Political Science 3220: The Politics of the Developing World
(or, The Politics of Development and Underdevelopment)
Fall 2015

-Subject to Amendment-
-Updates will be posted on Carmen as appropriate-

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Office Hours:

Course Website: carmen.osu.edu

Description

The premise of this course is that economic development is as much a political question as it is an economic one. The goal will be to understand the different approaches that poorer countries have taken to the question of development, why they have made differing choices, and their political and economic consequences. Along the way we will consider questions that touch on contemporary political debates: What are the merits or dangers of international economic integration (free trade)? What is the proper role of the state in the process of economic development? What is the relationship (positive or negative) among free markets, democratic politics, political corruption, and human/labor rights? What can be learned from recent “successful” cases of development, and are these lessons useful in a world that is increasingly globalized? What political dynamics can cause – or cure – financial crises? The course is structured around three broadly defined and fundamentally different (or at least so I will argue) periods—the long post-war boom from 1945 to the debt crisis of the 1980s, and the more challenging period of globalization and free-market hegemony in the 1990s and early 2000s, and ending in the current period of financial crisis and austerity.

This is a course in comparative political economy, not in economics, and it does not require any economics knowledge as a prerequisite. The only prerequisite is an open, critical mind.

Course Requirements

This course has four requirements that will enter into the calculation of your grade: a quiz, two midterms and a final essay set. All exams, like knowledge, are cumulative, but weighted toward material not already covered. Note that the exams will principally be in essay format, and will require you to take and defend positions on issues related to the course. There may also be some short answer questions on the midterms. You are not graded on the particular position you take, but rather on the quality of your defense of that perspective. That is to say that the effective linkage of evidence to argument is the standard of evaluation.

Grades will be calculated according to the following weights:

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<th>Requirement</th>
<th>Weight</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Midterm I</td>
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<tr>
<td>Midterm II</td>
<td>30%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Final Essay</td>
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There is a TA for this course who will be responsible for the grading of the course material. All grade appeals will be handled by the professor. There are no recitation sections, though the TA will be available for an office hour after each exam to answer questions about the grading. The teaching assistant is Mini Saraswati, and she can be reached at saraswati.2@buckeyemail.osu.edu.

Midterms I and II will be in-class. For the midterms, one week prior to the exam, a comprehensive study guide will be provided. This study guide will include all the possible questions for the exam, and two of these questions will comprise the actual midterm exam. Students are encouraged to form study-groups to prepare for the midterm exam. The final exam is a take-home exam that will be comprised of two essay questions. Students will receive the exam on the last day of class and it will be due (via upload to the Carmen drop box) by the end of the regularly scheduled final exam period for this class.

**Website and Email**

The URL for the course website is listed above. Important information and some handouts will be made available there. Powerpoint files will also be available there, with something of a lag from the time of presentation. Most notably, study guides and in-class handouts will usually be accessible there after they have been distributed in class (how soon may vary). If you missed a handout, you should be able to obtain it from the website.

In addition, course information and updates will regularly be sent out via email. It is important (and required) that you check your OSU email and the course website regularly.

**Readings**

Here there is good news. The good news is that there are no books for this course (saving you some serious money!). The other good news is that all the other readings for this course will posted on the Carmen website – that is, there will be no expensive coursepack to purchase. All readings posted online will be in .pdf form. The bad news is that there is a lot of reading, and not all of it is particularly easy (see below).

_A Warning:_ The readings for this class are sometimes VERY DIFFICULT. The idea is to present you material taken directly from the books and journals that political scientists read, rather than in some pre-digested textbook form. You will not necessarily always understand 100 percent of what is in the articles (or if you do, then you’re doing very well indeed!), and that is intentional. Do not be discouraged or afraid. The idea is to stretch your abilities as far as possible and the only way to do that is to set the bar high. Rest assured that you will only be tested on material that is extensively discussed and interpreted in class; there will be no effort to include trick questions about obscure and difficult bits of the reading. Grading is not punitive, nor is it curved.

**Missed Exams/Emergencies**

From time to time emergencies occur that prevent you from taking exams at the regularly scheduled time and place (e.g., severe injury, death in the immediate family). Accommodations are of course possible, but in general only with advance notice and only if the reason represents a circumstance that could neither be anticipated nor is under the control of the student. Potential problems should be brought to the attention of the professor and the TA as soon as you know about them (and in advance of the exam in question). Obviously, prior notification is not required, for example, in the case of emergency medical conditions that occur immediately prior to the exam, though documentation may be required after the fact. Do not hesitate to email or call your professor (see first page for number) if you have a special
circumstance that makes it impossible for you to take an exam at the normal time or place. This paragraph does not apply to students who are eligible for alternative procedures by the Office of Disability Services. These will happily be accommodated in the usual fashion.

No Recording or Transmission of Course Material

No form of recording – electronic, audio, video, digital, or other – is permitted in class except for the taking of class notes (exceptions only with explicit written permission of the instructor). Your class notes, to the extent to which they are transcriptions of the class, are for your own individual use, though they may be shared with other students in the class. Transcriptions of the class lectures, as they are intellectual property, however, may not be sold, posted on the web, and/or transmitted to individuals who are not registered for the course, in any fashion.

Start of Official University-Required Syllabus Language

Academic Honesty

All of the work you do in this course is expected to be your own. Absolutely no cheating or plagiarism (using someone else's words or ideas without proper citation) will be tolerated. Any cases of cheating or plagiarism will be reported to the committee on academic misconduct and handled according to university policy. If you have any question about the University’s Code of Student Conduct, please see the web site: http://studentaffairs.osu.edu/pdfs/csc_7-13-06.pdf.

Students with Disabilities

Students with disabilities that have been certified by the Office for Disability Services will be appropriately accommodated, and should inform the instructor as soon as possible of their needs. The Office for Disability Services is located in 150 Pomerene Hall, 1760 Neil Avenue; telephone 292-3307, TDD 292-0901; http://www.ods.ohio-state.edu/.

Compulsory University Description of Goals and Expected Learning Outcomes for Social Science General Education Classes:

Category: Social Science: Human, Natural, and Economic Resources

Goals:
Students understand the systematic study of human behavior and cognition; the structure of human societies, cultures, and institutions; and the processes by which individuals, groups, and societies interact, communicate, and use human, natural, and economic resources.
Expected Learning Outcomes:

1. Students understand the theories and methods of social scientific inquiry as they apply to the study of the use and distribution of human, natural, and economic resources and decisions and policies concerning such resources.
2. Students understand the political, economic, and social trade-offs reflected in individual decisions and societal policymaking and enforcement and their similarities and differences across contexts.
3. Students comprehend and assess the physical, social, economic, and political sustainability of individual and societal decisions with respect to resource use.

Category: Global Studies

Goals:
Students understand the pluralistic nature of institutions, society, and culture in the United States and across the world in order to become educated, productive, and principled citizens.

Expected Learning Outcomes:

1. Students understand some of the political, economic, cultural, physical, social, and philosophical aspects of one or more of the world’s nations, peoples and cultures outside the U.S.
2. Students recognize the role of national and international diversity in shaping their own attitudes and values as global citizens.

End of Official University-Mandated Syllabus Material

Schedule of Readings

Theoretical Framing


II. August 27: Scholarly Views of the “Challenge” of Economic Development


III. September 1-3: Foundational Theory: Comparative Advantage as a Strategy of Development and Challenges to It.


**IV. September 8-10: The Structural Foundations of Late Development**


**The Long Post-War Boom**

**V. September 15-17: The Good News – Postwar Developmental Miracles in East Asia**


**VI. September 22-24: Middling News: Industrialization without a Miracle in Latin America and India**


VII. September 29 – October 1: The Not-So-Successful Cases: Underdevelopment in Ireland and Kenya


VII. October 6: Midterm I Review Session

IX. October 8: MIDTERM I

The Free Market Makes Its Return

X. October 13: The Collapse of the Post-War Golden Age and the Debt Crisis


(Note: No class October 15, Fall Break)

XI. October 20: The Return of Free-Market Policies


XII. October 22: Critiques and Consequences


XIII. October 27 - 29: Aspects of Free Markets: Trade and Money

*Free Trade Debates*


*Capital Markets: Financial Crisis or International Development?*


XIV. November 3 Midterm II Review

XV. November 5: MIDTERM II

The Era of Financial Crisis and the “New (not so good) Normal?”


*Origins of Crisis*

**The Austerity Debate**


**Ireland/Iceland**


**XVII. November 17 – December 1: Experiences of Liberalization, Labor, Inequality, and Basic Human Rights in the New Global Economy**

**Experiences**


**Labor**


**Human Rights**

XVIII. December 3: Catch-up

Receive Take-Home Final Examination.
Final Exam due in Carmen Drop Box, by the end of regularly scheduled final exam period.

FINAL EXAM DUE: Monday, December 14th, 2015 at 1:45pm. At exactly that time the carmen dropbox will close.

If for any reason the Carmen drop box fails for you, send the final exam as an email attachment to both the professor and teaching assistant (so that we know that you submitted it on time). Email addresses are on the first page of this syllabus.

The complete final exam schedule is attached below for your convenience. Always check to confirm dates/times.
# Autumn 2015 Final Examination Schedule

Columbus Campus  
December 11-17, 2015

### Classes with Monday as the First Meeting Day of the First Whole Week and Duration of at Least 50 Minutes

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<th>Start Times</th>
<th>Final Date</th>
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<td>Monday Dec 14</td>
<td>8:00am-9:45am</td>
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<td>8:50am to 9:39am</td>
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<td>11:20am to 12:09pm</td>
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