

Authoritarianism

Government 4000.101
Spring 2016

What do they know of England who only England know? – Rudyard Kipling

Instructor:	Jeremy Wallace	Email:	wallace@cornell.edu
Time:	W 10:10-12:05	Place:	Uris Hall 494
Office Hours:	W 2:00-4:00	Place:	White Hall 211

Officials come to their positions of power in ways that vary over time and space. Comparativists have, historically, focused their attentions on democracies and on transitions from non-democratic regimes to democratic ones. This seminar aims to have a different, broader focus: the politics of non-democratic regimes and regime transitions of all kinds, with an emphasis on empirical analysis.

Course Requirements and Grading:

Participation & Attendance - 30% Responses (3) - 30% Research Paper - 40%

Participation & Attendance – The course is a seminar and so your attendance and active participation in the discussion is required. Starting in week 3, each student will be asked to take the lead in discussing the week’s readings.

Responses – Each student will write 3 responses of ~500 words each during the semester. Responses synthesize the readings of the week.

Research Note – By the date of the final session, students are expected to turn in a research note (~6000 words). On the way, a draft outline must be turned in by the end of Week 7, and a 3000+ word draft similarly electronically submitted by Week 11.

Integrity and Accommodation:

Each student in this course is expected to abide by the University’s Code of Academic Integrity. In compliance with university policy and equal access laws, I am available to discuss appropriate academic accommodations that may be required for student with disabilities.

Schedule of Readings

All of the readings are linked or on Blackboard, with the exception of *The Net Delusion* (Morozov), which is available for purchase on reputable online booksellers.

Week 01 [1/27] – Introductions

Week 02 [2/3] – On Writing and Research

- [1] Phil Roeder. 2001. "Research Prospectus."
- [2] Barry Weingast. 1995. "Structuring Your Papers (Caltech Rules)."
- [3] Adam Przeworski. 1991. *Democracy and the Market*. Prologue.
- [4] Benedict Anderson. 1988. "Cacique Democracy and the Philippines."
- [5] Alan Furst. 1988. *Night Soldiers*. pp. 1-28 (i.e. Kindle Sample). amzn.to/17hUk8u

Week 03 [2/10] – Measurement of Democracy

- [1] Philippe C. Schmitter and Terry Lynn Karl 1991. "What Democracy Is....and Is Not," *Journal of Democracy (JoD)*. pp. 75-88.
- [2] Gerardo Munck & Jay Verkuilen. 2002. "Conceptualizing and Measuring Democracy: Evaluating Alternative Indices." *Comparative Political Studies*.
- [3] Robert Dahl. 1972. *Polyarchy: Participation and Opposition*. New Haven: Yale University Press, pp. 1-16 (Blackboard).
- [4] The Quality of Government Dataset Codebook. [Most recent version](#).

Week 04 [2/17] – Authoritarian Regime Types

- [1] Barbara Geddes. 1999. "What do we know about Democratization after 20 Years." *Annual Review of Political Science*.
- [2] Jose Cheibub, Jennifer Gandhi, & James Vreeland 2010. "Democracy and Dictatorship Revisited." *Public Choice*. pp. 67-101.
- [3] Axel Hadenius & Jan Teorell. 2007. "Pathways from Authoritarianism." *Journal of Democracy*.
- [4] Michael Bratton & Nicolas Van de Walle. 1994. "Neopatrimonial Regimes and Political Transitions in Africa." *World Politics* 46(4): 453-489.

Week 05 [2/24] – Development and Democracy

- [1] Adam Przeworski and Fernando Limongi. 1997. "[Modernization: Theories and Facts](#)," *World Politics* 49(2): 155-183.
- [2] James Robinson. 2006. "Economic Development and Democracy." *Annual Review of Political Science (ARPS)*.
- [3] Robert Kaufman. 2009. "The Political Effects of Inequality in Latin America: Some Inconvenient Facts." *Comparative Politics (CP)*.
- ❖ Carles Boix 2011. Democracy, Development, and the International System. *APSR*.

Week 06 [3/2] – Transitions I

- [1] Timur Kuran. 1991. "Now out of Never: The Element of Surprise in the East European Revolution of 1989." *World Politics*.
- [2] Stathis Kalyvas. 1999. "The Decay and Breakdown of Communist One-Party Systems." *ARPS*.
- [3] Valerie Bunce. 1999. *Subversive Institutions: The Design and the Destruction of Socialism and the State*. (Selections)

Week 07 [3/9] – Transitions II

- [1] Mark Beissinger. 2007. "Structure and example in modular political phenomena: The diffusion of Bulldozer/Rose/Orange/Tulip Revolutions." *Perspectives on Pol.* pp. 259-276.
- [2] Peter Schraeder & Hamadi Redissi 2011. "Ben Ali's Fall." *JoD*. pp. 5-19.
- [3] Tarek Masoud 2011. "The Road to & from Liberation Square." *JoD*. pp. 21-34.
- [4] Lucan Way. 2011. "Comparing the Arab Revolts – The Lessons of 1989." *JoD*. pp. 17-27.
- ❖ Alberto Diaz-Cayeros, Beatriz Magaloni, & Barry Weingast. 2003. "Tragic Brilliance: Equilibrium Hegemony and Democratization in Mexico." *Working Paper*.

Week 08 [3/16] — Regime Survival: Control and Violence

- [1] Eva Bellin. 2004. "[The Robustness of Authoritarianism in the Middle East: Exceptionalism in Comparative Perspective](#)," *Comparative Politics* 36(2): 139-157.
- [2] Eva Bellin. 2012. "[Reconsidering the Robustness of Authoritarianism in the Middle East: Lessons from the Arab Spring](#)," *Comparative Politics* 44(2): 127-149.
- [3] Mark Thompson. 2001. "To Shoot or Not to Shoot: Posttotalitarianism in China and Eastern Europe." *Comparative Politics*.
- [4] Steven Levitsky & Lucan Way. 2012. "Beyond Patronage: Violent Struggle, Ruling Party Cohesion, and Authoritarian Durability." *PoP*.
- ❖ Stephan Haggard and Robert R. Kaufman. 2012. "[Inequality and Regime Change: Democratic Transitions and the Stability of Democratic Rule](#)," *American Political Science Review* 106, 3.

Week 09 [3/23] — Coups and Military Rule

- [1] John Londregan & Keith Poole. 1990. "Poverty, the Coup Trap, and the Seizure of Executive Power." *World Politics*.
- [2] Barbara Geddes, Erica Frantz, & Joseph Wright. 2014. "Military Rule." *ARPS*.
- [3] Milan Svobik. 2012. *The Politics of Authoritarian Rule*. (Selections)
- [4] Jonathan Powell & Clayton Thyne. 2011. "Global instances of coups from 1950 to 2010: A new dataset." *Journal of Peace Research*.

Spring Break [3/30] — No Class

Week 10 [4/6] — Regimes and Redistribution

- [1] Bruce Bueno de Mesquita, James D. Morrow, Randolph M. Siverson, & Alastair Smith. 2002. "Political Institutions, Policy Choice and the Survival of Leaders." *BJPS*.
- [2] Kimuli Kasara. 2007. "Tax Me If You Can: Ethnic Geography, Democracy, and the Taxation of Agriculture in Africa." *American Political Science Review*.
- [3] Lisa Blaydes & Mark Kayser 2011. "Counting Calories: Democracy and Distribution in the Developing World." *International Studies Quarterly*.
- [4] Jeremy Wallace. 2013. "Cities, Redistribution, and Authoritarian Regime Survival." *JOP*.

Week 11 [4/13] – Elections in Nondemocracies

- [1] James Fearon. 2006. "Self-Enforcing Democracy." *Working Paper*.
- [2] Jennifer Gandhi & Ellen Lust-Okar. 2009. "Elections under Authoritarianism." *ARPS*.
- [3] Beatriz Magaloni. 2006. *Voting for Autocracy: Hegemonic Party Survival and its Demise in Mexico*. (Selections)
- [4] Gary Cox. 2009. "Authoritarian Elections & Leadership Succession, 1975-2004."

Week 12 [4/20] – The Internet and Nondemocratic Politics

- [1] Evgeny Morozov. 2011. *The Net Delusion: The Dark Side of Internet Freedom*.
- ❖ Gary King, Jennifer Pan, & Molly Roberts. 2013. "How Censorship Allows Government Criticism but Silences Collective Expression." *APSR*.

Week 13 [4/27] – Information, Ideology, Institutions, and Power

- [1] James Scott. 1998. *Seeing Like a State: How Certain Schemes to Improve the Human Condition Have Failed*.
- [2] Andrew Mertha. 2009. "[Fragmented Authoritarianism 2.0](#)." *China Quarterly* 200: 995-1012.
- [3] Dan Slater & Diana Kim. 2014. "Standoffish States: Nonliterate Leviathans in Southeast Asia." *TRaNS*.
- [4] Lisa Wedeen. 2013. "Ideology and Humor in Dark Times: Notes from Syria." *Critical Inquiry*.

Week 14 [5/4] – China Today

- [1] Jeremy Wallace. 2016. *Seeking Truth and Hiding Facts: Authoritarian Rule in China* (book manuscript in progress, selections)
- [2] Others

Week 15 [5/11] – Student Presentations