

## **COURSE SPECIFICATION DOCUMENT**

**NOTE:** ANY CHANGES TO A CSD MUST GO THROUGH ALL OF THE RELEVANT APPROVAL PROCESSES, INCLUDING LTFC.

**Academic School/Department:** Communications, Arts and Social Sciences

**Programme:** Political Science

**FHEQ Level:** 6

**Course Title:** Democracy and Democratization

**Course Code:** PLT 6430

**Course Leader:** Dr Eunice Goes

**Student Engagement Hours:** **120**

Lectures: 22.5

Seminar / Tutorials: 22.5

Independent / Guided Learning : 75

**Semester:** FALL and/or SPRING and/or SUMMER

**Credits:** 12 UK CATS credits  
6 ECTS credits  
3 US credits

### **Course Description:**

This course analyses the rise of democracy as an idea and as a practice using both theoretical and historical approaches, and processes of democratization in both theoretical and empirical terms. The course aims to (1) provide an introduction to the central models of democracy (namely classical democracy, republicanism, liberal democracy, deliberative democracy and cosmopolitan democracy); (2) to analyse problems associated with the practice of liberal democracy, namely political engagement, the advent of post-democracy and the rise of populism: and (3) to analyse the practice of democracy in Europe, Latin America, Africa, Asia, and its relation with Islam, particularly with reference to experiences with democratization.

**Pre-requisites:** DEV 4100 or PLT 4100 or HST 4110 or INR 4100

### **Aims and Objectives:**

- To provide students a systematic understanding of the history and development of democratic thought.
- To provide students with a systematic and critical understanding of the different models of democracy.
- To provide students with the analytical tools to critically engage with the themes of populism, political disengagement, and the relationship of liberal democracy with capitalism

- To provide students with the analytical tools to understand the different theories that explain democratization processes.
- To enable students to understand the political, economic, social, cultural, international factors that shape democratization processes and that explain processes of democratic consolidation
- To introduce students to contemporary debates on democracy and the crisis of liberal democracy.

### **Programme Outcomes:**

At the end of this course, the students will have achieved the following programme outcomes.

6A(i); 6A(iv); 6B(ii); 6B(iv); 6C(i); 6C(iii); 6C(iv); 6D(ii); 6D(iv)

A detailed list of the programme outcomes are found in the Programme Specification. This is located at the Departmental/Schools page of the portal.

### **Learning Outcomes:**

At the end of this course, the students will have achieved the following learning outcomes.

- Demonstrate a systematic understanding of the major models of democracy and the main criticisms of these
- Demonstrates a systematic understanding of the literature pertaining to democratization theories, namely modernization theories, structural theories, transition theories and wave theories, and their relationship to democratization processes in practice.
- Demonstrate a systematic understanding of the factors that explain processes of democratization
- Demonstrate a systematic understanding of critical debates concerning liberal democracy and contemporary challenges to liberal democracy
- Takes responsibility for their own learning, and completes assigned work with a degree of clarity, contextualisation, critical thinking, and reflexive normative understanding appropriate for a 6000-level course, including the ability to produce detailed comparative analysis of the different models of democracy and of theories of democratization

### **Indicative Content:**

- Models of democracy (including classical, republican, liberal and deliberative)
- Problems and issues in contemporary liberal democracy (including declining traditional and rising non-traditional forms of political participation)
- Comparative democratic practices
- Contemporary challenges to democracy (ie globalization, capitalism, nationalist and religious movements)
- Theories of democratization
- Comparative democratization and democratic reversals

### **Assessment:**

This course conforms to the Richmond University Standard Assessment Norms approved at Academic Council on June 28, 2012.

### **Teaching Methodology:**

