

University of Rochester – PSC 101/IR 101  
Spring 2022  
Monday/Wednesday/Friday 10:25am – 11:15am  
Lattimore 201  
Zoom link for January: <https://rochester.zoom.us/j/92513440397>

## **Introduction to Comparative Politics**

### **Professor Meguid**

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Office Hours: Tuesdays 4-6pm via ZOOM or by appointment

### **Teaching Assistants:**

Sami Gul, [sgul3@ur.rochester.edu](mailto:sgul3@ur.rochester.edu), Harkness 308B, office hrs: Tuesdays 9-10:30am via ZOOM

Hongyi She, [hshe@ur.rochester.edu](mailto:hshe@ur.rochester.edu), Harkness 109A, office hrs: Mondays 1:30 to 3pm via ZOOM

### **Course Description**

This course will introduce students to comparative politics –

**Readings**

In this course, we will read a combination of books, book chapters and journal articles. The books are available for purchase at the Bookstore (either under PSC or IR 101) or, alternatively, are on reserve at Rush Rhees Library. Journal articles and chapters in edited volumes are accessible through the Library's electronic reserves on Blackboard.

**Texts available for purchase at the Bookstore (but you can buy them from any source)**

Allen, William Sheridan. The Nazi Seizure of Power. New York: Watts, 2014. (DO NOT PURCHASE EARLIER VERSIONS) 978-1626548725

Archer, Jeffrey. First Among Equals. New York: Harper Paperbacks, 1984.

Crnobrnja, Mihailo. The Yugoslav Drama. Montreal: McGill-Queen's UP, 1996.

Diamond, Larry and Marc Plattner, eds. The Global Resurgence of Democracy Baltimore: Johns

impact of disability, please contact the Office of Disability Resources. The access coordinators in the Office of Disability Resources can meet with you to discuss the barriers you are experiencing and explain the eligibility process for establishing academic accommodations. You can reach the Office of Disability Resources at: [http://disability@rochester.edu](mailto:disability@rochester.edu); (585) 276-5075; Taylor Hall.

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### **Pandemic Policies**

In light of the challenges posed by the pandemic, I encourage all students to communicate with me as promptly as possible any concerns they have about missing class for illness/quarantine and for meeting class deadlines. The goal of this class is to remain as rigorous and fair as possible, while also allowing for enough flexibility for students to do their best work despite the difficult circumstances.

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### **Wednesday, January 12: Course Introduction**

### **January 14 and 19: What is Democracy?**

Terry L. Karl and Philippe Schmitter, WI( )TjE4w 14.77 0P AMCIAMCIAMCIAMCID 5 2/MCIanorheaÄF5jdB!Dj

For the independent out-of-class assignment: Read the *NY Times* or *Washington Post* for 50 minutes this week, focusing on articles about democracy and democratization.

**January 31 and February 2: Democracy and Democratization: Cases**

Elisabeth Jean Wood, Forging Democracy from Below, Cambridge: Cambridge UP, 2000. 25-144, 150-208.

For the independent out-of-class assignments: Read a non-US newspaper for 50 minutes this

week, focusing on articles about democracy and democratization. Read a non-US newspaper for 50 minutes this week, focusing on articles about democracy and democratization. Cambridge UP, 19750. 9n

James Davies, "Toward a Theory of Revolution," American Sociological Review, 27.1(1962): 5-19. [Link](#)

Eric Selbin, "Revolution in the Real World: Bringing Agency Back In," in John Foran, ed, Theorizing Revolutions, London: Routledge, 1997. 123-136. [Link](#)

For the independent out-of-class assignment: Read the *NY Times* or *Washington Post* for 50

For the independent out-of-class assignment: Read Jeffrey Archer, First Among Equals. New York: Harper Paperbacks, 1984. Chapters 1-10.

### **March 28 and 30: Do Institutions Matter? Electoral Systems**

Arend Lijphart, "Constitutional Choices for New Democracies," in Diamond and Plattner (eds), The Global Resurgence of Democracy, Baltimore: Johns Hopkins UP, 1996. 162-174.

Guy Lardeyat, "The Problem with PR," in Diamond and Plattner (eds), The Global Resurgence of Democracy, Baltimore: Johns Hopkins UP, 1996. 175-180

Quentin Quade, "PR and Democratic Statecraft," in Diamond and Plattner (eds), The Global Resurgence of Democracy, Baltimore: Johns Hopkins UP, 1996. 181-186

Scott Mainwaring, "Presidentialism, Multipartyism and Democracy," Comparative Political Studies, 26.2(1993): 198-228. [Link](#)

Arend Lijphart, "Reforming the House: Three Moderately Radical Proposals," P.S.: Political Science and Politics, 31.1(1998): 10-13. [Link](#)

For the independent out-of-class assignment: Read the *NY Times* or *Washington Post* for 50 minutes this week, focusing on articles about the US Congressional elections and the impact of election rules.

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For the independent out-of-class assignment: Read the *NY Times* or