

POLITICS UNDER AUTHORITARIANISM

Spring 2014



Instructor: Dr. Magda Giurcanu

Course Meetings: T: 2 (8.30-9.20 am) & Th: 2-3 (8.30-10.25 am) **MCCA 1142**

Office: 210 Anderson Hall

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COURSE DESCRIPTION

Non-democratic government, whether by elders, chiefs, monarchs, aristocrats, empires, military regimes, and one-party state, has been the norm for most of human history. As late as the 1970, non-democratic governments were more common than democracy. With the most recent spread of democracy, the post-1990 wave, democracies have come to outnumber the authoritarian regimes; yet, about 40% of the world's governments remain authoritarian.

This course explores the characteristics and dynamics of non-democratic regimes in two distinct sections:

- First, we will define our concepts, and highlight trends, data, mechanisms, practices and consequences of authoritarian regimes.
- Second, we will cover different types of authoritarianism and their (distinct) characteristics. We will cover military, sultanistic/personalistic, single-party, and hybrid regimes throughout the weeks.

Using films, news items, and scholarly articles, you will be able to achieve the following:

1. Gain a firm understanding of different conceptual distinctions among authoritarian regimes and between non-democracies and democracies
2. Understand how authoritarian leaders take, transfer, and exercise power
3. Be exposed to several modern examples of authoritarian regimes

Course materials

There is one required textbook, available through the UF bookstore.

- Steven Levitsky and Lucan Way, *Competitive Authoritarianism: Hybrid Regimes after the Cold War*, Cambridge University Press
- Additional readings will be available through 'e-Learning in Sakai'

STUDENTS ARE RESPONSIBLE FOR ALL MATERIALS COVERED IN LECTURES, READINGS, HANDOUTS, & POSTINGS ON THE COURSE WEBSITE.

- **E-Learning in SAKAI** You should become familiar with 'e-Learning in Sakai'. All electronic materials assigned as readings (articles and book chapters) will be posted here, as well as power point slides for the class. In addition, ALL GRADES will be posted here too.

Course requirements

1. **Class Attendance and Participation 10%**
2. **Quiz: The Geography of Authoritarianism 5%**
3. **2 short term reaction papers & presentations for scholarly articles 20%**
4. **3 film reviews 15%**
5. **2 in-class tests 50%**

Class attendance and participation 10%

- I will lecture briefly, but most of the class will be spent *discussing* the readings. Everyone should have something to say in every class. If you don't understand something in the readings, say so. Come with questions and topics for debate.
- *Attendance is mandatory.* Our class is very small and your absences will be noticed.
- Complete the readings before the dates listed on the syllabus.

Quiz 5%

- In order to engage with this course material, it is important to have a firm grasp of the subject matter.

2 short term reaction papers (2-4 pages each) 20%

- Over the course of the semester, you will write and present two reactions papers on a scholarly article of your choice (from the syllabus)
- The papers have 3 components:

1. Sum up the argument
2. An evaluation and a critique of the argument. Does the argument make sense? Why/why not? Does one of the other readings offer a contradictory argument?
3. Conclude with discussion questions for the class.

3 film reviews 15%

- After viewing each film, you will receive a series of questions that should be addressed in an essay-format (2-3 pages)

2 in-class tests 50% . The second test is non-cumulative.

Policies of the course

1. **Assignments:**
 - a. All assignments must be submitted **BY THE DEADLINE** and following ALL instructions.
 - b. Extensions will be granted at my discretion and, if granted, they will require proper documentation. Make sure you ask for an extension only **PRIOR** (at least 24 hours) to the deadline date.
2. **Cheating/plagiarism:** DON'T. Any student caught violating the honor code will fail the class. For more information, read the Code of Student Conduct <http://www.dso.ufl.edu/sccr/honorcode.php>
3. **Courtesy:** Don't come late and turn off your cell-phones. Any disruptive behavior (reading newspapers or materials related to other courses, talking outside of class discussions) will not be tolerated and you will be asked to leave the class.
4. **Special Needs:** If you have a disability that requires special arrangements (e.g. note- and/or test-taking), please register with UF's Office of Students with Disabilities and contact me **within the first week** of class. Every effort will be made to accommodate those with registered disabilities.

Grading scale: (<http://www.registrar.ufl.edu/catalog/policies/regulationgrades.html>):

A	A-	B+	B	B-	C+	C	C-	D+	D	D-	E
94-100	90-93.9	87-89.9	83-86.9	80-82.9	77-79.9	73-76.9	70-72.9	67-69.9	63-66.9	60-62.9	< 59.9

COURSE SCHEDULE

I. What is Authoritarianism? Concepts, Trends, and Consequences

Week 1: January 7-9

T: Course Introduction and Setting the Objectives

Th: What is an authoritarian regime?

Schumpeter, Joseph. 1943, *Capitalism, Socialism, and Democracy*, Chapters 21& 22 (E-Learning)

Philippe C. Schmitter and Terry Lynn Karl. 1991. "What Democracy Is...and Is not", *Journal of Democracy*. 2(3): 75-88 (E-Learning)

Zakaria, Fareed. 1997. "The Rise of Illiberal Democracy." *Foreign Affairs* 76(6): 22-43

<http://www.foreignaffairs.com/articles/53577/fareed-zakaria/the-rise-of-illiberal-democracy>

Week 2: January 14-16 Classical and Post-Cold War trends and data (1)

Juan Linz and Alfred Stepan. 1996. "Problems of Democratic Transition and Consolidation: Southern Europe, South America, and Post-Communist Europe." Baltimore: Johns Hopkins University Press. 38-54. (E-Learning)

Francis Fukuyama, "The End of History?" (E-learning)

Thomas Carothers. 2002. "The End of the Transition Paradigm." *Journal of Democracy*. 13(1): 5-21 (E-Learning)

Week 3: January 21-23 Classical and Post-Cold War trends and data (2)

Freedom in the World 2013. Release Booklet.

http://www.freedomhouse.org/sites/default/files/FIW%202013%20Booklet_0.pdf

<http://www.freedomhouse.org/sites/default/files/Map%20of%20Freedom%202013%2C%20final.pdf>

(Familiarize yourself with the maps and charts in these booklets)

Larry Diamond. 2002. "Elections without Democracy: Thinking About Hybrid Regimes." *Journal of Democracy* Volume 13(2): 21-35. (E-Learning)

Adam Przeworski et al. "Classifying Political Regimes." *Studies in Comparative International Development*. 31(2): 3-36. (E-Learning)

Week 4: January 28-30 Taking, Transferring, and Maintaining Power

T: Quiz! The Geography of Authoritarianism

Jason Brownlee. 2007. "Hereditary Succession in Modern Autocracies", *World Politics*, vol. 59: 595-628

John H. Herz. 1952. "The Problem of Successorship in Dictatorial Regimes: A Study in Comparative Law and Institutions". *Journal of Politics*, vol 14(1): 19-40

Michael Bratton and Eldred Masunungore. 2008. "Zimbabwe's Longue Agony", *Journal of Democracy*, 19(4): 41-55

Documentary: The Cult of Personality (DVD 2833) On reserve

Week 5: February 4-6 Making Autocracy Work

Georgy Egorov, Sergei Guriev, and Konstantin Sonin. 2009. "Why Resource-poor Dictators Allow Freer Media: A Theory and Evidence from Panel Data", *American Political Science Review*, vol 103 (4) 645-668 (E-Learning)

Peter Solomon, Jr. 2007 "Courts and Judges in Authoritarian Regimes", *World Politics*, (60): 122-145 (E-Learning)

Lily Tsai. 2007. "Solidarity Groups, Informal Accountability, and Local Public Goods Provisions in Rural China", *American Political Science Review*, 101 (2): 355-372 (E-Learning)

Peter Lorentzen. 2013. Regularizing Rioting: Permitting Public Protest in an Authoritarian Regime." *Quarterly Journal of Political Science*: 8(2): 127-158. 2013. (E-Learning)

Week 6: February 11-13 Authoritarianism's Consequences.

Effects of authoritarian rule on policy outcomes. Are these regimes better at maintaining order? Economic Growth. Human rights. Development. War. Property Rights.

Mancur Olson. 1993. "Dictatorship, Democracy and Development," *American Political Science*

Review 87(3): 567-76. (E-learning)

Bruce Russett. 1994. *Grasping the Democratic Peace*. Chapters 1-2 (E-Learning)

Baum, Matthew and David Lake. 2003. The Political Economy of Growth: Democracy and Human Capital. *American Journal of Political Science* 4(2): 333-47 (E-Learning)

Ross, Michael. 2006. Is Democracy Good for the Poor. *American Journal of Political Science* 50 (4) (E-Learning)

II. Types and Practices of Authoritarianism

Week 7: February 18-20 Military Regimes

Paul Brooker. 2000. *Non-Democratic Regimes: Theory, Government and Politics*. New York: Palgrave Macmillan. 59-80. (E-Learning)

Samuel Decalo. 1973. "Military Coups and Military Regimes in Africa." *Journal of Modern African Studies*. 11(1): 105-127. (E-Learning)

Alfred Stepan. 1988. "Rethinking Military Politics: Brazil and the Southern Cone." Princeton: PUP. 13-44. (e-Learning)

Week 8: February 25-27 Single-Party Regimes

Benjamin Smith. 2005. "Life of the Party: The Origins of Regime Breakdown and Persistence Under Single-Party Rule." *World Politics* April. 421-451. (E-Learning)

Jason Brownlee, "Ruling Parties and Durable Authoritarianism, working paper, 1-31, available at: http://iis-db.stanford.edu/pubs/20761/brownlee.working_paper.pdf

Stathis Kalyvas, "The Decay and Breakdown of Communist One-Party Systems," *Annual Review of Political Science* 2 June 1999), 323-343. (E-Learning)

Thursday: In-class test

Week 9 March 4-6 Spring Break

Week 10 March 11-13 Making it Work in North Korea

B.R. Myers. *The Cleanest Race: How North Koreans See Themselves—and Why it Matters*. (Melville House, 2009): pp 25-66 (E-Learning)

Sung-Yoon Lee, "The Boy who would be king: Can Kim III Last?"

(<http://www.nbr.org/research/activity.aspx?id=194#Ustu7rTc18E>)

David McNeill, "The Real North Korea by Kim's forsaken son" *The Independent*, January 23, 2012 <http://www.independent.co.uk/news/world/asia/the-real-north-korea-by-kims-forsaken-son-6293256.html>

Documentary: North Korea. Secret Nation (DVD 2197) On reserve

Week 11 March 18-20 Making it Work in China

James C. F. Wang, *Contemporary Chinese Politics: An Introduction* (Prentice Hall, 1999): 1-68 (E-Learning)

Andrew Nathan. 2009. "Authoritarian Impermanence", *Journal of Democracy*, Vol 20 (3): 37-40.

Minxin Pei. 2012. "Is CCP Rule Fragile or Resilient?" *Journal of Democracy*, 23(1): 27-41 (E-Learning)

Documentary: China from the Inside, Part 1: Power and the People (DVD: 7169) On reserve

Week 12: March 25-27 Sultanistic Regimes

H.E. Chehabi and Juan Linz, editors, *Sultanistic Regimes*, pp. 3-84. (E-Learning)
Case Studies of Sultanism: The Pahlavi Regime in Iran

Week 13: April 1-3 Islam and Authoritarianism

Larry Diamond. 2011. Why Are There No Arab Democracies? *Journal of Democracy*, vol 21 (1): 93-104 (E-Learning)

Marc Plattner. 2011. The Global Context, *Journal of Democracy*, vol 22 (4): 5-12 (E-Learning)
2 readings to be added (TBA)

Week 14: April 8-10 Hybrid Regimes. The gray area between democracies and authoritarianism

Andreas Schedler, "The Menu of Manipulation," *Journal of Democracy*, 13, 2 (April 2002), 36-50. (E-Learning)

Steven Levitsky and Lucan Way, *Competitive Authoritarianism: Hybrid Regimes after the Cold War*, Cambridge University Press, pp. 1-85.

Post-Soviet Competitive Authoritarianism: Levitsky and Way, pp. 183-236.

Week 15: April 15-17 Dealing with Dictatorships

Nail Ferguson. There are two kinds of dictator: ours and theirs. Ours are better' Sunday Telegraph, Dec 17, 2006. (<http://www.telegraph.co.uk/comment/personal-view/3635377/There-are-two-kinds-of-dictator-ours-and-theirs.-Ours-are-better.html>)

Robert Kagan, League of Dictators? Why China and Russia will Continue to Support Autocracies", *Washington Post* April 30, 2006

Documentary: The Debt of Dictators (DVD 2792) On reserve

Week 16: April 22 Coping with the Legacy of Dictatorship

Documentary: Al Jazeera World. Romania: The Spectre of Tyranny

<http://www.aljazeera.com/programmes/aljazeeraworld/2012/10/2012108112728441748.html>

A Romanian journalist discovers that the dictatorship of the past still casts an influence over people's lives today.

<http://youtu.be/M-mOV-JLH7E>

***April 29: In-class final test during the final evaluation week.