

University of Toronto
Department of Political Science

SII 199Y
Explaining Political Transitions

2016-2017
Mr. Falkenheim

Course Outline

This course explores the dynamics of regime change from a comparative and historical perspective. In particular, it examines the factors that facilitate and inhibit radical political change. Varying modes of change are analyzed including social revolution, radical reform, fundamentalist reaction and restructuring from above. A major focus will be on the post-1970s global 'Third Wave' of democratic transitions as well as the so-called "Fourth Wave" of post-Communist transitions in Eastern Europe and Asia. A secondary goal of the course is to introduce students to concepts and modes of political analysis.

Format

The course is organized as a colloquium/seminar emphasizing class discussion of common themes. Students will be required to rotate responsibility for presenting brief summaries or critiques of the readings as a means to facilitate discussion.

Textbooks:

Weekly readings will be posted as PDFs on Blackboard organized by date and topic.

Evaluation:

Grades will be based on four short tests and two writing assignments weighted as follows:

Term tests: 4@15% each:	60%
Reading Critique:	10%
Research Report:	15%
Participation	15%

Topics and Readings:

Part I: Regime Change: Macro-Historical Perspectives

September 12 **Course Introduction: Comparing Political Systems**

1. Przeworski, Alvarez, Cheibub and Limongi, Democracy and Development: Political Institutions and Well-Being in the World, 1950-1990, 2000. Pp.1-13.
2. Video (“Please Vote For Me”)

September 19 **Developmental Perspectives**

1. Frances Fukuyama, The Origins of Political Order, Chaps 1-2.

September 26 **Modernization Theory and Political Change**

1. Karl Marx, “The Communist Manifesto: Part I
2. R. Inglehart and C. Welzel, Modernization, Cultural Change and Democracy, Chapter 1 (“A Revised Theory of Modernization”), pp. 15-47.
3. Samuel Huntington, Political Order in Changing Societies, pp. 1-8.

October 3 **The ‘End of History’?**

1. Frances Fukuyama, The End of History, Preface, Chapters 1-4.

October 10 **No Class Meeting. Thanksgiving**

October 17 **Globalization and Political Change**

1. Benjamin Barber, “Jihad vs. MacWorld,” Atlantic Monthly, March, 1992.
2. Thomas Friedman, The Lexus and the Olive Tree, Chapter (“The Golden Arches Theory of Conflict Prevention”)

October 24 **Term Test # 1**

Part II: Revolutions and Transitions

October 31 **Revolutions and Regime Change**

1. Samuel Huntington, Political Order in Changing Societies, pp. 264-315.

November 7 **No Class: November Break**

November 14 **The Meiji Revolution: A Modernizing Revolution from Above**

1. Martin Jacques, When China Rules the World, Chapters 2-3, pp. 23-69.
2. Video (Pacific Century: Part 2: The Meiji Revolution)

November 21 **The Chinese Revolution: Revolution from Below**

1. Lucian Bianco, Origins of the Chinese Revolution, Chap. 1.
2. Kenneth Lieberthal, Governing China, Chapter 2.

November 28 **Post-War Revolutions in Southeast Asia**

1. Jeff Goodwin, No Other Way Out: States and Revolutionary Movements, 1945-1991, pp. 72-133.
2. Video (Pacific Century, Part 3)

December 5 **Term Test # 2**

Term II: Democratization: An Historical Perspective

January 9 **Democracy's 'Third Wave': An Overview**

1. Samuel Huntington, The Third Wave, Chapter 1, pp. 3-46.
2. Frances Fukuyama, Political Order and Political Decay, Chapters, 27-30.

January 16 **The Communist Extinction**

1. Charles H. Fairbanks, Jr. "Revolution Reconsidered," Journal of Democracy, January, 2007.
2. Daniel Chirot, "What Happened in Eastern Europe in 1989?" in Wasserstrom and Perry, Popular Protest and Political Culture in Modern China, 1992.

January 23

Asian Breakthrough: Korea's Revolution

1. Song-Joo Han and Oknim Chung, "South Korea: Economic Management and Democratization," in James Morley, Driven by Growth, pp. 197-223. (*)
2. Video (*Pacific Century* # 8: "The Struggle for Democracy.")

January 30

Failed Revolution: China in 1989

1. Bruce Gilley, China's Democratic Future, pp. 3-26.
2. Andrew Nathan, "Authoritarian Impermanence," Journal of Democracy, 2009.
3. Video (China: Century of Revolution: Part III)

February 6

Term Test # 3

February 13

Democratic Interventionism: Theory and Practice

1. Minxin Pei and Sara Kasper, "Lessons from the Past: the American Record on Nation Building," Carnegie Endowment Policy Brief, 2003.
2. Omar G. Encarnacion, "The Follies of Democratic Imperialism," World Policy Journal, Spring, 2005.
3. Frances Fukuyama, Political Order and Political Decay, Chapter 23.
4. Video (Reinventing Japan)

February 20

No Class Meeting: Reading Week

February 27

Coercive Regime Change: Constitution-making in Iraq

1. Yahia Said, "Post-totalitarian transition in Iraq," in Building Democracy in Iraq, 2004.
2. Larry Diamond, "Building Democracy after Conflict: Lessons from Iraq," Journal of Democracy, January, 2005.
3. Mark Tessler, Mansoor Moaddel and Ronald Inglehart, "What Do Iraqis Want?" Journal of Democracy, January, 2006.
4. Video (No End in Sight)

March 5

Good Governance and Democratic Promotion

1. Thomas Carothers, "How Democracies Emerge: The Sequencing Fallacy," Journal of Democracy, 2006.

2. Carl Gershman and Michael Allen, "The Assault on Democracy Assistance," Journal of Democracy, April, 2006.
3. Government of Canada, "Policy for CIDA on Human Rights, Democratization and Good Governance." 2005.

March 12

Failed States and the International Community

1. TBA

March 19

Resilient Authoritarianism

1. TBA

March 26

Prospects for Democracy

1. TBA

April 3

Term Test #4