

Democratic Theory (POL S 3010-001)

Autumn 2006
T, H 12:25-1:45
BEH S 106

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Today, democracy has near universal appeal. Yet the term is an essentially contested concept, and we see a wide variety in the regimes and theories flying the democratic banner. In addition, the concept has undergone a storied and sporadic history—for it was not always considered a good regime. In this course, we will study three major stages in the development of the notion that the people (*demos*) should rule (*kratein*): classical democracy, republican democracy, and liberal democracy. In each of these stages, we can discern two currents, around which this course will be organized: Developmental and Protective. As the US attempts to spread democracy abroad while struggling with electoral participation and the integrity of the vote at home, we will ask: What might the future of democracy be? What *should* it be?

Required Texts

The following texts are required and available at the U. Bookstore and from other sources:

- Crick, Bernard, *Democracy: A Very Short Introduction* (Oxford 2004)
- Green, Philip, ed., *Democracy* (Humanity Books, 1999)
- Pateman, Carole. *Participation and Democratic Theory* (Cambridge, 1970)
- various readings are *on reserve* at the Marriott Library. Most of these will also be accessible electronically.

Course Objectives, Requirements and Policies:

This course asks that students patiently read and evaluate texts in private, and then express and discuss that understanding in various ways. The course satisfies the university's upper division communication/writing (CW) requirement, and is meant improve your writing while developing your interpretive and expressive faculties. Quizzes are intended to test your comprehension of the readings and your ability to articulate your knowledge in a classroom essay format.

Objectives are the following:

- You learn something about the history and theory of democracy
- You're able to articulate this understanding orally and in writing
- You become a better writer

Your grade will be calculated as follows:

Paper stage 1 (6-8 pp., due 10/10)	30%
Paper stage 2 (12-15 pp., due 12/7)	35%
Quiz (date TBA)	10%

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Attendance/participation	15%

Make-up and late paper policies: You may make-up a quiz only if you have given prior notice, *before* the day of the quiz, to the instructor. Otherwise, no make-ups will be given, with the rare exceptions of emergencies. If you have an emergency before a quiz or deadline, notify me as soon as possible (by phone and email). Papers will be penalized 1/2 grade for each day late.

Cheating and plagiarism insult both your and my intelligence, and the University's policies pertaining to Academic Misconduct and Dishonesty will be observed and enforced in this class. It is your responsibility to know these rules, and the definitions of cheating and plagiarism.

The Dept. of Political Science seeks to provide equal access to its programs, services, and activities for people with disabilities. If you will need accommodations in this class, reasonable prior notice needs to be given to the Center for Disability Services, 162 Olpin Union, 581-5020 (V/TDD), www.disability.utah.edu. CDS will work with you and the instructor to make arrangements for accommodations. All written information in this course can be made available in alternative format with prior notification to the Center of Disability Services.

The University Writing Center offers individual advice, from fellow students, on how to meet the challenges of college-level writing. Using actual course assignments, tutors will work with you to improve any aspect of your writing, from developing ideas and arguments to revising paragraphs and sentences. Their goal is to help you become a better writer, not to "fix" your papers. *It's a good idea to make early and repeated visits, instead of dropping in at the last minute.* The Writing Center is located on the 3rd floor of the Marriott Library (straight ahead if you enter from the OSH side of the building). Contact info: 687-9122, www.writingcenter.utah.edu

Schedule:

Week 1: Welcome
8/24: Hello

PART I: LIBERAL DEMOCRACY

Week 2: Introduction to the Concept of Democracy

8/29:

- Philip Green, "'Democracy' as a Contested Idea" (in Green)
- Raymond Williams, from *Keywords* (in Green)
- Bernard Crick, *Democracy: A Very Short Introduction*, pp. 1-13

8/31: English Civil War and the American Revolution

- Crick, pp. 38-57
- Putney Debates (on reserve)

Week 3: Protective Liberal Democracy: Origins

9/5: Locke's liberal democracy

- John Locke, from *Second Treatise of Government* (Chaps 10-15) (on reserve)

9/7: Madison and Mill

- James Madison, from *The Federalist #10* (in Green)
- John Stuart Mill, from *Considerations on Representative Government* (in Green)

Suggested reading:

- David Held, *Models of Democracy*, Chap. 3 (on reserve)
- Sanford Lakoff, *Democracy: History, Theory, Practice*, Chap. 5 (on reserve)

Week 4: "Comme desait Monseur de Tocqueville":

9/12: Crick's account

- Crick, pp. 58-68

9/14: M. de Tocqueville

- Tocqueville, *Democracy in America*, selections (on reserve)

Week 5: Protective Liberal Democracy: Elitism and the Technocrat

9/19: The Elitists

- Pateman, pp. 1-21
- Joseph Schumpeter, from *Capitalism, Socialism, and Democracy* (in Green)
- Crozier, Huntington, and Watanuki, from *The Crisis of Democracy* (in Green)

9/21: Elitism's Critics

- John Dewey, from *The Public and Its Problems* (in Green)
- Peter Bachrach, from *The Theory of Democratic Elitism* (in Green)
- Prewitt and Stone, from *The Ruling Elites* (in Green)

Week 6: Protective Liberal Democracy: Pluralism and Populism

9/26: Pluralism

- Robert Dahl, from *Who Governs* (in Green)

9/28: American democratic populism

- Crick, pp. 69-90

Week 7: Developmental Liberal Democracy: Pateman's Participation

10/3: The classical theory

- Pateman, *Participation and Democratic Theory*, Chap. 2

10/5: NO CLASS, fall break

Week 8: Developmental Liberal Democracy, Continued.

10/10: Political Socialization, Participation, and the Workplace

- Pateman, Chaps. 3 & 4

Paper Stage 1 Due 10/10

10/12: Sullivan's Citizen

- William M. Sullivan, *Reconstructing Public Philosophy*, selections (on reserve)

Week 9: Developmental Liberal Democracy: Strong Democracy and the Deliberation Movement

10/17: Strong Democracy

- Benjamin Barber, *Strong Democracy*, selections (on reserve)

10/19: Deliberation

- Amy Gutmann and John Thompson, "The Persistence of Moral Disagreement" (on reserve)

Week 10: Developmental Liberal Democracy: Deliberative

10/24: Deliberation, Cont.

- John Dryzek, "The Deliberative Turn in Democratic Theory" (Introduction); "Liberal Democracy and the Critical Alternative" (Chap 1) (both on reserve)

10/26:

- Dryzek, "Discursive Democracy in a Reflexive Modernity" (Chap 7) (on reserve)

PART II: CLASSICAL DEMOCRACY

Week 11: Back to the Source

10/31: Classical Reality and Model

- Crick, pp. 14-24
- Thucydides, *The Peloponnesian War*, selections (on reserve)

Suggested reading:

- David Held, *Models of Democracy*, Chap. 1 (on reserve)
- Sanford Lakoff, *Democracy: History, Theory, Practice*, Chap. 3 (on reserve)

11/2: Modern classicist

- Jean-Jacques Rousseau, from *The Social Contract* (in Green)

Week 12: Classical Democracy, cont.

11/7: Modern classicists, cont.

- John Stuart Mill, from *Considerations on Representative Government* (in Green)

11/9: Pateman's synthesis

- Pateman, *Participation and Democratic Theory*, Chap. 2

PART III: REPUBLICAN DEMOCRACY

Week 13: Protective Republican Democracy: Rome

11/14: Crick's account

- Crick, pp. 24-57

Suggested reading:

- David Held, *Models of Democracy*, Chap. 2 (on reserve)
- Sanford Lakoff, *Democracy: History, Theory, Practice*, Chap. 4 (on reserve)

11/16: Cicero

- Cicero, "On the State" and "On Laws" (on reserve)

Week 14: Thanksgiving Holiday

11/21, 23: NO CLASS

Week 15: Protective Republican Democracy, cont.

11/28: Machiavelli on Rome

- Machiavelli, *Discourses*, Book I: Discourses 1-9 (on reserve)

11/30: Machiavelli, cont.

- Machiavelli, *Discourses*, Book I: Discourses 10-18 (on reserve)

Week 16: Developmental Republican Democracy, American Style

12/5: Jefferson's republicanism

- Thomas Jefferson, selections (on reserve)
- Hannah Arendt, "The Revolutionary Tradition and Its Lost Treasure" (on reserve)

12/7: **Paper Stage 2 Due**