

15. Description of Democracy in Action Group Project

This project gives you a real opportunity to practice democracy in order to further theorize about it. You will be grouped with all others in the class, and your goal will be to organize yourselves “democratically” (whatever this means for the group), then arrive at a commitment to do some “democratic action” and actually carry out the action by the end of the semester. What the “content” and “product” of such an action may be is entirely up to the group, but it should exemplify democratic ideals and theories, perhaps even those we have learned about and discussed during the semester! The group will be asked to submit a final narrative report (it could include individual components as well as the group report), one that not only summarizes the content and product of the democratic action in light of democratic theory, but also chronicles in some detail the process of arriving at the end product and the group’s reflections on this process in light of democratic theory and principles. In addition, each individual will write a final narrative summarizing her/his own conclusions about democracy and democratic theory in light of the DIA. The DIA group will be responsible for arriving at a proposal for the rules governing the collective portion of the evaluation of the DIA in terms of each group member’s final grade. We’ll talk more about this project in class throughout the semester.