Course Description
This course provides an overview of the normative and positive issues associated with modern representative democracies. It is focused around two questions: (1) Is democracy morally justifiable? (2) How do the social, political, and economic arrangements of democracies actually work?

Requirements
1. Regular attendance of and participation in seminar. (50% of grade)
2. A six- to eight-page mid-term paper on hybrid democracy, due 26 October. (25% of grade)
3. A six- to eight-page final paper on the policy consequences of democracy, due 7 December. (25% of grade)

Course Materials
Readings range from short articles to substantial portions of books. We’ll provide further information on availability of readings shortly. MAY BE REVISED.

- Cox, Making Votes Count
- Gerber, The Populist Paradox
- Putterman and Kroszner, The Economic Nature of the Firm
- Spruyt, The Sovereign State and its Competitors

All other readings will be made available in class.

Reading Assignments and Course Schedule
1. Democracy (23 Sep)
   Jeremy Waldron, Legislation, Authority, and Voting, 101-118 in Waldron Law and Disagreement


Schumpeter, *Capitalism, Socialism, and Democracy*, chs. 21-22 (1943).


IDEA Democracy Assessment, 3-5, skim remainder.


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2. Organization (30 Sep)


Hendrik Spruyt, *The Sovereign State and its Competitors*, pp. 3-8, 77-180

Thomas Hobbes, *Leviathan*, Introduction, chs. 10, 13-17, 21, 26, Review and Conclusion


Louis Putterman and Randall Kroszner, editors. *The Economic Nature of the Firm*. Chapter 14 by Armen Alchain and Harold Demsetz; Chapter 17 by Bengt Holmstrom and Paul Milgrom; Chapter 18 by Harvey Leibenstein; Chapter 19 by George Akerlof; and Chapter 20 by Martin Weitzman and Douglas Kruse.

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3. Direct Democracy (7 Oct)

Benjamin Constant, “The Liberty of the Ancients Compared with that of the Moderns”


William Riker, *Liberalism Against Populism*, Chapters 1-5, 7 & 10


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4. Representative Democracy I (14 Oct)


Przeworski, Manin, and Stokes, 1-16, 29-54, *Democracy, Accountability, and Representation*.


5. Representative Democracy II (21 Oct)

Arend Lijphart, *Patterns of Democracy*, pp. 1-61, 301-10


Rod Kiewiet & Mat McCubbins, *The Logic of Delegation*, ch. 2

Skip Lupia and Mat McCubbins, *The Democratic Dilemma*, ch. 3-5

Gary Cox, *Making Votes Count*, chs. 1-3, 8, 10, 12-15

*The Federalist*, 47-53

Midterm: Hybrid Democracy (due 26 Oct)


6. Law (28 Oct)

Sir John Davies, *Le Primer Report*

Jeremy Bentham, *A Comment on the Commentaries*, XXXXX, and *Of Laws in General*, XXXXX


Don Herzog, *Happy Slaves*, pp. 110-47


7. Rule of Law (4 Nov)


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Judith Shklar, *Legalism*, 111-221

8. Comparative Regime Change (11 Nov)
Huntington, 1991, The third wave. 3-30, What?
Geddes, 1999, What do we know about democratization after twenty years?
Carothers, 2002, End of the Transition Paradigm
Diamond, Thinking About Hybrid Regimes
Hadenius and Teorrel, Pathways from Authoritarianism

9. Collective Decisions and Deliberation (18 Nov)
John Stuart Mill, *Considerations on Representative Government*, Ch. 5
Erikson and Weigard, *Understanding Habermas*, 111-128, 164-177
Jon Elster, Arguing and Bargaining in Two Constituent Assemblies.
Gerry Mackie, Does Democratic Deliberation Change Minds?

10. Collective Decisions and Voting (2 Dec)
Review Tideman and Swift
Gerry Mackie, Deliberation but Voting Too
Jeremy Waldron, Participation: The Right of Rights
IDEA, *Electoral System Design*, 1-33, 120-121, plus read four case studies of your choice
Plato, *The Republic* 487b-494a
Aristotle, *Politics*, 1281a:35-1282b:10
Cheryl Boudreau and Mat McCubbins, From Competition to Competence

Final: (due 7 Dec)
The common theme is democratic delegation, voting, discussion, in pursuit of the public good. The first essay is theoretical, and summarizes and adds to earlier material. The remaining articles are theory applied to concrete problems:
1. Reforming the voting rule in Colombia
2. Reforming the voting rule in PNG
3. Reforming political constituencies in the US (note effects on deliberation)
4. Deliberation vs. democracy in authoritarian China

Cox and McCubbins, Institutional Determinants of Economic Policy Outcomes
Shugart, Moreno, Fajardo. Deepening Democracy by Renovating Political Practices: The Struggle for Electoral Reform in Colombia
Reilly, Ethnic Conflict in Papua New Guinea, short
Rehfeld, The Concept of Constituency, brief selections
Baogang and Warren, Authoritarian Deliberation: The Deliberative Turn in Chinese Political Development