COURSE DESCRIPTION AND GOALS

This is an advanced undergraduate course dealing specifically with the literature of democracy and economic development. A large number of readings is very theoretical and deals with economic principles. Thus, for some the course may be very challenging.

The course goal is to determine what are the factors that contribute to make some countries strong democracies as well as thriving economies and, conversely, what other factors are responsible for hampering democracy and slowing down economic progress. We shall, therefore, analyze some of the most important literature from politics and economics that attempt to come up with an answer to this fundamental question. Thus, the course is interdisciplinary in nature, as it draws from different fields of inquiry to provide the most comprehensive answer possible.

Besides the course readings, we will also watch the award winning “Commanding Heights,” produced by PBS. This program will help us to understand how both economic and political factors shaped the development of the world for the last hundred years and how the theory we will learn actually had an important influence in shaping policy across the globe. Students will find all the details on the three tapes we will watch in class by logging into:

http://www.pbs.org/wgbh/commandingheights/lo/index.html

This web page recaps what is discussed in the tapes. Once you get into the main page, just click on one of the main headings that provide:

1. a recap of the main story line
2. a country-by-country information
3. key events leading to major policy shifts
4. the profile of crucial thinkers and policy-makers
5. the summary of the most important ideas at play

PBS: Commanding Heights (http://www.pbs.org/wgbh/commandingheights/lo/index.html). Click on “Story line” in the web page and read the chapters (once you are in the “story line” page click on transcript menu) assigned for each class meeting.

READINGS: The following are REQUIRED readings that can be found at the SMU bookstore:

Mancur Olson: The Rise and Decline of Nations (New Haven: Yale University Press, 1982)

REQUIRED READINGS ON MY WEB SITE (faculty.smu.edu/lmanzett):


READINGS AVAILABLE ON JSTORE FROM The Journal of Democracy:

The Assault on Democracy Assistance
by Carl Gershman and Michael Allen (April 2006)

Identity, Immigration, and Liberal Democracy
by Francis Fukuyama (April 2006)

Populism, Socialism, and Democratic Institutions
by Hector E. Schamis (October 2006)

From Democracy Fatigue to Populist Backlash
by Jacques Rupnik (October 2007)

Democracy, Development and Good Governance: The Inseparable Links
Annual Democracy and Governance Lecture At the British Council Hall
Larry Diamond (March 1, 2005)

Diamond’s paper is available at the Stanford website: http://www.stanford.edu/~ldiamond/papers.html

ON RESERVE (Fondren library). Since there is only one copy available, it would be best if you photocopy the chapters assigned for each meeting.


YOUR GRADE (read carefully)

This section comes mostly from Professors Harold Stanley and Joseph Kobylka who are some of the most distinguished members of our department. It is meant to clear any doubts you may have about what it takes to do well in this class (and for that matter, any class on campus).

Your grade is based upon my evaluation of your written work and your participation and behavior in class. What does it take to impress your teacher? Think of this course as your job and approach it with professionalism. Take this course seriously and let me know that. This is how you can do it.

Attend class; be prepared for class by reading the assigned works before any class session; be ready to ask and answer questions; take an informed role in the discussion. Demonstrate your understanding of your exams and research paper.

Arrive in class on time; late arrivals will be penalized as if you were absent unless they have been cleared with me after class. Remain for the entire class; be attentive in class without distracting me or your classmates with cell phones, text messages, side conversations, bathroom trips and other reasons for coming-and-going. If
you engage in the behavior just mentioned, you may be asked to leave the class.
If you happen to miss a class, it is your responsibility to get notes from a classmate. I do not give my class notes to students.

**After three unexcused absences I drop you from the course.** An excused absence is almost exclusively restricted to religious reasons, certain university activities, documented medical conditions, or documented family emergencies. Absences for religious reasons or for university extracurricular activities must be communicated to me in advance.

Moreover:

1. Attendance is required for the midterm and final. Failing to show up will result in an administrative 0 score.
   If a student cannot take a test due to illness, he/she MUST notify the instructor BEFORE not AFTER the examination. A student can reschedule an examination only if a validated medical proof can be shown.
2. No incomplete grades will be allowed except for exceptional circumstances.
3. Students MUST complete all work. Failing to do so will result in an administrative F.
4. Students who are found to have plagiarized will be given an administrative F.

**DISABILITY, RELIGIOUS, AND EXTRACURRICULAR ACTIVITIES**

* Disability Accommodations: Students needing academic accommodations for a disability must first contact Ms. Rebecca Marin, Coordinator, Services for Students with Disabilities (214-768-4557) to verify the disability and establish eligibility for accommodations. They should then schedule an appointment with the professor to make appropriate arrangements. (See University Policy No. 2.4.)

* Religious Observance: Religiously observant students wishing to be absent on holidays that require missing class should notify their professors in writing at the beginning of the semester, and should discuss with them, in advance, acceptable ways of making up any work missed because of the absence. (See University Policy No. 1.9.)

* Excused Absences for University Extracurricular Activities: Students participating in an officially sanctioned, scheduled University extracurricular activity should be given the opportunity to make up class assignments or other graded assignments missed as a result of their participation. It is the responsibility of the student to make arrangements with the instructor prior to any missed scheduled examination or other missed assignment for making up the work. (University Undergraduate Catalogue)

**APPEALS POLICY:** All appeals of grades received on a test need to be submitted no later than five working days after the date a test is returned to class. NOTE that in the event of an appeal I will re-grade your entire test. This means that your grade may go down as a result.

**EXAMINATION REQUIREMENTS:** Midterm (30% of total grade), a final (30%), class participation (10%), and a research paper (30%).

The research paper must be emailed to me no later than April 29th. It must be at least 12 pages long, excluding the bibliography. Each 24 hours past the deadline will entail a 5 point cut from the paper final grade. Papers that are not submitted by May 2nd will receive an automatic F.

**GRADING SCALE.**
SMU Policy on Disability, Religion, and Extracurricular Activities

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SCHEDULE OF TOPICS AND READINGS
(Some class meetings may be rescheduled due to conferences I will attend this semester)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Topic</th>
<th>Reading</th>
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| January 15 | Democracy and Economic performance | Milton Friedman chp. 1-2  
Putnam, chp. 1  
Diamond (2004) |
| 22    | Institutional Performance     | North chp. 1-2-3               |
| 29    | Transaction Theory            | North chp. 4-5-6              |
| Feb. 5 | The Logic of Collective Action | Olson chp 1-2-3-4            |
|       | Commanding heights episode 1  | PBS                            |
|       | “Von Hayek vs. Keynes”        |
| 19    | Commanding heights episode 2  | PBS                            |
|       | “The Collapse of Soviet Communism and Latin America” |
| 26    | Commanding heights episode 3  | PBS                            |
|       | “Global Markets and their Problems” |
| March 4 | MIDTERM                      |                                |
9-16  No class Spring Break

March  18  Market Reforms and International Institutions  Stiglitz chp. 1, 2, 3, 5, 7


April  1  Social Capital and Institutional Success  Putnam skim chps. 2-3-4
Read well chps. 5-6

8  Bowling Alone: America's Declining Social Capital  Putnam (paper on website)

15  Promoting democracy  Gershman and Allen

22  Populism in Emerging Democracies  Fukuyama
Schamis
Rupnik

29  Democratic performance  Diamond and Morlino
paper must be emailed on this day (2004)
Carothers (2007)

May  6  FINAL EXAM 6:30-9:30PM

Research paper topic:
Assume that you work for the State Department and your assignment is to write a report about a country that has recently become a democracy. Based upon your readings, you should assess what the short term (10 year maximum) prospects are that Pakistan will become a democracy in the Western sense of the word. Once you assess the situation, the second part of your task is to establish whether massive US economic and technical aid (such as designing institutions based upon the US model) will be able by itself to quickly establish a democracy and modern capitalism.

In assessing the situation, take into account the fact that politics, economics, and social factors are closely related.