Revised: April 2021

...cademic degree ...   ...ster

☐ Higher Graduate Diploma   ☐ Doctor

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TQF 3 Course Specification

Section 1 General Information

1. Course Code and Title

Thai   ICIR ๒๒๓ ประชาธิปไตยในฐานะระบบการเมือง

English ICIR 223 Democracy as a Political System

2. Number of Credits   ....

(Theory 48. hrs.   Self-study 96 hrs Practice ... hrs. / week)

3. Curriculum and Course Type

   3.1 Curriculum   Bachelor Degree Program (International)

3.2 Course Type   Major Elective Specific Course ICIR 223

4. Course Coordinator and Lecturer

        4.1   Course Responsible Lecturers:Robin Ramcharan, Social Sciences/IR, MUIC. 092 691 7924,

rosanno.ram@mahidol.ac.th

        4.2   Lecturers   Robin Ramcharan

5. Trimester/Class Level

   5.1 Trimester Semester Term 2 / Class Level: 2 (as per course schedule)

   5.2 Number of Students Allowed   Approximately 40 Students

6. Pre-requisite

N/A

7. Co-requisites

    None

8. Study Site Location   MUIC, Salaya

9. Date of Preparation/Latest Revision of the Course Specifications

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Day 1 Month 01 Year 2022

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Section 2 Aims and Objectives

1. **Course Goals**

   2. To enable students to understanding the historical development, principles and practices of democracy; to critically evaluate arguments about democracy's strengths and weaknesses; to analyse its social and cultural prerequisites, and to predict its possible future development

2. Objectives of Course Development/Revision

2.1 Course Objectives

This course aims to provide knowledge and abilities as follows:

Graduates will be able to discuss major theories and approaches to the topic of democratization and democratic political systems. They will be able to develop and present arguments about and solutions to issues related to democratization as well as demonstrate a knowledge of and respect for diverging political interpretation in the field.

2.2 Course-level Learning Outcomes: CLOs

1. CLO1 Describe the historical development of democracy and how its meaning and practice have changed over time
2. CLO2 Understand and critically evaluate the main arguments that have been used for and against democracy
3. CLO3 Analyze, compare and contrast the varieties of democratic design, and explain their strengths and weaknesses
4. CLO4 Analyze and explain the causes of transitions to democracy, and understand the challenges that arise to them
5. CLO 5 Discuss the challenges that face established democratic systems, and predict their future development

Section 3 Course Description and Implementation

1. Course Description

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(Thai) (Thai) พัฒนาการทางประวัติศาสตร์ หลักการ แนวปฏิบัติและกระบวนการประชาธิปไตย องค์ประกอบที่จำเป็น ข้อ วิพากษ์วิจารณ์ จุดแข็งและจุดอ่อน ระบบทางเลือก สิ่งที่จำเป็นทางสังคมและวัฒนธรรมเพื่อประชาธิปไตย การพัฒนาในอนาคตที่ เป็นไปได้ นักเรียนจะเข้าใจ วิเคราะห์และประเมินพัฒนาการทางประวัติศาสตร์หลักการและแนวปฏิบัติของระบอบประชาธิปไตย

(English) Historical developments; the principles, practices, and processes of democracy; essential elements; criticisms, strengths, and weaknesses; alternative systems; social and cultural prerequisites for democracy; possible future developments. Students will understand; analyze; assess the historical development, principles and practices of democracy.

2. Number of hours per trimester

Theory (hours)	Practice (hours)	Self-study (hours)
48	0	96

3. Number of Hours per Week for Individual Advice

Section 4: Development of the expected learning outcomes

- 4 hours/week
- Students can requests for appointments whenever necessary.

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Section 4: Development of the expected learning outcomes

1. **A brief summary of the knowledge or skills expected to develop in students; the course-level expected learning outcomes (CLOs)**

   On completion of the course, students will be able to:

   By the end of the course, students who successfully complete the course will be able to:

   1. CLO1 Describe the historical development of democracy and how its meaning and practice have changed over time

   2. CLO2 Understand and critically evaluate the main arguments that have been used for and against democracy

   3. CLO3 Analyze, compare and contrast the varieties of democratic design, and explain their strengths and weaknesses

   4. CLO4 Analyze and explain the causes of transitions to democracy, and understand the challenges that arise to them

   5. CLO 5 Discuss the challenges that face established democratic systems, and predict their future development

2. **How to organize learning experiences to develop the knowledge or skills stated in number 1 and how to measure the learning outcomes**

CLOs	Teaching and learning experience Management					Learning outcomes measurements			
	Lectures	Group discussions	….	… ..	… .	MCQ	Mid-term	Essay	Final Exam
CLO1	x	x					x	x	x
CLO2	x	x					x	x	x
CLO3	x	x					x	x	x
CLO4	x	x					x	x	x
CLO5	x	x					x	x	x

SECTION 5 LESSON PLAN AND EVALUATION

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1. Lesson Plan

Teaching Period	Topics/Details	Number of hours		Methods: Teaching Media	Lecturer
		Theory*	Practice**		
1	What is 'democracy'? How does democracy differ from other forms of political authority? Presentation 1	4		Lecture	RR
2	A short history of democracy What have been the main trends in the development of democracy? What arguments have historically been made in favour of, and against, democratization?	4		Lecture, group discussion, analysis of documents	RR
3	Varieties of democracy (1). Parliamentary and presidential systems. Electoral systems	4		Lecture, group discussion, analysis of documents, presentations	RR
4	Varieties of democracy (2). Strengths and weaknesses of different democratic designs. Choices facing democracies in designing their political institutions	4		Lecture, group discussion, analysis of documents, presentations	RR
5	Democracy and law, society and economy	4		Lecture, group discussion, presentations	RR
6	Review & Midterm Assignment	4		Lecture, group discussion, analysis of documents, presentations, mid-term assignment	RR
7	Correlates of democracy and the incidence of democracy	4		Lecture, group discussion, analysis of documents, presentations	RR
8	Transitions to democracy	4		Lecture, group discussion, analysis of documents, presentations	RR
9	Challenging issues for new democracies	4		Lecture, group discussion, analysis of documents, presentations	RR

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Teaching Period	Topics/Details	Number of hours		Methods: Teaching Media	Lecturer
		Theory*	Practice**		
10	New challenges to old democracies	4		Lecture, group discussion, analysis of documents, presentations	RR
11	The impact of digital technologies on democracy	4		Lecture, group discussion, analysis of documents, presentations	RR
12	Review The unfinished journey of democracy: review and conclusions from history, theory and practice & Presentations	4		Lecture, group discussion, analysis of documents, presentations, Final assignment	RR
	Total hours of the entire trimester	48			

2. Plan for Assessment of Expected Course-Level Learning Outcomes (CLOs)

2.1 Measurement and Evaluation of learning achievement

A. Formative Assessment

Participation (attendance _and_ contribution)	10%
First group presentation of a topic on syllabus	20%
Critique of presentation	10%
Second group presentation	20%
Research Essay	40%

B. Summative Assessment

1. CLO1 Describe the historical development of democracy and how its meaning and practice have changed over time

2. CLO2 Understand and critically evaluate the main arguments that have been used for and against democracy

3. CLO3 Analyze, compare and contrast the varieties of democratic design, and explain their strengths

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and weaknesses

4. CLO4

5. CLO 5 Discuss the challenges that face established democratic systems, and predict their future development

(1) Tool and weight for measurement and evaluation

Learning Outcomes	Evaluation Method*				Weight (Percentage)
	Participation	Group presentation	Group Presentation	Assignments (mid-term and Final)	
CLO1 Describe the historical development of democracy and how its meaning and practice have changed over time	5	3	3	11	20
CLO2 Understand and critically evaluate the main arguments that have been used for and against democracy	5	5	5	15	30
CLO3: Analyze, compare and contrast the varieties of democratic design, and explain their strengths and weaknesses	5	5	5	15	30
CLO4 Analyze and explain the causes of transitions to democracy, and understand the challenges that arise to them	2	2	2	4	10
CLO5 Discuss the challenges that face established democratic	2	1	1	4	10

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systems, and predict their future development				
รวม	19	16	16	49	100

(2) Measurement and evaluation

Grade	Achievement	Final score (% range)
A	Excellent	90-100
B+	Very Good	85-89
B	Good	80-84
C+	Fairly Good	75-79
C	Fair	70-74
D+	Poor	65-69
D	Very Poor	60-64
F	Fail	Less than 60

(3) Re-examination (if the course allows any.)

N/A

3. Students' Appeal

According to MUIC Policy

Section 6 Teaching Resources

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1. Required Texts

- 1) Robert A Dahl, *On Democracy*

- 2) As indicated on the syllabus for each week.

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2. **Suggested Materials**

3. 3) Larry Diamond and Marc F. Plattner eds, The Global Divergence of Democracies

4. 4) Arendt Lijphart, Patterns of Democracy

3. Other Resources (if any)

Websites particularly useful for keeping up with democracy-related developments:

- http://foreignpolicy.com/channel/democracy-lab/   articles on current democratic issues around the world
- http://www.electionguide.org/ Guide to upcoming elections
- https://freedomhouse.org/   Detailed account of distribution of democracy and freedom around the world –see especially:
- https://freedomhouse.org/report/freedom-world/freedom-world-2016?gclid=CNjVu_XA_M4CFRQj aAodwYQLkA --interactive map and country reports
- https://www.eiu.com/topic/democracy-index, Economist Intelligence Unit Democracy Index

Section 7 Evaluation and Improvement of Course Implementation

1

1. **Strategy for Course Effectiveness Evaluation by Students**

Written examinations, assignments and group presentation

Student feedback, course evaluation, peer evaluation

2. **Strategy for Teaching Evaluation**

Student feedback, course evaluation, peer evaluation

Verification process for evaluating students' standard achievement outcomes in the course

Written examinations and group presentation

Review and plan for improving the effectiveness of the course

Student feedback, course evaluation, peer evaluation

3. **Teaching Improvement**

   Revision of syllabus as needed

   Peer review of teaching

   Student feedback

4. **Verification of Standard of Learning Outcome for the Course**

Group prsentations, written assignments, mid-term assignment, final assignment

5. **Revision Process and Improvement Plan for Course Effectiveness**

   Student evaluations

   Peer reviewer comments

   Discussion with program manager

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Appendix

Relations between the course and the program

Table 1 Relations between the course and the PLOs

Democracy as a Political System	Program Learning Outcomes (PLOs)						
	PLO1	PLO2	PLO3	PLO4	PLO5	PLO6	PLO7
ICIR 223	✔	✔	✔	✔	✔		✔

Table 2 Relations between CLOs and PLOs

ICIR 223	Program Learning Outcomes (PLOs)						
	PLO1	PLO2	PLO3	PLO4	PLO5	PLO6	PLO7
CLO1 Describe the historical development of democracy and how its meaning and practice have changed over time	✔	✔	✔	✔	✔		✔
CLO2 Understand and critically evaluate the main arguments that have been used for and	✔	✔	✔				

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against democracy							
CLO3 Analyze, compare and contrast the varieties of democratic design, and explain their strengths and weaknesses	✔	✔		✔	✔		✔
CLO4 Analyze and explain the causes of transitions to democracy, and understand the challenges that arise to them	✔	✔		✔	✔		
CLO5 Discuss the challenges that face established democratic systems, and predict their future development	✔	✔	✔	✔	✔		✔

Table 3 PLOs that the course is responsible for

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PLOs	Sub PLOs
PLO1 Graduates will be able to describe and explain key features of and issues concerning the current world order, with particular attention to the Asia-Pacific region, using appropriate terminology.	1.1 demonstrate an understanding of the principles upon International Relations and the Asia-Pacific region are built
PLO2 Graduates will be able to discuss and apply major theories, approaches and methodologies in the field of international relations and global affairs in order to analyze the current world order and how it has evolved over time.	1.2 identify the national & global challenges associated with current economic, political, and social systems
	2.1 identify concepts related to the context of learned issues/topics
PLO3 Graduates will be proficient readers who are able to locate, evaluate, analyze and synthesize different forms of data and source materials relevant to international relations and global affairs.	2.1 identify concepts related to the context of learned issues/topics
	2.2 collect, analyse, synthesize data, & evaluate information and ideas from multiple sources
	3.1 connect, synthesize and/or transform ideas or solutions within a particular framework
	5.1 identify the national & global challenges associated with current economic, political, and social systems
PLO5 Graduates will demonstrate knowledge of and respect for cultural differences, particularly in the Thai context, and be able to work in culturally diverse groups effectively.	5.1 identify the national & global challenges associated with current economic, political, and social systems
	5.2 exhibit characteristics of responsible citizenship
	5.3 work effectively in diverse team (and multi-cultural settings)

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PLO7 Graduates will demonstrate knowledge of internationally recognized ethical standards and apply principles of ethical reasoning to decision-making, civic engagement, and research, consistently crediting the work of others	7.1 identify ethical issues and recognize different viewpoint and ideologies
	7.3 apply principle of ethical leadership, collaborative engagement, and respect diversity