

PSCI 552
Dictatorship and Democracy
Fall 2022
Wednesday 1pm-3:45pm

Research proposals should be a maximum of 500 words in length and should outline: 1) An existing theoretical or empirical puzzle, 2) an intuition as to a solution to this puzzle, 3) either existing or ideal data needed to test this puzzle, and 4) the identification strategy to be used.

As a final assignment, students must present a research proposal during the last week of class that develops one of their shorter proposals. A final written version of the research proposal is due by 5 pm on December 19th. This proposal (maximum of 3000 words) should include a more detailed literature review, a discussion of the proposed theoretical framework, and the empirical hypotheses it implies, as well as serious discussion of how to obtain data to carry out the project. For projects with publicly available data, successful projects will include a rough preliminary analysis.

Grading

Class Participation and Presentations 45%
Three short research proposals (10% each) 30%
Final Research Proposal 25%

Course Policies

Extensions to deadlines must be negotiated in advance of the deadline. Late work will not be accepted.

Schedule

Week 1. Themes and Organization of the Course

August 31st

Week 2. Foundations

September 7th

Dahl, Robert A. 2008. *Polyarchy: Participation and Opposition*. Yale University Press.

P1-16, 33-47

Przeworski, Adam. 1991. *Democracy and the Market*. Ch. 1.

The American

Political Science Review 87 (3): 567-76.

Weingast, Barry R. 1997. "The political foundations of democracy and the rule of the law." *American Political Science Review*.

Week 3. No Class due to APSA

September 14th

Helmke, Gretchen, Jae-Eun Kim, and Seda Ozturk.

Clayton, Katherine, Nicholas T. Davis, Brendan Nyhan, Ethan Porter, Timothy J. Ryan,

Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences of the United States of America 118 (23).

Clayton, Katherine. TBD

-Group

The Journal of Politics.

<https://www.journals.uchicago.edu/doi/full/10.1086/719009>.

Week 9. Dictatorship I

October 26th

Geddes, Barbara, Joseph Wright, and Erica Frantz. 2018. *How dictatorships work: Power, personalization, and collapse*. Cambridge University Press. Ch 4 and 5, appendix

Rethinking Institutional

British Journal of Political Science.

Comparative Political Studies 40 (11): 1279-1301.

Week 10. Dictatorship II

November 2nd

Levitsky, Steven, and Lucan A. Way. 2010. *Competitive Authoritarianism: Hybrid Regimes After the Cold War*. Cambridge University Press. Chs. 1 and 2.

Gandhi, Jennifer. 2008. *Political Institutions under Dictatorship*. Cambridge University Press. Skim Introduction and ch 1, read ch 3.

Svolik, Milan W. 2012. *The Politics of Authoritarian Rule*. Cambridge University Press. Skim chapter 1, 2, and read 4.

Week 11. Democracy and Counter-majoritarianism

November 9th

Mittal, Sonia, and Barry R. Weingast. "Self-enforcing constitutions: with an application to democratic stability in America's first century." *The Journal of Law, Economics, & Organization* 29.2 (2013): 278-302.

Helmke, Gretchen, Mary Kroeger, and Jack Paine. 2022. "Democracy by deterrence: Norms, constitutions, and electoral tilting." *American Journal of Political Science* 66, no. 2: 434-450.

Working paper.

Week 12. Democratic Erosion I

November 16th

Luo,

Grillo, Edoardo, and Carlo Prato.

American Journal of Political Science.

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