



GOV 1290
Comparative Democratization

Comments

What would you like to tell future students about this class?

Course

Evaluate the course overall.: **4 (very good)**

This class was pretty cool. Levitsky is a good lecturer and the material is really interesting. There's a lot of reading though so it is impossible to keep up - which is fine, you can really just watch the lectures

Evaluate the course overall.: **5 (excellent)**

Work together with other students to create a study guide for the inordinately large amount of readings before the final exam.

Evaluate the course overall.: **4 (very good)**

Very interesting course and very well-taught. Prof. Levitsky's lectures are enjoyable and the TFs were helpful and supportive. It's hard, and the readings are dense and long. There are two papers and the prompts were very challenging. Tough but worth the effort.

Evaluate the course overall.: **5 (excellent)**

This is a challenging but fully worthwhile course. There's a lot of reading and a lot of material covered in lecture/section, and the paper prompts and final exam are challenging. However, it's fully worth the investment of time. I feel like I know SO much more about international politics. I'm really interested in the theory behind democracy (particularly after taking Soc10) so this was a great way to see how democracy actually plays out on a global stage. And, not only is the material fascinating, but Levitsky is a phenomenal professor - such a great lecturer, so knowledgeable, and so engaging.

Evaluate the course overall.: **5 (excellent)**

Have to stay on-track with readings and just keep big-picture in mind to succeed in this class. Not a gov gem at all.

Evaluate the course overall.: **4 (very good)**

Take this if you're genuinely interested in the topic. I actually enjoyed the readings and going away from it, it was the readings that have left the biggest lasting impact on me. If you don't think you'll have time to devote to them perhaps stay away.

Evaluate the course overall.: **5 (excellent)**

Take this class! For those interested in comparative politics and/or democratization this is the perfect class for you. Professor Levitsky is one of the leading scholars in the field and his passion for the subject is contagious. Take it for the chance to work with / learn from him.

Evaluate the course overall.: **5 (excellent)**

This class is very difficult, but it is so incredibly interesting. While the material is very dense and hard to understand, it is still worth taking. Professor Levitsky and the teaching staff are so incredibly enthusiastic about the course that it makes it enjoyable for all.



Evaluate the course overall.: **4 (very good)**

Great course. Professor Levitsky is probably the most qualified person in the world to teach this course - there's a reason why his readings kept showing up. He's a great lecturer, too. It was a lot of reading (200+ pages weekly), but as someone who hadn't taken a comparative course before I still found it manageable. Essays were fair and the final was not excessively hard. The teaching team is awesome as well. Everyone who loved Gov 20 should make it a point to take this course before they graduate!

Evaluate the course overall.: **5 (excellent)**

Really fascinating course! Levitsky always knocks courses out of the ball park and this is just another one. Of course it being the first iteration things can always be tweaked and improved but overall I loved that there was a comparative class that had a more focused concept than gov20 (democratization) but was still drawing from a really broad range of cases. We covered all areas of the world from the Soviet satellite states to Africa to the Middle East and SE Asia which is awesome because most higher level gov classes are region specific and the other course Levitsky teaches is on Latin America specifically. Fantastic class.

Evaluate the course overall.: **5 (excellent)**

This class is amazing but it is a lot of work. Don't wait to do the readings.

Evaluate the course overall.: **5 (excellent)**

This is a great class in comparative politics! Levitsky is a great lecturer and covers a wide range of material. It is a great way to gain a comprehensive overview of both world history and intellectual history of political theory

Please comment on your Section Leader's teaching.

Bullock, Jessie

Evaluate the course overall.: **4 (very good)**

Evaluate your Section Leader overall.: **4 (very good)**

Jessie was great! She clearly really cared about all of us doing well and she was really helpful to me because I had never taken a government class before. Sometimes she seemed a little nervous leading discussion, but overall she was a really helpful and thoughtful TF.

Evaluate the course overall.: **5 (excellent)**

Evaluate your Section Leader overall.: **5 (excellent)**

Jessie knows how to involve everyone in topic discussions, and, by doing so, she generates considerable interest in democratization and inclusive participation.

Evaluate the course overall.: **4 (very good)**

Evaluate your Section Leader overall.: **3 (good)**

First, Jessie is one of the kindest and most empathetic TFs I've had, and that goes a really long way. She seemed a little uncomfortable teaching, but I also know this is one of the first classes that she's taught, and I think that considering that, she was great. I really don't want these scores to be discouraging because as one of her students, I think she has a lot of potential to become a really fantastic teacher. I think that at times, the classroom would have benefited from a little more structure. I appreciated that she let us all talk, but the conversation frequently felt unfocused and unproductive (not to mention dominated by the same people). One on one, though, she was really wonderful and so helpful!

Evaluate the course overall.: **4 (very good)**

Evaluate your Section Leader overall.: **5 (excellent)**

Jessie was really great and wanted to ensure that everyone felt comfortable in section. Her feedback was very detailed and she definitely made me feel supported once I confessed I was feeling slightly out of my depth with the course.

Evaluate the course overall.: **5 (excellent)**

Evaluate your Section Leader overall.: **4 (very good)**

Jessie was a wonderful section leader. She was very accessible, very knowledgeable about the material, and good at answering paper/exam questions. I wish she gave a little bit more feedback on the essays (in more detail), but other than that, I was really glad she taught my section.

Evaluate the course overall.: **5 (excellent)**

Evaluate your Section Leader overall.: **5 (excellent)**

Did a fantastic job of leading discussion on the readings, providing both breath and depth. I appreciated her structured approach to section, which allowed for discussion, debate, and 'activities.'



Evaluate the course overall.: **4 (very good)**

Evaluate your Section Leader overall.: **4 (very good)**

Did a great job organizing section. At first, I didn't think I would like the class activities but getting a chance to interact with my fellow section peers in a more intimate setting was worthwhile.

Evaluate the course overall.: **4 (very good)**

Evaluate your Section Leader overall.: **5 (excellent)**

Great job!!!

Evaluate the course overall.: **5 (excellent)**

Evaluate your Section Leader overall.: **5 (excellent)**

Jessie is a great TF and super engaged and accessible outside of class, opening up a ton of office hours to help us when papers were coming up and always willing to help us think through ideas or talk more after section. Also really engaging during section and facilitates discussion participation quite nicely and kindly. Always prepared

Evaluate the course overall.: **5 (excellent)**

Evaluate your Section Leader overall.: **5 (excellent)**

Jessie was a fantastic TF and section leader. I really appreciated her energy and knowledge. I think it might have been nice to have a more formal and consistent structure to section throughout the semester, but otherwise everything was great. In the future I would recommend focusing more on the readings and exploring key ideas, rather than having a fun, but less informative, general discussion. Jessie really made the material seem more accessible and grounded in the real world, and I am very grateful to have been in her section!

Evaluate the course overall.: **5 (excellent)**

Evaluate your Section Leader overall.: **5 (excellent)**

Incredibly charismatic and caring TF! It was evident that Jessie went out of her to maximize students experience in the course--from allowing us to attend the section that best worked with our schedule that week, to go giving detailed feedback to assignments, to very well-planned review sessions for the final. Lastly, Jessie did an amazing job consolidating and contextualizing the behemoth of readings we had in this course.

Evaluate the course overall.: **5 (excellent)**

Evaluate your Section Leader overall.: **5 (excellent)**

Jessie was great, especially when it came to the final review session. She was very helpful and knowledgeable about the subject matter!

Evaluate the course overall.: **4 (very good)**

Evaluate your Section Leader overall.: **4 (very good)**

Did a great job finding a balance between reviewing class material and going beyond that. I really appreciated a mix of discussion and group work/simulations--easier to participate and more interesting. I did find feedback on papers a little unclear.