Course Title: The Global Crisis of Democracy
Course Code: Pol 116
Instructors and Bios:

Larry Diamond
*Senior Fellow, Hoover Institution and Mosbacher Senior Fellow in Global Democracy, Freeman Spogli Institute for International Studies; Professor, by courtesy, of Political Science and Sociology, Stanford*

Larry Diamond’s research focuses on democratic trends and conditions around the world and on policies and reforms to defend and advance democracy. He has received the Dinkelspiel, Lyman, and Cuthbertson awards for exceptional contributions to Stanford, and he is also a past faculty director of the Haas Center for Public Service at Stanford. In 2004, he served in Baghdad as a senior advisor on governance to the Coalition Provisional Authority in Iraq. He is the author of seven books, including *Ill Winds: Saving Democracy From Russian Rage, Chinese Ambition and American Complacency*, the editor or co-editor of fifty books, and served for 32 years as founding co-editor of the *Journal of Democracy*.

Lisa Blaydes
*Professor of Political Science and Senior Fellow at the Freeman Spogli Institute for International Studies; Director of the Abbasi Program in Islamic Studies, Stanford*

Lisa Blaydes is the author of *Elections and Distributive Politics in Mubarak’s Egypt* and *State of Repression: Iraq under Saddam Hussein*, and coeditor of *Struggles for Political Change in the Arab World* and is a leading scholar of Arab politics and the dynamics of authoritarian regimes.

Brett Carter
*Hoover Fellow, Hoover Institution, Stanford; Faculty Affiliate, Center on Democracy, Development, and the Rule of Law, Stanford; Assistant professor, USC*

Brett Carter’s work focuses on politics in the world’s autocracies. His forthcoming book, *Propaganda in Autocracies*, marshals a range of empirical evidence to probe the politics of authoritarian propaganda. His second book project is *Autocracy in Post-Cold War Africa*.
Beatriz Magaloni  
*Professor of Political Science, Senior Fellow at the Freeman Spogli Institute for International Studies, and Founding Director of the Poverty, Violence and Governance Lab within FSI’s Center on Democracy, Development, and the Rule of Law, Stanford*

Beatriz Magaloni is the author of numerous academic articles and three books, including *Voting for Autocracy: Hegemonic Party Survival and its Demise in Mexico* and *The Political Logic of Poverty Relief*, and is currently working on a book about criminal governance and policing in Rio de Janeiro.

Dinsha Mistree  
*Research Fellow, Hoover Institution; Research Fellow, Rule of Law Program, Stanford Law School; Affiliated scholar with the Center for Democracy, Development, and the Rule of Law at Freeman Spogli Institute for International Studies, Stanford*

Dinsha Mistree’s teaching and research focus on the relationship between governance and economic growth, particularly in India. He is the coeditor of a forthcoming volume on the state of India’s democracy.

Kathryn Stoner  
*Mosbacher Director of the Center on Democracy, Development, and the Rule of Law; Senior Fellow, Freeman Spogli Institute for International Studies; Professor (by courtesy) of Political Science and Senior Fellow (by courtesy) at the Hoover Institution, Stanford*

Kathryn Stoner is a leading specialist on contemporary Russian politics and democratic transitions. Her most recent book is *Russia Resurrected: Its Power and Purpose in a New Global Order*.

**Class Sessions and Recording**

Meeting days and times: Tuesdays, 5:00 - 6:30pm PT  
Meeting location: Zoom; sessions will be recorded

**Course Features:**

- Live session  
  - Lecture with some Q&A
- Assignments & Coursework  
  - Weekly readings will be posted in Canvas
**Grade Options and Requirements**

- No Grade Requested (NGR)
  - This is the default option. No work will be required; no credit shall be received; no proof of attendance can be provided.
- Credit/No Credit (CR/NC)
  - Students must attend or watch at least 6 out of 7 sessions.

*Please Note: If you require proof that you completed a Continuing Studies course for any reason (for example, employer reimbursement), you must choose the Credit/No Credit option. Courses taken for NGR will not appear on official transcripts or grade reports.*

**Tentative Weekly Outline**

January 24, Larry Diamond, “Is the Global Democratic Recession Becoming a Depression?”


January 31, Lisa Blaydes, “Understanding Arab Authoritarianism”


February 7, Beatriz Magaloni, “Challenges Confronting Democracy in Latin America”


Beartiz Magaloni, reading TBD
February 14, Dinsha Mistree, “The Troubling State of India’s Democracy”

Feb 21, Kathryn Stoner, “Autocracy as a Choice: Russia’s Troubled Post-Communist Path in Comparative Perspective”


March 7, Larry Diamond, “Reviving Democracy and Combatting the Authoritarian Tide”