

-4:00, or by appointment

Course Description & Objectives

The post-Cold War era marks the first time that the majority of the world's governments were democratic. However, the norm for the vast majority of human history was rule by a dictatorship in one form or another. This class aims to draw a deeper understanding of the historical, cultural, and political contexts that shape modern authoritarian regimes, past and present. This course, then, will introduce students to concepts, ideas, and theories in the field of authoritarian studies, and their application and practice in the real world. The class consists of three parts: the first part explores approaches and rough classifications of authoritarian regimes. The second part examines the policies, preferences, and outcomes of various authoritarian regimes. The third and final part of the class looks at the lifespans of authoritarian regimes, including their continuance and demise, as well as the complicated process of democratization.

Course Requirements

The following several components make up the final grade:

- Participation – The class is structured as a seminar. As such, participating in class lectures and discussions in an active and constructive manner is an integral part of this class. Earning participation points in a class you are not regularly attending will be difficult. Participation will make up 15% of your overall score.
- “Simulocracy” Simulation – Five times throughout the semester the class will run a simulation. Students will learn firsthand how an authoritarian regimes operates, apply concepts and theories learned

Course Schedule and Reading Assignments

Part 1: Regime Types

Week 1, Jan. 11-15: Syllabus; Conceptualizing Democracy and Dictatorship

Svolik, Milan. 2013. "Incentives, Institutions, and the Challenges to Research on Authoritarian Politics." *APSA Comparative Democratization Newsletter*.

Przeworski, Adam. 1999. "Minimalist Conception of Democracy: A Defense." In *Democracy's Value*, eds. Ian Shapiro and Casiano Hacker-Cordón. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press.

Week 2, Jan. 20-22: Theories and Classifications

Brooker, Paul. 2009. *Non-Democratic Regimes*. New York: Palgrave Macmillan. (Excerpt)

Friedrich, Carl J., and Zbigniew K. Brzezinski. 1965. *Totalitarian Dictatorship and Autocracy*. New York: Frederick A. Praeger Publishers. (Excerpt)

Kaufman Purcell, Susan. 1973. "Decision-Making in an Authoritarian Regime: Theoretical Implications from a Mexican Case Study." *World Politics* 26 (1): 28–54.

Week 3, Jan. 25-29: Monarchical and Personalist Authoritarianism

Gill, Graeme. 1984. "Personality Cult, Political Culture, and Party Structure." *Studies in Comparative Communism* XVII (2): 111–21.

Ilkhamov, Alisher. 2007. "Neopatrimonialism, Interest Groups and Patronage Networks: The Impasses of the Governance System in Uzbekistan." *Central Asian Survey* 26 (1): 65–84.

Yom, Sam L., and F. Gregory Gause III. 2012. "Resilient Royals: How Arab Monarchies Hang On." *Journal of Democracy* 23 (4): 74–88.

*Simulation round #1 (Jan. 29; post-game papers due by 10:30 am on Feb. 1)

Week 4, Feb. 1-5: Military Authoritarianism

Finer, Samuel E. 2002 [1976]. *The Man on Horseback: The Role of the Military in Politics*. New Brunswick, NJ: Transaction Publishers. (Excerpt)

Dix, Robert H. 1994. "Military Coups and Military Rule in Latin America." *Armed Forces & Society* 20 (3): 439–56.

Bünthe, Marco. 2014. "Burma's Transition to Quasi-Military Rule: From Rulers to Guardians?" *Armed Forces & Society* 40 (4): 742–64.

Week 5, Feb. 8-12: Single-Party Authoritarianism

Lowenthal, Robert. 1958. "Logic of One-Party Rule." *Problems of Communism* 7 (2): 21–30.

Magaloni, Beatriz, and Ruth Kricheli. 2010. "Political Order and One-Party Rule." *Annual Review of Political Science* 13: 123–43.

Smith, Benjamin. 2005. "Life of the Party: The Origins of Regime Breakdown and Persistence under Single-Party Rule." *World Politics* 57 (3): 421–51.

Part 2: Regime Features

Week 6, Feb. 15-19: Consolidation, Legitimacy, and Control

Gandhi, Jennifer, and Ellen Lust-Okar. 2009. "Elections under Authoritarianism." *Annual Re-*

Part 3: Regime Longevity and Transitions

Week 11, Mar. 22-26