



## FACULTY OF HUMANITIES AND SOCIAL SCIENCES

### SCHOOL OF HISTORY, PHILOSOPHY, POLITICAL SCIENCE AND INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS

#### POLITICAL SCIENCE AND INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS PROGRAMME

#### POLS 418: Special Topic: Democracy and Democratisation

#### 30 POINTS

#### TRIMESTER 1 2014

### Important dates

**Trimester dates:** 3 March to 2 July 2014

**Teaching dates:** 3 March to 6 June 2014

**Easter/Mid-trimester break:** 18 April to 4 May 2014

**Study week:** 9 – 13 June 2014

**Examination/Assessment Period:** 13 June to 2 July 2014

Note: students who enrol in courses with examinations must be able to attend an examination at the University at any time during the scheduled examination period.

**Withdrawal dates:** Refer to [www.victoria.ac.nz/students/study/withdrawals-refunds](http://www.victoria.ac.nz/students/study/withdrawals-refunds). If you cannot complete an assignment or sit a test or examination, refer to [www.victoria.ac.nz/students/study/exams/aegrotats](http://www.victoria.ac.nz/students/study/exams/aegrotats).

### Class times and locations

Can be found on the Victoria website at:

[www.victoria.ac.nz/home/study/subjects/coursecatalogue](http://www.victoria.ac.nz/home/study/subjects/coursecatalogue)

It is advisable to check the above in case there are any changes to the timetable programme indicated below.

Lectures: Tuesday, 9.00am-11.50am

Venue: Murphy 401

### Names and contact details

Course Coordinator: Professor Jack Vowles

Room No.: Murphy 501

Phone: 463 5126

Email: [jack.vowles@vuw.ac.nz](mailto:jack.vowles@vuw.ac.nz)

Office hours: Monday 2.00 – 4.00 pm

## Communication of additional information

This course uses Blackboard and presumes that all enrolled students have valid myvuw.ac.nz addresses. Please check that this account is active and you have organised email forwarding. Additional information and any changes to the timetable or lecture and seminar programme will be advised by email, announced in lectures, and posted on the course Blackboard site.

## Prescription

This course examines theories of democratisation, democratic stability, and consolidation, their normative foundations and associated implications, their empirical underpinnings in comparative empirical research, and assesses the consequences of such findings for 'engineering democracy'.

## Indicative Course content

March	4	Introduction
March	11	Thinking About Democracy
March	18	History and Class: Social Origins of Dictatorship and Democracy
March	25	From the Civic Culture to Social Capital
April	1	The Modernisation/Development Model
April	8	Game Theoretical Models of Democratisation
April	15	Institutionalism and Transitology
May	6	Democratisation and Social Movements
May	13	Europe Between the Wars: Institutions and Crises
May	20	Post-communism
May	27	Electoral Engineering
June	3	Revision session

## Course learning objectives (CLOs)

Students who pass this course should be able to:

1. Analyse and compare processes of democratisation;
2. Recognise what enhances the process of democratisation and what holds it back;
3. Recognise the extent to which new democracies under various conditions can be expected to survive and stabilise;
4. Critique the strengths and weaknesses of the discipline of political science as a basis for 'democratic engineering'.

## Teaching format

This course is taught in three-hour weekly blocks. This is a demanding format. It has considerable potential for encouraging wide-ranging and intense discussion but only if students engage with the readings prescribed for each topic and are able to discuss their content in class. Particularly at this level, the role of the course teacher is to facilitate and guide discussion, not to provide you with 'all the answers.'

Students will be expected to read two core readings and one other reading that will be assigned the previous week that will be either assigned only to them or shared with another student/other students. Students will be expected to provide a verbal report (about 5 minutes) on that assigned reading, summarising its content and providing an assessment of its value and contribution. Student preferences for assigned readings will be taken into account but complete choice cannot

be guaranteed. There may also be opportunities for group work within the classes, precise details will be organised on the basis of discussion with students.

## Mandatory course requirements

In addition to achieving an overall pass mark of 50% for the course, students must:

- Submit the essays and assignments, on or by the specified dates (subject to such provisions as are stated for late submission of work)
- Sit the examination
- Attend at least 9 of the 12 classes and present a verbal summary of one reading in each of these classes.
- Submit the two research essays for checking for academic integrity by the electronic search engine <http://turnitin.com/>

## Workload

In accordance with Faculty Guidelines, this course has been constructed on the assumption that students will devote 300 hours to POLS 418 throughout the trimester. The table provides an approximate indication of the hours to be spent on each component of the course.

	Hours
Classes	36
Pre-Class Reading	64
Essay 1 Research	50
Essay 2 Research	50
Exam Revision	100
Total	300

## Assessment

Assessment items and workload per item	%	CLO(s)	Due date
1 Research Essay of 3000 words	25%	1, 2, 3, 4	April 9
2 Research Essay of 3000 words	25%	1, 2, 3, 4	May 14
3 Examination (2 hours)	50%	1, 2, 3, 4	June 5

## Submission and return of work

Essays should be submitted through the office essay drop-off point, Murphy Room 518, together with completed cover sheet, available on Blackboard and/or from the office.

The two research essays must also be submitted for checking for academic integrity by the electronic search engine <http://turnitin.com/>

Essays and tests will be returned at times to be advised. If students are unable to attend these times, they may collect their essay from the Office, Murphy Room 518 between the hours of 2.00 and 3.00 pm from Monday to Friday and must show their Student ID card before collection.

## Extensions and penalties

### Extensions

Extensions will only be granted prior to the submission date and on the basis of written evidence of ill-health such as a medical certificate or other acceptable circumstances. Such circumstances do not include the pressure of other work or assignments that students should take into account in organising their work throughout the trimester.

### Penalties

Students will be penalised for late submission of assignments – a deduction of 5% for the first day late, and 2% per day thereafter, up to a maximum of 8 days. Work that is more than 10 week days late may be accepted for mandatory course requirements, but may not be marked.

### Set texts

Teorell, J. (2010). *Determinants of Democratization: Explaining Regime Change in the World 1972-2006*. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press (NOTE: Kindle version available).

Haerpfer, C., Berhagen, P., Inglehart, R.F., and Welzel, C., eds, (2009) *Democratization*. Oxford University Press.

### Recommended reading

To be advised in class.

### Class representative

The class representative provides a useful way to communicate feedback to the teaching staff during the course. A class representative will be selected at the first lecture of the course. Students may like to write the Class Rep's name and details in this box:

Class Representative name and contact details:
--

### Student feedback

Enhancements made to this course, based on the feedback of previous students, will be covered during the course. Student feedback on University courses may be found at [www.cad.vuw.ac.nz/feedback/feedback\\_display.php](http://www.cad.vuw.ac.nz/feedback/feedback_display.php).

### Other important information

The information above is specific to this course. There is other important information that students must familiarise themselves with, including:

- Academic Integrity and Plagiarism: [www.victoria.ac.nz/students/study/exams/integrity-plagiarism](http://www.victoria.ac.nz/students/study/exams/integrity-plagiarism)
- Aegrotats: [www.victoria.ac.nz/students/study/exams/aegrotats](http://www.victoria.ac.nz/students/study/exams/aegrotats)
- Academic Progress: [www.victoria.ac.nz/students/study/progress/academic-progress](http://www.victoria.ac.nz/students/study/progress/academic-progress) (including restrictions and non-engagement)
- Dates and deadlines: [www.victoria.ac.nz/students/study/dates](http://www.victoria.ac.nz/students/study/dates)
- FHSS Student and Academic Services Office: [www.victoria.ac.nz/fhss/student-admin](http://www.victoria.ac.nz/fhss/student-admin)
- Grades: [www.victoria.ac.nz/students/study/progress/grades](http://www.victoria.ac.nz/students/study/progress/grades)

- Resolving academic issues: [www.victoria.ac.nz/about/governance/dvc-academic/publications](http://www.victoria.ac.nz/about/governance/dvc-academic/publications)
- Special passes: [www.victoria.ac.nz/about/governance/dvc-academic/publications](http://www.victoria.ac.nz/about/governance/dvc-academic/publications)
- Statutes and policies including the Student Conduct Statute: [www.victoria.ac.nz/about/governance/strategy](http://www.victoria.ac.nz/about/governance/strategy)
- Student support: [www.victoria.ac.nz/students/support](http://www.victoria.ac.nz/students/support)
- Students with disabilities: [www.victoria.ac.nz/st\\_services/disability](http://www.victoria.ac.nz/st_services/disability)
- Student Charter: [www.victoria.ac.nz/learning-teaching/learning-partnerships/student-charter](http://www.victoria.ac.nz/learning-teaching/learning-partnerships/student-charter)
- Student Contract: [www.victoria.ac.nz/study/apply-enrol/terms-conditions/student-contract](http://www.victoria.ac.nz/study/apply-enrol/terms-conditions/student-contract)
- Subject Librarians: <http://library.victoria.ac.nz/library/resources/subjectcontacts.html>
- Turnitin: [www.cad.vuw.ac.nz/wiki/index.php/Turnitin](http://www.cad.vuw.ac.nz/wiki/index.php/Turnitin)
- University structure: [www.victoria.ac.nz/about/governance/structure](http://www.victoria.ac.nz/about/governance/structure)
- VUWSA: [www.vuwsa.org.nz](http://www.vuwsa.org.nz)