

3017GIR: The Way of the Dictator

**Course Convenor: Lee Morgenbesser
Griffith University**

Week 1: An Introduction to Dictatorship

Required Reading:

Frantz, E. and N. Ezrow. 2011. *Dictators and Dictatorships: Understanding Authoritarian Regimes and their Leaders*. New York: Continuum (read chapter 1).

Other Readings:

Art, D. 2012. 'What do we know about Authoritarianism after Ten Years?' *Comparative Politics* 44 (3): 351-373.

Brooker, P. 2014. *Non-Democratic Regimes*. New York: Palgrave.

Bueno de Mesquita, B. and A. Smith. 2011. *The Dictator's Handbook: Why Bad Behavior is Almost Always Good Politics*. New York: PublicAffairs.

Carothers, T. 2002. 'The End of the Transition Paradigm.' *Journal of Democracy* 13 (1): 5-21.

Geddes, B. 'What do we know about democratization after Twenty Years?' *Annual Review of Political Science* 2: 115-144.

Week 2: The Classification of Dictatorship

Required Reading:

Geddes, B., J. Wright and E. Frantz. 2014. 'Autocratic Breakdown and Regime Transitions: A New Data Set.' *Perspectives on Politics* 12 (2): 313-331.

Other Readings:

Cheibub, J., J. Gandhi and J. Vreeland. 2010. 'Democracy and Dictatorship Revisited.' *Public Choice* 143 (1): 67-101.

Diamond, L. 2002. 'Thinking About Hybrid Regimes.' *Journal of Democracy* 13 (2): 21-35.

Levitsky, S. and L. Way. 2010. *Competitive Authoritarianism: Hybrid Regimes After the Cold War*. New York: Cambridge University Press.

Linz, J. 2000. *Totalitarian and Authoritarian Regimes*. Boulder: Lynne Rienner Publishers.

Schedler, A. 2006. 'The Logic of Electoral Authoritarianism.' In A. Schedler (ed), *Electoral Authoritarianism: The Dynamics of Unfree Competition*. Boulder: Lynne Rienner, 1-26.

Wahman, M., J. Teorell and A. Hadenius. 2013. 'Authoritarian Regime Types Revisited.' *Contemporary Politics* 19 (1): 19-34.

Wilson, M. 2013. 'A Discreet Critique of Discrete Regime Type Data.' *Comparative Political Studies* 47 (5): 689-714.

Week 4: The Entry of Dictators

Required Reading:

Slater, D. 2013. 'Democratic Careening.' *World Politics* 65 (4): 729-763.

Other Readings:

Bermeo, N. 2016. 'On Democratic Backsliding.' *Journal of Democracy* 27 (1): 5-19.

Dresden, J. and M. Howard. 2016. 'Authoritarian Backsliding and the Concentration of Political Power.' *Democratization* 23 (7): 1122-1143

Levitsky, S. and L. Way. 2010. 'Why Democracy Needs a Level Playing Field.' *Journal of Democracy* 22 (1): 57-68.

Linz, J. and A. Stepan. 1978. *The Breakdown of Democratic Regimes*. Baltimore: Johns Hopkins University Press.

Maeda, K. 2010. 'Two Modes of Democratic Breakdown: A Competing Risks Analysis of Democratic Durability.' *The Journal of Politics* 72 (4): 1129-1143.

Week 5: The Consolidation of Dictatorship

Required Reading:

Wriggins, H. 1969. *The Ruler's Imperative: Strategies for Political Survival in Asia and Africa*. New York: Columbia University Press (read chapter 1).

Other Readings:

Boix, C. and M. Svolik. 2013. 'The Foundations of Limited Authoritarian Government: Institutions, Commitment, and Power-Sharing in Dictatorships.' *The Journal of Politics* 75 (2): 300-316.

Decalo, S. 1985. 'African Personal Dictatorships.' *The Journal of Modern African Studies* 23 (2): 209-237.

Sudduth, J. 2017. 'Strategic Logic of Elite Purges in Dictatorships.' *Comparative Political Studies* 50 (13): 1768-1801

Svolik, M. 2009. 'Power Sharing and Leadership Dynamics in Authoritarian Regimes.' *American Journal of Political Science* 53 (2): 477-494.

Svolik, M. 2012. *The Politics of Authoritarian Rule*. New York: Cambridge University Press.

Week 7: The Maintenance of Dictatorship I

Required Reading:

Brancati, D. 2014. 'Democratic Authoritarianism: Origins and Effects.' *Annual Review of Political Science* 17: 313-326.

Other Readings:

Anderson, L. 1991. 'Absolutism and the Resilience of Monarchy in the Middle East.' *Political Science Quarterly* 106 (1): 1-15.

Gandhi, J. 2008. *Political Institutions under Dictatorship*. New York: Cambridge University Press.

Gandhi, J. and E. Lust-Okar. 2009. 'Elections under Authoritarianism.' *Annual Review of Political Science* 12: 403-422.

Ginsburg, T. and T. Moustafa. 2008. *Rule by Law: The Politics of Courts in Authoritarian Regimes*. New York: Cambridge University Press.

Ginsburg, T. and A. Simpser. 2013. 'Introduction: Constitutions in Authoritarian Regimes.' In T. Ginsburg and A. Simpser (eds), *Constitutions in Authoritarian Regimes*. New York: Cambridge University Press, 1-20.

Knutsen, C., H. Nygard and T. Wig. 2017. 'Autocratic Elections: Stabilizing Tool or Force for Change?' *World Politics* 69 (1): 98-143.

Lust-Okar, E. 2005. *Structuring Conflict in the Arab World: Incumbents, Opponents, and Institutions*. New York: Cambridge University Press.

Morgenbesser, L. 2016. *Behind the Façade: Elections under Authoritarianism in Southeast Asia*. Albany: SUNY Press.

Pepinsky, T. 2014. 'The Institutional Turn in Comparative Authoritarianism.' *British Journal of Political Science* 44 (3): 631-653.

Week 8: The Maintenance of Dictatorship II

Required Reading:

Gerschewski, J. 2013. 'The Three Pillars of Stability: Legitimation, Repression, and Co-Optation in Autocratic Regimes.' *Democratization* 20 (1): 13-38.

Other Readings:

Bellin, E. 2005. 'Coercive Institutions and Coercive Leaders,' In M. Posusney and M. Angrist (eds), *Authoritarianism in the Middle East: Regimes and Resistance*. Boulder: Lynne Rienner, 21-41.

Frantz, E. and A. Kendall-Taylor. 2014. 'A Dictator's Toolkit: Understanding How Co-Optation Affects Repression in Autocracies.' *Journal of Peace Research* 51 (3): 332-346.

Greitens, S. 2016. *Dictators and their Secret Police: Coercive Institutions and State Violence*. New York: Cambridge University Press.

Kasza, G. 1995. *The Conscripted Society: Administered Mass Organizations*. New Haven, CT: Yale University Press.

King, G., J. Pan and M. Roberts. 2013. 'How Censorship in China Allows Government Criticism but Silences Collective Expression.' *American Political Science Review* 107 (2): 326-343.

Magaloni, B. 2008. 'Credible Power-Sharing and the Longevity of Authoritarian Rule.' *Comparative Political Studies* 41 (4-5): 715-741.

Ong, L. 2018. 'Thugs and Outsourcing of State Repression in China.' *The China Journal* 80: 94-110.

Ong, L., D. Han. 2019. 'What Drives People to Protest in an Authoritarian Country? Resources and Rewards vs Risks of Protests in Urban and Rural China.' *Political Studies* 67 (1): 224-248.

Shen-Bayh, F. 'Strategies of Repression: Judicial and Extrajudicial Methods of Autocratic Survival.' *World Politics* 70 (3): 321-357.

Wedeen, L. 1999. *Ambiguities of Domination: Politics, Rhetoric, and Symbols in Contemporary Syria*. Chicago: University of Chicago Press.

Weiss, M. 2016. 'Going to the Ground (or AstroTurf): A Grassroots View of Regime Resilience.' *Democratization* 24 (2): 265-282.

Wintrobe, R. 1998. *The Political Economy of Dictatorship*. New York: Cambridge University Press.

Week 9: The Foreign Policies of Dictators

Required Reading:

Tansey, O. 2016a. *International Politics of Authoritarian Rule*. New York: Oxford University Press, chapters 1-2.

Other Readings:

Brownlee, J. 2017. 'The Limited Reach of Authoritarian Powers.' *Democratization*.

Escriba-Folch, A. and J. Wright. 2010. 'Dealing with Tyranny: International Sanctions and the Survival of Authoritarian Rulers.' *International Studies Quarterly* 54 (2): 335-359.

Reiter, D. and A. Stam. 2003. 'Identifying the Culprit: Democracy, Dictatorship, and Dispute Initiation.' *American Political Science Review* 97 (2): 333-337.

Tansey, O. 2016b. 'The Problem with Autocracy Promotion.' *Democratization* 23 (1): 141-163.

Way, C. and J. Weeks. 2014. 'Making It Personal: Regime Type and Nuclear Proliferation.' *American Journal of Political Science* 58 (3): 705-719.

Way, L. 2016. 'Weaknesses of Autocracy Promotion.' *Journal of Democracy* 27 (1): 64-75.

Weeks, J. 2014. *Dictators at War and Peace*. Ithaca: Cornell University Press.

Weyland, K. 2017. 'Autocratic Diffusion and Cooperation: The Impact of Interests vs. Ideology.' *Democratization* 24 (7): 1235-1252.

Week 10: The Quality of Dictatorship

Required Reading:

Morgenbesser, L. 2019. *The Rise of Sophisticated Authoritarianism in Southeast Asia*. New York: Cambridge University Press.

Other Readings:

Diamond, L., M. Plattner and C. Walker. 2016. *Authoritarianism Goes Global: The Challenge to Democracy*. Baltimore: Johns Hopkins University Press.

Dobson, W. 2012. *The Dictator's Learning Curve: Inside the Global Battle for Democracy*. London: Harvill Secker.

Kendall-Taylor, A. and E. Frantz. 2015. 'Mimicking Democracy to Prolong Autocracies.' *The Washington Quarterly* 37 (4): 71-84.

Week 11: The Exit of Dictators

Required Reading:

O'Donnell, G. and P. Schmitter. 1986. *Transitions from Authoritarian Rule: Tentative Conclusions about Uncertain Democracies*. Baltimore: Johns Hopkins University Press.

Other Readings:

Beaulieu, E. 2014. *Electoral Protest and Democracy in the Developing World*. New York: Cambridge University Press.

Bratton, M. and N. Van De Walle. 1994. 'Neopatrimonial Regimes and Political Transitions in Africa.' *World Politics* 46 (4): 453-489.

Bunce, V. and S. Wolchik. 2010. 'Defeating Dictators: Electoral Change and Stability in Competitive Authoritarian Regimes.' *World Politics* 62 (1): 43-86.

Donno, D. 2013. 'Elections and Democratization in Authoritarian Regimes.' *American Journal of Political Science* 57 (3): 703-716.

Finer, S. 1985. 'The Retreat to the Barracks: Notes on the Practice and the Theory of Military Withdrawal from the Seats of Power.' *Third World Quarterly* 7 (1): 16-30.

Langston, J. 2006. 'Elite Ruptures: When Do Ruling Parties Split.' In A. Schedler (ed), *Electoral Authoritarianism: The Dynamics of Unfree Competition*. Boulder, CO: Lynne Rienner Publishers, 57-75.

Pepinsky, T. 2009. *Economic Crises and the Breakdown of Authoritarian Regimes: Indonesia and Malaysia in Comparative Perspective*. New York: Cambridge University Press.

Sudduth, J. and C. Bell. 2017. 'The Rise Predicts the Fall: How the Method of Leader Entry Affects the Method of Leader Removal in Dictatorships.' *International Studies Quarterly* 62 (1): 145-159.

Ulfelder, J. 2005. 'Contentious Collective Actions and the Breakdown of Authoritarian Regimes.' *International Political Science Review* 26 (3): 311-334.

Week 12: The Aftermath of Dictatorship

Required Reading:

Escriba-Folch, A. 2013. 'Accountable for What? Regime Types, Performance, and the Fate of Outgoing Dictators.' *Democratization* 20 (1): 160-185.

Other Readings:

Brownlee, J. 2007. 'Hereditary Succession in Modern Autocracies.' *World Politics* 59 (4): 595-628.

Bunce, V. 2000. 'Comparative Democratization: Big and Bounded Generalizations.' *Comparative Political Studies* 33 (6/7): 703-734.

- Debs, A. 2016. 'Living by the Sword and Dying by the Sword? Leadership Transitions in and out of Dictatorships.' *International Studies Quarterly* 60 (1): 73-84.
- Escribà-Folch, A. and D. Krmaric. 2017. 'Dictators in Exile: Explaining the Destinations of Ex-Rulers.' *The Journal of Politics* 79 (2): 560-575.
- Frantz, E. and A. Kendall-Taylor. 2017. 'Pathways to Democratization in Personalist Dictatorships.' *Democratization* 24 (1): 20-40.
- Hadenius, A. and J. Teorell. 2007. 'Pathways from Authoritarianism.' *Journal of Democracy* 18 (1): 143-157.
- Haggard, S. and R. Kaufman. 2016. *Dictators and Democrats: Masses, Elites and Regime Change*. Princeton: Princeton University Press.
- Howard, M. and P. Roessler. 2006. 'Liberalizing Electoral Outcomes in Competitive Authoritarian Regimes.' *American Journal of Political Science* 50 (2): 365-381.
- Konrad, K. and V. Mui. 2017. 'The Prince-or Better No Prince? The Strategic Value of Appointing a Successor.' *Journal of Conflict Resolution* 61 (10): 2158-2182.
- Slater, D. and J. Wong. 2013. 'The Strength to Concede: Ruling Parties and Democratization in Developmental Asia.' *Perspectives on Politics* 11 (3): 717-733.
- Wright, J. and A. Escrivà-Folch. 2012. 'Authoritarian Institutions and Regime Survival: Transitions to Democracy and Subsequent Autocracy.' *British Journal of Political Science* 42 (2): 283-309.