Course Title:
Democracies and Democratization

Course Number:
PSC 5653-220

Course Description:
Recent events in the Middle East and North Africa remind us of the fascinating and uncertain dynamics of democratization—and of just how much is at stake in democratization processes.

This course has two objectives. The first is to reexamine our understandings of the meanings and values of democracy by tracing modern democracy’s roots in three traditions: a democratic (strongly associated with Athenian democracy), a republican tradition (strongly associated with the Roman Republic), and a liberal tradition (strongly associated with Great Britain). After tracing the development of these historical experiences and some debates about the meanings and values of democracy that accompanied each, we examine how these three traditions came together in the American Founding, and what significance this has for our understanding of democracy today.

The second objective of this course is to understand how different causal factors facilitate and obstruct the genesis of contemporary democracies (or the persistence of authoritarianism) and the survival of democratic regimes (for their collapse). Among the principal casual factors we will study are the political belief systems of leaders and the public, socioeconomic development and social structure, the relationship between the state and civil society, the role of the military, political institutions (such as constitutional, electoral, and party systems), conflicts between ethno-linguistic and religious identity groups, and international factors ranging from international organizations, diffusion effects, and peaceful pressure, to sanctions and military intervention. We will examine the state of social science knowledge about these causal relationships and then turn to regional and case studies of democratization to understand how these causal factors play out in different historical contexts—such as what we are witnessing in the Middle East today.

This course has two major writing assignments, one to be turned in on the Sunday before the first day of class and the other to be turned in three weeks after the last day of class. It is essential that you obtain the assigned text early enough to read it and to write the pre-class paper writing assignment on time. The specific details of the assignment will be found in the content section of the D2L site for this course, but you should get your book as soon as you enroll and start reading.

Class Dates, Location and Hours:
Dates: February 11 - 16, 2014
Location: Aviano AB, Italy. Classroom location to be determined.
Hours: Tue-Fri 6:00-9:30 p.m.; Sat-Sun 8:30 a.m.-4:30 p.m.
Last day to enroll or drop without penalty: January 13, 2014

Site Director:
Bindi Rach. Phone 39-0434-30-5977; DSN: 6322-5977. E-mail: apaviano@ou.edu

Professor Contact Information:
Course Professor: Charles D. Kenney, Ph.D.
Mailing Address: Department of Political Science
455 W. Lindsey
DAHT, Room 205
Norman, OK 73019-2001
Telephone Number: (405) 325-2061
Fax Number: (405) 325-0718
E-mail Address: ckenney@ou.edu
Professor availability: The professor will be available via e-mail to students before and after the class sessions. On-site office hours are half an hour before and after each class session, by appointment.

Textbook(s) and Instructional Materials:

Student materials are available at the OU Follett Bookstore located at 1185 Asp Avenue; Norman, OK. Orders can be placed online at www.oklahoma.bkstr.com. Faxed orders may be placed 24 hours a day at (405) 325-7770. Representatives are available by phone at (405) 325-3511 or (800) 522-0772 (toll-free) or E-mail at 0831mgr@fheg.follett.com from 8 a.m. to 6 p.m. Monday through Thursday; 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. on Friday; and 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. on Saturday (CST). Summer hours: 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday through Friday (CST). (Text prices are available online.)


2. Materials posted on the OU Desire to Learn (D2L) system: Access D2L at http://learn.ou.edu; enter your OU NetID (4+4) and password, and select course to access material. Please contact your local Site Director if you require assistance.

Note: Follett is the Advanced Programs contractual textbook provider. Should text changes become necessary after publication of the course syllabus, Advanced Programs will facilitate text returns/refunds only for texts purchased through Follett.

Course Objectives:

- To understand the historical origins, meanings, and values accorded democracy.
- To understand the principal causal factors shaping democracy’s genesis and survival.
- To understand how these causal factors play out in specific historical contexts leading to the success or failure of democratization.

Assignments, Grading and Due Dates:

Pre-class Assignment: (25%)

This class requires a significant amount of pre-class reading and a substantial writing assignment (no longer than 14 pages) that must be completed before the first class meeting. Students will need to reserve time in the weeks leading up to the first day of class to complete this assignment.

The pre-class reading and writing assignments will be available at the D2L site for this course approximately one month before the first class meeting. If you cannot access the D2L site, contact the instructor at ckenney@ou.edu to receive the assignment. It is the student’s responsibility to obtain and complete the assignment before the first class meeting.

It is essential in this class that you follow the citation and documentation requirements set out in the assignment. Failure to cite the sources of all information used and failure to identify all directly quoted text as such in plagiarism and may lead to sanctions. See the writing assignment instructions and http://integrity.ou.edu for more detailed information about avoiding plagiarism. Note that for this class, you must provide page numbers for all references to both paraphrased information and direct quotes.

The completed pre-class writing assignment is due in the D2L drop-box by midnight on the Sunday before the first class meeting. Bring an identical printed copy of the writing assignment to the first class meeting. Late papers may receive a one-letter grade deduction for each day late.
In-class Quizzes: (20%)  
Several quizzes will be given during the course to test your knowledge of the specific region and country studies included in the pre-class reading assignment. These readings should be completed before the beginning of the course since for most students there will be little time available once the course begins.

Final Exam/Paper: (40%)  
You will be asked to write a paper of approximately 12-15 pages that will be due in the D2L drop-box on Sunday at midnight three weeks after our last class meeting. The specific exam question and assignment will be given at the end of the class. As with the pre-class assignment, it is essential that you avoid sanctions for plagiarism by citing the source of all information and ideas used and by identifying all directly quoted text as such.

Grading:

This is a letter-graded course: A, B, C, D, or F.

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<tr>
<th>Assignment</th>
<th>Due Date</th>
<th>Percent of Grade</th>
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<tr>
<td>Pre-class assignment</td>
<td>Sunday before first class meeting</td>
<td>25</td>
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<tr>
<td>Participation and Attendance</td>
<td>During class sessions</td>
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<tr>
<td>In-class quizzes</td>
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<td>Final Paper</td>
<td>March 9, 2014</td>
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Notice: Failure to meet assignment due dates could result in a grade of I (Incomplete) and may adversely impact Tuition Assistance and/or Financial Aid.
POLICIES AND NOTICES

Attendance/Grade Policy

Attendance and participation in interaction, individual assignments, group exercises, simulations, role playing, etc. are valuable aspects of any course because much of the learning comes from discussions in class with other students. It is expected that you attend all classes and be on time except for excused emergencies.

Excused absences are given for professor mandated activities or legally required activities such as emergencies or military assignments. It is the policy of the University to excuse absences of students that result from religious observances and to provide without penalty for the rescheduling of examinations and additional required class work that may fall on religious holidays. Unavoidable personal emergencies, including (but not limited to) serious illness; delays in getting to class because of accidents, etc.; deaths and funerals, and hazardous road conditions will be excused.

If you are obtaining financial assistance (TA, STAP, FA, VA, Scholarship, etc.) to pay all or part of your tuition cost, you must follow your funding agency/institution’s policy regarding “I” (Incomplete) grades unless the timeline is longer than what the University policy allows then you must adhere to the University policy. Students who receive Financial Aid must resolve/complete any “I” (Incomplete) grades by the end of the term or he/she may be placed on “financial aid probation.” If the “I” grade is not resolved/completed by the end of the following term, the student’s Financial Aid may be suspended make the student ineligible for further Financial Aid.

Students are responsible for meeting the guidelines of Tuition Assistance and Veterans Assistance. See the education counselor at your local education center for a complete description of your TA or VA requirements.

Academic Honesty

Honesty is a fundamental precept in all academic activities and … [you] have a special obligation to observe the highest standards of honesty. Academic misconduct in any form is inimical to the purposes and functions of the University and is therefore unacceptable and is rigorously proscribed. Academic misconduct includes:

- cheating (using unauthorized materials, information, or study aids in any academic exercise), plagiarism, falsification of records, unauthorized possession of examinations, intimidation, and any and all other actions that may improperly affect the evaluation of a student’s academic performance or achievement; assisting others in any such act; or attempting to engage in such acts.

All acts of academic misconduct will be reported and adjudicated as prescribed by the student code of the University of Oklahoma. All students should review the Student’s Guide to Academic Integrity.

Accommodation Statement

The University of Oklahoma is committed to making its activities as accessible as possible. For accommodations on the basis of disability, please contact your local OU Site Director.

Course Policies

Advanced Programs policy is to order books in paperback if available. Courses, dates, and professors are subject to change. Please check with your OU Site Director. Students should retain a copy of any assignments that are mailed to the professor for the course. Advanced Programs does not provide duplicating services or office supplies.

Copyright

Any and all course materials, syllabus, lessons, lectures, etc. are the property of professor teaching the course and the Board of Regents of the University of Oklahoma and are protected under applicable copyright. For more information about Advanced Programs, visit our website at: http://www.goou.ou.edu/
INSTRUCTOR VITA
Charles D. Kenney, Ph.D.

Education
• 1998 Ph.D., Political Science, University of Notre Dame
• 1996 M.A., Political Science, University of Notre Dame
• 1980 B.A., Philosophy, University of Notre Dame

Current Positions
• Advanced Programs Professor since 1998
• Associate Professor of Comparative and Latin American Politics, University of Oklahoma, Norman, Oklahoma

Frequently Taught Advanced Programs Courses
• PSC 5683 Latin American Politics
• PSC 5600 Democracies & Democratization

Major Areas of Teaching and Research Interest
• Comparative politics, democratization, democratic theory
• Regime change, democratic breakdown, transitions from authoritarian rule
• Political violence, revolution, terrorism, guerrilla warfare
• Political institutions, constitutional design, parties and party systems, elections and electoral systems, presidentialism and parliamentarism
• Latin American politics, Latin American international relations, politics in developing countries
• Political philosophy: ancient, modern, and contemporary; the American Founding

Representative Publications and Presentations

Representative Honors and Awards Received
Dr. Kenney lived in Peru from 1978-79 and 1984-1991, was a Fulbright Fellow at the Pontificia Universidad Catolica del Peru in 2000, and is the past chair of the Peru Section of the Latin American Studies Association. He was a member of the Latin American Studies Association delegation of international electoral observers for the 2000 Peruvian elections and the National Democratic Institute and Carter Center joint international mission in 2001. Dr. Kenney won the 2006 Kinney-Sugg award as the Outstanding Professor in the College of Arts and Sciences at the University of Oklahoma.

Major Professional Affiliations
• American Political Science Association
• Latin American Studies Association