GOVERNMENT 97
THE SOPHOMORE TUTORIAL IN GOVERNMENT
Harvard University, Spring 2017

Mondays 2:00-3:30pm, Yenching Library 118
Weekly sections to be arranged

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Writing Fellow Website:
http://isites.harvard.edu/icb/icb.do?keyword=k41951&pageid=icb.page196708

GOV Writes Website: http://govwrites.fas.harvard.edu/
§1. Introduction

Welcome to Government 97! The Sophomore Tutorial is for all Government concentrators. It focuses on democracy to explore some of the problems and methods that are fundamental to the study of politics.

Democracy is central to political self-understanding across the modern world – not only in societies that see themselves as democratic but in many other societies whose lack of democracy is felt urgently by their citizens. There are many puzzling questions, however. Just what is democracy? Where does the idea come from and how has it come to be such a dominating ideal in modern politics? How did democracies emerge historically and what determines whether they will remain stable? What are the mechanisms of accountability within modern, mass democracies and how effective are they? How does democracy relate to economic life, and how does democracy affect issues of war and peace? This course will introduce students not only to the theoretical and empirical debates over the study of democratic politics, but also to the diverse approaches that political science offers for understanding politics.

In looking at various issues relating to democracy, you will encounter many of the enormous range of topics and approaches that are included within the field of politics at Harvard – as well as hearing from some of the distinguished faculty members who study them. We hope that this will help you to make good choices about areas to pursue later in your studies. To that end, Government 97 also has an important advising role (more on this below).

Above all, though, the course is, as its name makes clear, a tutorial. That is, it is a place to meet with your peers under the direction of one of our outstanding cohort of Teaching Fellows and there develop your own skills, in reading, writing and thinking about politics. We hope that you enjoy the course and that it leaves you feeling well prepared and eager to continue your study of politics.
§2. Course Policies

READINGS
All readings are available on the course website (Harvard log-in required and only for the students enrolled in the class).

WEBSITE
The course website is a vital resource that will keep you informed of course updates and other important information. Please ensure you check the website regularly.
URL: https://canvas.harvard.edu/courses/8462

COURSE REQUIREMENTS
Grades in Government 97 are determined by four components:

- **Paper 1**: due February 20th (20%)
- **Paper 2**: due April 9th (25%)
- **Paper 3**: due May 11th (30%)
- **Class participation** (25%)

The papers are each 6-8 pages in length and are due at the times listed on the course website. The penalty for late submission will be 1/3 of a grade for each 24-hour period the paper is late (e.g. A to A- for the first period). Paper extensions must be requested in advance and are granted only with a note from health services or a resident dean.

The participation grade depends on weekly lecture and section attendance, contribution to weekly discussions and the quality of submitted section assignments (where applicable).

COLLABORATION
Discussion and the exchange of ideas are essential to academic work. For assignments in this course, you are encouraged to consult with your classmates about your ideas. However, you must ensure that any written work you submit for evaluation is the result of your own independent work and writing, and that it reflects your own approach to the topic. You must also adhere to standard citation practices and properly cite any books, articles, websites, lectures, etc. that have helped you with your work. If you received any help with your writing (feedback on drafts, etc.), you must also acknowledge this assistance.

SECTIONS
We shall organize sections (as far as possible) by house affiliation. The TFs leading your section will send e-mails well in advance advising you of the time and location of your section. You are expected to attend the section to which you are assigned and changing will only be possible in extraordinary circumstances (conflict with other courses does not count as a sufficiently compelling reason). Please contact the Head TF if there are problems with your section.
§3. Advising

Your Gov 97 Teaching Fellow (TF):
Aside from the intellectual component of the course, there is a second, no less important, goal. This is to develop a fulfilling and supportive advising relationship between you and your TF that will continue throughout the semester and (we hope) for the remainder of your undergraduate career.
To facilitate the development of this relationship, we require that you meet with your TF at least twice and consult with him or her about your interest in Government.

- **First meeting with your TF:** first two weeks of the semester
- **Second meeting with your TF:** between April 12 and April 26

Please note that these are the minimum number of meetings. We hope that you will have many more conversations with your TF through the course of the semester and develop a foundation for a relationship that can help you throughout your time at Harvard.

Your House Concentration Adviser (CA)
Many of you will already have established a connection with the Government Concentration Adviser in your house, who may have helped you fill out your “Plan of Study” and “signed you up” to the Government concentration. Because you may need advice before Gov 97 begins, and because tutorial assignments may not be entirely stable until near study card day, it is likely that your House CA will sign your study card. Here is the list of current House CAs:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>House</th>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Email</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Adams</td>
<td>Naima Green</td>
<td><a href="mailto:ngreen@g.harvard.edu">ngreen@g.harvard.edu</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cabot</td>
<td>Gabriel Katsh (non-res)</td>
<td><a href="mailto:katsh@post.harvard.edu">katsh@post.harvard.edu</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Currier</td>
<td>Gabriel Katsh</td>
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<tr>
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<tr>
<td>Kirkland</td>
<td>Becca Goldstein (non-res)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Leverett</td>
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<tr>
<td>Lowell</td>
<td>Sarah James (non-res)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Mather</td>
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<tr>
<td>Pforzheimer</td>
<td>Gabriel Katsh (non-res)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Quincy</td>
<td>Rush Doshi</td>
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<tr>
<td>Winthrop</td>
<td>Aaron Watanabe</td>
<td><a href="mailto:awatanabe@g.harvard.edu">awatanabe@g.harvard.edu</a></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Advice from Faculty

Gov 97 is designed to introduce you to several distinguished faculty in the Government Department, whose research touches on the themes of the course. They, as well as the Course Heads, are all eager to discuss matters further with you during office hours.

Please note that Faculty members in Government do not have a technical advising function, i.e., they are not responsible for lifting holds on registration, signing forms, explaining requirements, or meeting regularly with students about course selection, etc. These are responsibilities of the Concentration Advisers assigned to the Houses. Nevertheless, we encourage undergraduates to discuss their substantive and research interests with faculty during office hours and to seek faculty advice about how the study of politics can inform their research and career goals.
January 23: Why democracy? (Week 1)

*Michael Rosen*


January 30: Democracy Ancient and Modern (Week 2)

*Danielle Allen*

- Pericles, “Funeral Oration”, [http://hrlibrary.umn.edu/education/thucydides.html](http://hrlibrary.umn.edu/education/thucydides.html)
- Aristotle, *Politics*, Book I Ch. 1, 2,12; Book III Ch. 1, 7 to 13, 15; Book IV Ch. 1, 2
- Benjamin Constant, “The Liberty of the Ancients Compared with that of the Moderns” (1819), [http://www.indiana.edu/~b356/texts/Constant.htm](http://www.indiana.edu/~b356/texts/Constant.htm)
- American Declaration of Independence: [http://avalon.law.yale.edu/18th_century/declare.asp](http://avalon.law.yale.edu/18th_century/declare.asp)
  DO NOT USE THE NATIONAL ARCHIVES’ TEXT TRANSCRIPTION OF THE DECLARATION
- Federalist Papers #10, 14, 39, 63, [http://avalon.law.yale.edu/subject_menus/fed.asp](http://avalon.law.yale.edu/subject_menus/fed.asp)
- French, Declaration of the Rights of Man and Citizen, [http://avalon.law.yale.edu/18th_century/rightsof.asp](http://avalon.law.yale.edu/18th_century/rightsof.asp)
- Purna Swaraj (Indian Declaration of Independence)


February 6: Democracy, Rights, and Courts (Week 3)

*Eric Beerbohm*

- U.S. Constitution, Article 3: https://www.law.cornell.edu/constitution/articleiii
- The Bill of Rights
- Christopher Eisgruber, “Judicial Review and Democratic Legitimacy” (Constitutional Self-Government, pp. 46-78)

**First paper assigned**

February 13: Representation: Of Whom and How? (Week 4)

*Daniel Smith*


**February 27: Accountability (Week 5)**  
**Daniel Carpenter**

• Federalist Papers #72, [http://avalon.law.yale.edu/subject_menus/fed.asp](http://avalon.law.yale.edu/subject_menus/fed.asp)  
• James Fearon, “Electoral Accountability and the Control of Politicians: Selecting Good Types versus Sanctioning Poor Performance”, in *Democracy, Accountability, and Representation*  

**March 6: Capitalism and Democracy (Week 6)**  
**Peter A. Hall**


**March 20: Democracy and Minorities: Problems of Exclusion (Week 7)**  
**Tommie Shelby, Danielle Allen, Ryan Enos**
March 27: Democracy and New Technologies (Week 8)

Latanya Sweeney


**Second paper assigned**

April 3: Democratization and persistent authoritarianism: The Case of the Middle East (Week 9)

Melani Cammett

- Brownlee, Jason, Tarek Masoud and Andrew Reynolds. 2015. "From Dynamic Events to Deep
Causes: Outcomes and Explanations for the Arab Spring,” *Middle East Law and Governance* 7:1: 3-15.

April 10: Democracy and War (Week 10)
*Iain Johnston*


April 17: Does Globalization Advance or Threaten Democracy? (Week 11)
*Jeffry Frieden*


April 24: Challenges for Democracy, Alternatives to Democracy (Week 12)
*Yuhua Wang, Jorge Dominguez, Gwyneth McClendon*

- Eric Li’s ‘Ted’ talk at: [https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=s0YjL9rZyR0](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=s0YjL9rZyR0) (optional)

**Third paper assigned**