article)

Between Africa's Extremes
Chege, Michael.
*Journal of Democracy, Volume 6, Number 1, January 1995*, pp. 44-51 (Article)

Africans' Surprising Universalism
Bratton, Michael, Mattes, Robert B.
The Rule of Law versus the Big Man
Larry Diamond
*Journal of Democracy*, Volume 19, Number 2, April 2008, pp. 138-149 (Article)

Discussion Roundtable 10: Contemporary Cases: South Africa, Nigeria

Democracy in Divided Societies ‘The Travails of Federalism’ (Nigeria)
Suberu, Rotimi T.
*Journal of Democracy*, Volume 4, Number 4, October 1993, pp. 39-53 (Article)

Centralization Trends in Nigeria’s PDP Regime: Addressing Pluralism in Contemporary African Democracies
Rita Kiki Edozie
*The Politics of Ethnicity and National Identity (Santos C. Saha,)* Peter Lang, 2007 (Book Chapter – Available PDF)

Making Rhetorical History in a Time of Transition: The Occasion, Constitution, and Representation of South African Reconciliation
Doxtader, Erik.
*Rhetoric & Public Affairs, Volume 4, Number 2, Summer 2001*, pp. 223-260 (Article)

Black republican tradition, nativism and populist politics in South Africa
Sabelo J Ndlovu-Gatsheni
*Transformation: Critical Perspectives on Southern Africa, Number 68, 2008*, pp. 53-86

Discussion Roundtable 11:
The Middle East: Bucking the Democracy Trend? Or Just Different

Attitudes in the Arab World
Jamal, Amaney A., 1970-, Tessler, Mark A.
*Journal of Democracy, Volume 19, Number 1, January 2008*, pp. 97-110 (Article)
The Rise of “Muslim Democracy”
Nasr, Seyyed Vali Reza, 1960-

Why They Can’t Be Democratic
Bassam Tibi
*Journal of Democracy. Volume 19, Number 3, July 2008*, pp. 43-48 (Article)

Promoting Democratization Can Combat Terrorism
Windsor, Jennifer L.

Constructing a Democratic Iraq: Challenges and Opportunities
Byman, Daniel, 1967-
*International Security. Volume 28, Number 1, Summer 2003*, pp. 47-78 (Article)

Religion, Democracy, and Iran: A Modest Proposal
Dallmayr, Fred R. (Fred Reinhard), 1928-
*Comparative Studies of South Asia, Africa and the Middle East. Volume 27, Number 3, 2007*, pp. 503-508 (Article)

A Dialogue:: Saudi Arabia
Clawson, Patrick, 1951-; Doumato, Eleanor Abdella; Gause, F. Gregory; Long, David E.; Taecker, Kevin R.
*SAIS Review. Volume 22, Number 2, Summer-Fall 2002*, pp. 199-228 (Article)
Latin America at the Century's Turn
Lowenthal, Abraham F.
*Journal of Democracy, Volume 11, Number 2, April 2000*, pp. 41-55 (Article)

Latin America's Diversity of Views
Lagos Cruz-Coke, Marta, *Journal of Democracy, Volume 19, Number 1, January 2008*, pp. 111-125 (Article)

Neoliberalism and Democracy in Latin America: A Mixed Record
Weyland, Kurt Gerhard.

Review Book Discussion Roundtable Panel 6: Election Special (Group 3)

Interminable Revolution: Populism and Frustration in 20th Century Bolivia
Brienen, Martin
*S A I S Review, Volume 27, Number 1, Winter-Spring 2007*, pp. 21-33 (Article)

Dependent Civil Society: The Circulos Bolivarianos in Venezuela
Hawkins, Kirk Andrew, 1969- Hansen, David R.  
**Latin American Research Review**, Volume 41, Number 1, 2006, pp. 102-132 (Article)

Argentina: From Kirchner to Kirchner  
Steven Levitsky, Maria Victoria Murillo  
**Journal of Democracy**, Volume 19, Number 2, April 2008, pp. 16-30 (Article)

Mexico’s Neoliberal Democracy and Its Critics  
Lawson, Chappell H., 1967-  
**Latin American Politics & Society**, Volume 46, Number 3, Fall 2004, pp. 115-129

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**November 18:**

**Discussion Panel 15 The Post Cold War Democracies: Former Soviet Union and Its Successor States**

The Fourth Wave of Democracy and Dictatorship: Noncooperative Transitions in the Postcommunist World  
McFaul, Michael, 1963-  
**World Politics**, Volume 54, Number 2, January 2002, pp. 212-244 (Article)

The Post-Totalitarian Blues  
Brissman, Deborah M., Rupnik, Jacques  

Why NATO Enlargement Does Not Spread Democracy  
Reiter, Dan, 1967-  

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**November 23**

**Discussion Roundtable Panel 16: Profiling Cases-Russia, Armenia and Poland**

En-gendering Civil Society and Democracy-Building: The Anti-Domestic Violence Campaign in Armenia  
Ishkanian, Armine, 1971-

Liberal Elites, Socialist Masses, and Problems of Russian Democracy
Kullberg, Judith S. Zimmerman, William.
World Politics, Volume 51, Number 3, April 1999, pp. 323-358 (Article)


Presidents versus Prime Ministers: Shaping Executive Authority in Eastern Europe Baylis, Thomas A.
World Politics, Volume 48, Number 3, April 1996, pp. 297-323 (Article)
DOI: 10.1353/wp.1996.0007

November 25
Review Book Discussion Roundtable Panel 7(Class 4)

What can we conclude about the struggle for democracy around the world?

PART 5:

COMPARATIVE DEMOCRACY
AROUND THE WORLD SEMINARS

November 30
Seminar One

December 7
Seminar Two

December 9
Seminar Three

December 14
Final Research Paper Due