



**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**

**TRIMESTER 1 2013**

**4 March – 3 July 2013**

**Trimester dates**

Teaching dates: 4 March to 7 June 2013

Easter break: 28 March to 3 April 2013

Mid-trimester break: 22–28 April 2013

Study week: 10–14 June 2013

Examination/Assessment Period: 14 June to 3 July 2013

*Please note that 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.*

Total student workload hours: 300 hours      Contact Hours 36 hours

**Withdrawal dates**

Information on withdrawals and refunds may be found at

[www.victoria.ac.nz/home/admisenrol/payments/withdrawalsrefunds](http://www.victoria.ac.nz/home/admisenrol/payments/withdrawalsrefunds)

**Name and contact details**

Course Coordinator: Professor Jack Vowles

Room No.: MY 501

Email: jack.vowles@vuw.ac.nz

Office hours: Monday 2.00 -4.00 pm

**Class times and locations**

Can be found on the Victoria website at:

<http://www.victoria.ac.nz/home/study/subjects/coursecatalogue>

It is advisable to check the above for any changes to the timetable programme.

*Time and location at the time of preparing this outline were:*

**Lecture Time:** Mondays 10.00 am - 12.50 pm

**Lecture Venue:** KK107 (New Kirk )

### Teaching/learning summary

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. 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.

### 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 from it to the account that you normally use. 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.

### Course 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'.

### Course content

#### Weekly Programme of Classes

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	8	The Modernisation/Development Model
April	15	Game Theoretical Models of Democratisation
April	29	Institutionalism
May	6	Democratisation as Process and Narrative
May	13	Europe Between the Wars: Institutions and Crises
May	20	Post-communism
May	27	Electoral Engineering
June		Revision session

## Learning objectives

Students who pass this course should be able to:

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

## Recommended Core Reading

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.

## Assessment requirements

Assessment items	Length	%	Due
Research Essay	(3,000 words)	25%	April 11
Research Essay	(3,000 words)	25%	May 9
Examination (3 hours)		50%	TBA

The examination period for the first trimester 2013 is from 14 June – 3 July 2013.

The learning objectives above are addressed to varying degrees in all pieces of assessment.

## Marking Criteria

Definition of the topic

Has the topic been clearly defined and directly addressed?

Structure

Does the introduction present a clear statement of the issues to be covered?

Is there a clear structure or organisation in which a) the main points are developed logically; and b) the relevance of the material to the theme or argument is clear?

Is there an effective conclusion which draws together the main points?

Content

Is there evidence of adequate reading and research?

Has the question been answered?

Is the breadth of coverage adequate?

Are the issues and ideas analysed in sufficient depth?

Are arguments supported by evidence, examples, sources and quotations?

Analysis

Are the arguments logical and consistent?

Are opinions based on evidence and/or logic?

Does the essay show evidence of original or independent thought?

Presentation

Fluency and style of writing

Spelling, grammar, paragraphing

Presentation of data: effective use of figures and tables and correct use of units and quantities

Neatness and legibility

Sources: are sources acknowledged? In essays, are references cited and are references presented correctly?

### **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 weekdays late can be accepted for mandatory course requirements but may not be marked. Penalties may be waived if there are valid grounds (for example, illness [presentation of a medical certificate will be necessary] or similar other contingencies). In all such cases, prior information will be necessary.

### **Mandatory course requirements**

To gain a pass in this course each student 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.

### **Submission of work**

All written work must be submitted electronically to turnitin (linked through Blackboard) in hard copy to the Political Science and International Relations Programme office with a Programme cover sheet attached. For more details on turnitin, see below.

### **Return of marked course work**

Essays and tests will be returned at times to be advised. If students fail to attend these times, they may collect their essay from the Office, 5<sup>th</sup> floor Murphy between the hours of 2.00 and 3.00 pm from Monday to Friday and must show their Student ID card before collection.

You can find out more information on Class Representatives on the [VUWSA website](#).

### **Statement on legibility**

Students are expected to write clearly. Where work is deemed 'illegible', the options are:

- the student will be given a photocopy of the work and asked to transcribe it to an acceptable standard (preferably typed) within a specified time frame after which penalties will apply;
- the student will be given a photocopy of the work and asked to transcribe it to an acceptable standard (preferably typed) and lateness penalties apply;
- if the student does not transcribe it to an acceptable standard, the work will be accepted as 'received' (so any associated mandatory course requirements are met) but not marked.

### **Academic integrity and plagiarism**

Academic integrity means that university staff and students, in their teaching and learning are expected to treat others honestly, fairly and with respect at all times. It is not acceptable to mistreat academic, intellectual or creative work that has been done by other people by representing it as your own original work.

Academic integrity is important because it is the core value on which the University's learning, teaching and research activities are based. Victoria University's reputation for academic integrity adds value to your qualification.

The University defines plagiarism as presenting someone else's work as if it were your own, whether you mean to or not. 'Someone else's work' means anything that is not your own idea. Even if it is presented in your own style, you must acknowledge your sources fully and appropriately. This includes:

- Material from books, journals or any other printed source
- The work of other students or staff
- Information from the internet
- Software programs and other electronic material
- Designs and ideas
- The organisation or structuring of any such material

Find out more about plagiarism, how to avoid it and penalties, on the University's website:

<http://www.victoria.ac.nz/home/study/plagiarism>

### **Use of Turnitin**

Student work provided for assessment in this course may be checked for academic integrity by the electronic search engine <http://www.turnitin.com>. Turnitin is an online plagiarism prevention tool which compares submitted work with a very large database of existing material. At the discretion of the Head of School, handwritten work may be copy-typed by the School and subject to checking by Turnitin. Turnitin will retain a copy of submitted material on behalf of the University for detection of future plagiarism, but access to the full text of submissions is not made available to any other party.

**Where to find more detailed information**

Find key dates, explanations of grades and other useful information at [www.victoria.ac.nz/home/study](http://www.victoria.ac.nz/home/study). Find out how academic progress is monitored and how enrolment can be restricted at [www.victoria.ac.nz/home/study/academic-progress](http://www.victoria.ac.nz/home/study/academic-progress). Most statutes and policies are available at [www.victoria.ac.nz/home/about/policy](http://www.victoria.ac.nz/home/about/policy), except qualification statutes, which are available via the *Calendar* webpage at [www.victoria.ac.nz/home/study/calendar](http://www.victoria.ac.nz/home/study/calendar) (See Section C).

Other useful information for students may be found at the Academic Office website, at [www.victoria.ac.nz/home/about/avcacademic](http://www.victoria.ac.nz/home/about/avcacademic).