Course description

A survey of recent work in democratic theory, aimed primarily at PhD students in Political Science. Others might be admitted by arrangement with the instructor as space permits.

The course will be divided into four parts: (i) competing definitions of democracy; (ii) getting and keeping democracy; (iii) tensions between democracy and other goods; and (iv) democracy and world politics. There will be some attention to classic authors such as Rousseau, Madison, Tocqueville, and Schumpeter, but most of our focus will be on contemporary debates. Inter alia, we will read work by Robert Dahl, Jürgen Habermas, John Rawls, Michael Walzer, Susan Moller Okin, John Roemer, Adam Przeworski, Will Kymlicka, Brian Barry, Sarah Song, and the instructor.

Our central focus will be on democratic theory, but this inevitably bumps up against other topics that have concerned contemporary political theorists. Students who lack background in contemporary political theory are advised to read in advance chapters 1-5 of Ian Shapiro, *The Moral Foundations of Politics* (Yale University Press, 2003), which surveys relevant debates.

Students will be expected *either* to write a review essay plus final exam, *or* a research paper (topic agreed with the instructor no later than October 15).

Key:
[L] Book available at Labyrinth
[O] Available online at the classes server
[P] Course packet available at Tyco
September 3
Introduction and housekeeping session

September 10
Democracy’s meanings I

Required:
• Classical conceptions of democracy
• Constitutional conceptions of democracy

Suggested

September 17
Democracy’s meanings II

Required:
• Majoritarian conceptions of democracy:
  o J. Locke, *Two Treatises of Government*. Ed. by Ian Shapiro (Yale University Press, 2003). Chapters VIII (pp. 141-154) and XIX (pp. 193-209). [P]
• Democracy as anti-domination:
  o Rawls, J. *Political Liberalism*. Lecture IX. [P]

Suggested:
I. Shapiro, “John Locke’s Democratic Theory”. In J. Locke, *Two Treatises of Government*. Ed. by Ian Shapiro (Yale University Press, 2003). Chapters VIII (pp. 141-154) and XIX (pp. 193-209).

**September 24**

**Paths to democracy I: Modernization**

*Required:*

*Suggested:*
- Barrington Moore, *Social origins of dictatorship and democracy: lord and peasant in the making of the modern world*. Chapters 7, 8 and 9.

**October 1**

**Paths to democracy II: Democratic paths to democracy?**

*Required:*
- I. Shapiro, *The State of Democratic Theory*. Chapter 4. [L]

*Suggested:*
- Courtney Jung and Ian Shapiro, “South Africa’s Negotiated Transition: Democracy, Opposition, and the New Constitutional Order”. In Ian Shapiro, *Democracy’s Place* (Cornell University Press, 1996)

**October 8**

**Democracy and other goods I: Equality**
- Michael Graetz and Ian Shapiro, *Death by a Thousand Cuts*. Chapters 1-2, 16, 19, 20-23, and Epilogue. [L]
o  Ian Shapiro, *The State of Democratic Theory*, Chapter 5. [L]

October 15

**Democracy and other goods II: Justice**

*Required:*
- I. Shapiro, *Democratic Justice*. Chapters 1, 2 and 3 [L]

*Suggested:*

October 22

**Democracy and other goods III: Efficiency**

- Ian Shapiro, *Democratic Justice*. Chapter 6. [L]

*Suggested:*

October 29

**Democracy and other goods IV: Multiculturalism**


*Suggested:*

November 5

**Democracy and other goods V: Privacy**

- Susan Moller Okin, *Justice, Gender, and the Family*. (Basic Books, 1999). Chapters 1, 2, 5, 6, 7 & 8. [L]
- Ian Shapiro, *Democratic Justice*. Chapters 4 & 5.[L]
November 12
Democracy and other goods VI: Religion

Required:
- John L. Esposito and John O. Voll, Islam and Democracy. Chapters 1, 2, 3 and 7. [L]
- Robin Wright, “Two Visions of Reformation”. In Islam and Democracy in the Middle East by Larry Diamond, Marc F. Plattner, and Daniel Brumberg. [P]
- Huntington, The Third Wave. Excerpt: last section of chapter 2, “Religious Changes” (pp. 72-108) [P]

Suggested:

November 19
Democracy and World Politics I: Cosmopolitanism

Required:
- David Held, “The transformation of political community: rethinking democracy in the context of globalization”. In Ian Shapiro and H. Cordón (eds.) Democracy’s Edges (Cambridge University Press, 1999) [P]

Suggested:
- A. Wendt, “A comment on Held’s Cosmopolitanisms”. In Ian Shapiro and H. Cordón (eds.) Democracy’s Edges (Cambridge University Press, 1999)
- Simon Caney, Justice Beyond Borders chapter 5 (Oxford University Press, 2005)
November 26
Fall recess—no class

December 3
Democracy and World Politics II: National Security

Required:
- I. Kant, “Perpetual Peace” (1795). [O]
- Ian Shapiro, Containment: rebuilding a strategy against global terror (Princeton University Press, 2007). Chapters 4, 5 and 6 [L]

Suggested: