Political Science 200b  
**Democracy**  
Fall 2009

Lecture: Wednesdays, 12-1:50  
Discussion: Thursdays, 6-6:50 or 7-7:50

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Tu 11:00 – 12:00, Wed 2:00 – 3:00  
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Th 12:00 - 3:00

18 September 2009, to be revised

**ALL COURSE EMAIL MUST CONTAIN 200B IN THE SUBJECT LINE, OR IT MAY BE IGNORED**

**Course Description**
This course provides an overview of the normative and positive issues associated with modern representative democracies. It is focused around two questions: (1) Is democracy morally justifiable? (2) How do the social, political, and economic arrangements of democracies actually work?

**Requirements**
1. Regular attendance of and participation in seminar. (50% of grade)
2. A six- to eight-page mid-term paper on hybrid democracy, due 26 October. (25% of grade)
3. A six- to eight-page final paper on the policy consequences of democracy, due 7 December. (25% of grade)

**Course Materials**
Readings range from short articles to substantial portions of books. We’ll provide further information on availability of readings shortly. MAY BE REVISED.

Cox, *Making Votes Count*  
Gerber, *The Populist Paradox*  
Putterman and Kroszner, *The Economic Nature of the Firm*  
Spruyt, *The Sovereign State and its Competitors*

All other readings will be made available in class.

Reading Assignments and Course Schedule

1. Democracy (23 Sep)  
   Jeremy Waldron, Legislation, Authority, and Voting, 101-118 in Waldron *Law and Disagreement*  


Schumpeter, Capitalism, Socialism, and Democracy, chs. 21-22 (1943).


IDEA Democracy Assessment, 3-5, skim remainder.


2. Organization (30 Sep)

Quentin Skinner, “The State,” in Political Innovation and Conceptual Change, ed. Ball, Farr and Hanson, pp. 90-131

Hendrik Spruyt, The Sovereign State and its Competitors, pp. 3-8, 77-180

Thomas Hobbes, Leviathan, Introduction, chs. 10, 13-17, 21, 26, Review and Conclusion


Louis Putterman and Randall Kroszner, editors. The Economic Nature of the Firm. Chapter 14 by Armen Alchain and Harold Demsetz; Chapter 17 by Bengt Holmstrom and Paul Milgrom; Chapter 18 by Harvey Leibenstein; Chapter 19 by George Akerlof; and Chapter 20 by Martin Weitzman and Douglas Kruse.

3. Direct Democracy (7 Oct)

Benjamin Constant, “The Liberty of the Ancients Compared with that of the Moderns”


William Riker, Liberalism Against Populism, Chapters 1-5, 7 & 10

Gerry Mackie, Democracy Defended, pp. 23-43, 72-157, 241-58


4. Representative Democracy I (14 Oct)

Przeworski, Manin, and Stokes, 1-16, 29-54, *Democracy, Accountability, and Representation*.

5. Representative Democracy II (21 Oct)
Arend Lijphart, *Patterns of Democracy*, pp. 1-61, 301-10
Rod Kiewiet & Mat McCubbins, *The Logic of Delegation*, ch. 2
Skip Lupia and Mat McCubbins, *The Democratic Dilemma*, ch. 3-5
Gary Cox, *Making Votes Count*, chs. 1-3, 8, 10, 12-15
*The Federalist*, 47-53

**Midterm: Hybrid Democracy** (due 26 Oct)

6. Law (28 Oct)
Sir John Davies, *Le Primer Report*
Jeremy Bentham, *A Comment on the Commentaries*, XXXXX, and *Of Laws in General*, XXXXX
Don Herzog, *Happy Slaves*, pp. 110-47

7. Rule of Law (4 Nov)
Judith Shklar, *Legalism*, 111-221

8. Comparative Regime Change (11 Nov)
Huntington, 1991, The third wave. 3-30, What?
Geddes, 1999, What do we know about democratization after twenty years?
Carothers, 2002, *End of the Transition Paradigm*
Diamond, *Thinking About Hybrid Regimes*
Hadenius and Teorrel, *Pathways from Authoritarianism*
Howard and Roessler, *Liberalizing Electoral Outcomes in Competitive Authoritarian Regimes*

9. Collective Decisions and Deliberation (18 Nov)
Jon Elster, *Arguing and Bargaining in Two Constituent Assemblies*.
John Stuart Mill, *Considerations on Representative Government*, Ch. 5
Gerry Mackie, *Does Democratic Deliberation Change Minds?*

10. Collective Decisions and Voting (2 Dec)
Review Tideman
Gerry Mackie, *Deliberation but Voting Too*
IDEA, *Electoral System Design*, 1-33, 120-121, plus read four case studies of your choice
Plato, *The Republic* 487b-494a
Aristotle, *Politics*, 1281a:35-1282b:10
Cheryl Boudreau and Mat McCubbins, From Competition to Competence

*Final: Policy* (due 7 Dec)

TO BE ARRANGED

stability vs. decisiveness, special vs. general interest