

# Authoritarianism

Government 4000.101  
Spring 2019

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

Instructor:	Jeremy Wallace	Email:	wallace@cornell.edu
Time:	M 10:10-12:05	Place:	McGraw Hall 215
Office Hours:	M 2:00-3:30, or by appt	Place:	White Hall 211

Leaders come to power in a variety of ways. Scholars of comparative politics 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 Session 4, each student (or pair) will be asked to lead the discussion of 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 (~5000 words). On the way, a draft outline must be turned in by 8 March, and a 2500+ word draft similarly electronically submitted by 8 April.

## 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 four books below, which are available for purchase at the Cornell bookstore and online.

Barbara Geddes, Joseph Wright, and Erika Frantz. 2018. *How Dictatorships Work: Power, Personalization, and Collapse*

Lisa Blaydes. 2018. *State of Repression: Iraq under Saddam Hussein*

Margaret Roberts 2018. *Censored: Distraction and Diversion inside China's Great Firewall*

Steve Levitsky and Daniel Ziblatt. 2018. *How Democracies Die*.

### Session 01 [1/28] — Introductions

### Session 02 [2/4] — On Writing and Research

[1] Phil Roeder. 2001. "Research Prospectus."

[2] Barry Weingast. 1995. "Structuring Your Papers (Caltech Rules)."

[3] Andrew Little. 2016. "Three Templates for Introductions to Political Science Articles."

[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](https://www.amazon.com/dp/B000APR000)

### Session 03 [2/11] — 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] Robert Dahl. 1972. *Polyarchy: Participation and Opposition*. New Haven: Yale University Press, pp. 1-16 (Blackboard).

[3] Michael Coppedge & John Gerring et. al. 2011. "Conceptualizing and Measuring Democracy: A New Approach." *Perspectives on Politics (PoP)*. pp. 247-267.

[<https://www.v-dem.net/en/>]

### Session 04 [2/18] — Authoritarian Regime Types

[1] Barbara Geddes, Joseph Wright, and Erica Frantz. 2018. *How Dictatorship Works*.

### February Break [2/25] – No Class

## **Session 05 [3/4] — Development and Democracy**

- [1] Adam Przeworski and Fernando Limongi. 1997. "[Modernization: Theories and Facts](#)," *World Politics* 49(2): 155-183.
- [2] Robert Kaufman. 2009. "The Political Effects of Inequality in Latin America: Some Inconvenient Facts." *Comparative Politics (CP)*.
- [3] Staffan Lindberg (ed.) 2018. *Should Modernization Theory Survive?* Annals of Comparative Democratization. Section Newsletter.

## **Session 06 [3/11] — Transitions [[Discuss outlines]]**

- [1] Timur Kuran. 1991. "Now out of Never: The Element of Surprise in the East European Revolution of 1989." *World Politics*.
- [2] Valerie Bunce and Sharon Wolchik. 2010. "[Defeating Dictators: Electoral Change and Stability in Competitive Authoritarian Regimes](#)," *World Politics* 62(1): 43-86.
- [3] Peter Schraeder & Hamadi Redissi 2011. "Ben Ali's Fall." *JoD*. pp. 5-19.
- [4] Tarek Masoud 2011. "The Road to & from Liberation Square." *JoD*. pp. 21-34.

## **Session 07 [3/18] — Regime Survival: Control and Violence**

- [1] Lisa Blaydes. 2018. *State of Repression: Iraq under Saddam Hussein*

## **Session 08 [3/25] — Coups and Military Rule**

- [1] Barbara Geddes, Erica Frantz, & Joseph Wright. 2018. *How Dictatorship Works*.
- [2] Milan Svoblik. 2012. *The Politics of Authoritarian Rule*. (Selections)
- [3] Jonathan Powell & Clayton Thyne. 2011. "Global instances of coups from 1950 to 2010: A new dataset." *Journal of Peace Research*.

## **Spring Break [4/1] — No Class**

## **Session 09 [4/8] — Regimes and Redistribution**

- [1] Lisa Blaydes & Mark Kayser 2011. "Counting Calories: Democracy and Distribution in the Developing World." *International Studies Quarterly*.
- [2] Jeremy Wallace. 2013. "Cities, Redistribution, and Authoritarian Regime Survival." *JOP*.
- [3] Michael Albertus. 2016. *Autocracy and Redistribution*. (selections)

## **Session 10 [4/15] — Elections in Nondemocracies [[Discuss paper drafts]]**

- [1] Jennifer Gandhi & Ellen Lust-Okar. 2009. "Elections under Authoritarianism." *ARPS*.
- [2] Beatriz Magaloni. 2006. *Voting for Autocracy: Hegemonic Party Survival and its Demise in Mexico*. (Selections)

## **Session 11 [4/22] — The Internet and Nondemocratic Politics**

- [1] Margaret Roberts. 2018. *Censored: Distraction and Diversion Inside China's Great Firewall*.
- [2] Evgeny Morozov. 2011. *The Net Delusion: The Dark Side of Internet Freedom*. (selections)

## **Session 12 [4/29] — Information, Ideology, Institutions, and Power**

- [1] James Scott. 1998. *Seeing Like a State: How Certain Schemes to Improve the Human Condition Have Failed*. (selections)
- [2] Andrew Mertha. 2009. "[Fragmented Authoritarianism 2.0](#)." *China Quarterly* 200: 995-1012.
- [3] Martin Dimitrov. 2015. "Internal Government Assessments of the Quality of Governance in China." *SCID*.
- [4] Jeremy Wallace. 2019. *Seeking Truth and Hiding Facts: Information, Ideology, and Authoritarian Rule in China* (book manuscript in progress, selections)

## **Session 13 [5/6] — How Democracies Die**

- [1] Steven Levitsky & Daniel Ziblatt. 2018. *How Democracies Die*.

## **Session 14 [5/11] – Student Presentations**