

Faculty of Economics and Political Science

Transitional Democracies: Case Studies

Information :

Course Code : PSC 405

Level : Undergraduate

Course Hours : 3.00- Hours

Department : Department of Political Science

Area Of Study :

This course focuses on the essential issues since 1950 till now such as the main foundations of stable democracies, the causes of successful transitions from authoritarian to democratic regimes, the determinants of democracy reinforcement, the influence of external actors, the evolution of democracy and the proliferation of hybrid regimes since 1990. The course treats many case studies such as democratization in the Arab World after the Arab Revolutions, Asia (Indonesia, Singapore...), South Africa, Latin America and Eastern Europe.

Course Goals:

- Analyze the history of global democratization experiences in different regions of the world from the mid-twentieth century until contemporary times.
- Identify theories of democratic development.
- Recognize the historical context, challenges and debates concerning democracy.
- Analyze the determinants of democracies consolidation.
- Test the impact of external factors on democracy.
- Apply theories on case studies of the democratization process.

Description :

This course focuses on the essential issues since 1950 till now such as the main foundations of stable democracies, the causes of successful transitions from authoritarian to democratic regimes, the determinants of democracy reinforcement, the influence of external actors, the evolution of democracy and the proliferation of hybrid regimes since 1990. The course treats many case studies such as democratization in the Arab World after the Arab Revolutions, Asia (Indonesia, Singapore...), South Africa, Latin America and Eastern Europe.

Course outcomes :

a. Knowledge and Understanding: :

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| 1 - | Recognize the main foundations for stable democracies. |
| 2 - | Identify the main theories of democratization. |
| 3 - | Recognize the different factors impacting the democratization process. |

b. Intellectual Skills: :

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| 1 - | Analyze past and contemporary democratization experiences in different parts of the world. |
| 2 - | Compare the democratization process in different regional contexts. |

c. Professional and Practical Skills: :

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| 1 - | Produce reports analyzing different democratization experiences. |
| 2 - | Extract the practical solution for a failing democratization process. |

d.General and Transferable Skills: :

1 -	Develop self-learning skills.
2 -	Gain confidence and knowledge on how to work towards solutions.

Course Topic And Contents :

Topic	No. of hours	Lecture	Tutorial / Practical
Introduction: Theories of Democratization	3	1	
Democratization post World War II (part 1)	3	1	
Democratization post World War II (part 2)	3	1	
Democratization in Post-Communist Europe (part 1)	3	1	
Democratization in Post-Communist Europe (part 2)	3	1	
Midterm		1	
Democratization experiences in Latin America (part 1)	3	1	
Democratization experiences in Latin America (part 2)	3	1	
Democratization experiences in Asia (part 1)	3	1	
Democratization experiences in Asia (part 2)	3	1	
Democratization experiences in Africa (part 1)	3	1	
Democratization experiences in Africa (part 2)	3	1	
Democratization experiences in the Arab World (part 1)	3	1	
Democratization experiences in the Arab World (part 2)	3	1	
Final Exam		1	

Teaching And Learning Methodologies :

Data show and computer in lectures
Group discussion
Research Paper

Course Assessment :

Methods of assessment	Relative weight %	Week No	Assess What
Class work (assignments, quizzes, research papers, class attendance, class participation)	30.00		To assess understanding, and to assess theoretical background of the intellectual and practical skills.
Final Exam	40.00	15	To assess knowledge and intellectual skills
Midterm Exam (s)	30.00	6	To assess professional skills.

Recommended books :

Ji-Hyang Jang and Clement Henry, The Arab Spring: Will It Lead to Democratic Transitions? Palgrave Macmillan, New York, 2013.

Periodicals :

Ned Dobos, The Democratization of Credit, Journal of Social Philosophy, 43, 1, 2012 (50-63).