The purpose of this course is to undertake, at a graduate level, an examination of the history, theory, and policymaking dimensions of the international expansion of “democracy.” The course is related to, and to some degree integrated with, but not dependent upon, the inquiries undertaken in the course known as “International Human Rights,” as well as other courses in International Politics, political theory, and foreign policy. Primarily, as a course in the context of a Christian university, this study aims at evaluation of governance -- as promoted and practiced under the general rubric of “democracy” – with biblical, theological, ethical and “worldview” understanding. The course will also employ comparative analysis of political systems to evaluate the variety of political practices that are labeled “democracy.” We will be concerned with ideology as well as structure, moral concerns as well as processes, culture and religion as well as constitutions and institutions. What is democracy? Is it the best or necessary form of government? Is it dependent on cultural or economic conditions? How does it develop? Can it be developed everywhere? Why is promotion of democracy at the center of US foreign policy and the official expectations of international institutions?

CONNECTION TO PROGRAM OF STUDY
The RSG program is designed to train leaders as well as to cultivate and encourage careful and rigorous Christian scholarship and thinking. This course will help students to understand foundations of freedom and human rights, good order and good government, representation and participation, as well as to engage with and understand competing frameworks and policies.

NOTE: All information in this syllabus should be considered tentative until the first session of the course. Further, assignments and texts are subject to change at the discretion of the instructor.

TEXTS
Required:


Other readings found in Blackboard Course materials folders

**Recommended:**


**COURSE PROCEDURES AND ASSESSMENTS**

The course will be both interactive and directive, meaning that each student will be expected to arrive at class (on time), or be involved in Discussion Board topics, prepared to engage in an informed, sophisticated discussion and respond to close questioning by the professor. The class will be conducted according to the principles of Christian conduct, and by the policies of Regent University. Therefore, civility, integrity, brotherly love, and respect are expected of all. This will be a challenging course and maximum effort is expected of each participant.

**Requirements** for this course include the following:

1. Use a functional (Regent-issued and -supported) e-mail account for communications with the instructor and the class, and have access to the Regent University **Blackboard** system for access to syllabus, course materials, assignments and other information.
2. Attend all class meetings. If an emergency means you must miss a class meeting, notify the professor **before** class meets. Distance students alternatively should watch the provided weekly online video of the class session, and post comments according to instructions found in Blackboard.
3. Complete all assigned readings and other designated tasks in a timely manner, in accordance with stated due-dates. Preparation and participation in class are key components of your grade. The frequency of any quizzes will be at the professor’s discretion.
4. Complete all course assignments and research as indicated. Written assignments will be as follows:
**Two reviews.** A good review contains three parts:

- **a)** Summary of the essence of the content;
- **b)** Evaluation of the strengths and weaknesses of the author’s views or presentation;
- **c)** Indication of the intellectual and political **impact on you.**

1. **Article Review** (1000 – 1500 words). Review an article in a current issue of a policy journal, regarding international democracy.

2. **Book Review** (1500 words). Review a recent book on conceptualization or implementation of international democracy. You may select a book from the recommended readings list above. Another way of selecting is to consult the bibliographies found in the assigned texts.

**One Policy Study** (up to 2000 words, approx.) of the state of democracy in a particular country of your choosing, including current US and IGO policies regarding that country. Detailed instructions in Bb.

Articles, documents, and e-books are available through the Regent Library system. **Link to the Regent library database:** [http://www.regent.edu/general/library](http://www.regent.edu/general/library). If help is needed, contact Marta Lee, Reference Librarian for RSG, at 757 352 4174. Email: martlee@regent.edu

Students’ grades for the course will be calculated according to the following distribution:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Assignments:</th>
<th>Weight:</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Article Review Essay</td>
<td>20%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Book Review Essay</td>
<td>25%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Case Study</td>
<td>30%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Class Preparation, discussions and Participation</td>
<td>25%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**INTEGRATION OF FAITH AND LEARNING**

The Robertson School of Government seeks to encourage and cultivate our nation's Judeo-Christian heritage, to renew the traditional values of citizenship in the public affairs of the United States, and to promote these ideals in all the nations of the world. To that end, leadership and policy issues are rigorously analyzed from various academic perspectives in a broad, multidisciplinary endeavor, emphasizing the application of Judeo-Christian principles to theoretical and practical problems. The program is designed to encourage and participate in the formation of principled graduates who are morally, spiritually, and intellectually well-grounded and who are also equipped with
the practical and technical skills needed to meet today's challenges of service and responsibility in government, policy-making, and politics.

ACADEMIC POLICIES
All students should be familiar with the Student Handbook, especially those sections governing academic dishonesty (pp. 22-29) and student disabilities (pp. 18, 34, 35). The Handbook is accessible through: http://www.regent.edu/admin/stusrv/student/Student_Handbook.pdf.

Academic Dishonesty: The Regent University community of teachers and scholars affirms that the biblical principles of truth and honesty are absolutely essential. Indeed, the Bible contains numerous admonitions against false witnessing, dishonesty and cheating. Upholding the standard of academic integrity with its reliance on honesty is a responsibility of both faculty and students.

GRADES
As a general practice, grades will not be available until several weeks after the last day of exams. If, for some reason, a grade is not available at that time, the course will not appear on your grade report. Please do not request your grades from a faculty member, a secretary, the law school Registration and Records Manager, or the University's Academic Services office.

Incomplete Grades: An incomplete grade will be given in a regular course only for legitimate deficiencies due to illness, emergencies or other extraordinary reasons acceptable to the professor and approved by the Dean, and not because of neglect on the student's part. Requests for such an extension must be directed to your RSG Student Services coordinator.

STUDENT EVALUATIONS
At the end of each course, students are given an opportunity to comment on the course and the professor's teaching on a written evaluation form. Students are encouraged to meet with the professor at any time throughout the semester.