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International Development
INST 29308
Spring 2007

Course meets Tuesday and Thursday, 1:30 pm - 2:50 pm
Harper Memorial (HM) 148

Please check Chalk website weekly for syllabus updates

Course Description:

This is a seminar course that surveys some recent issues in the field of international development with special emphasis on the political development and democratization of developing countries. The purpose is to introduce the student to the current debate on theories and recent empirical findings on poverty alleviation, human rights, and political participation, and in particular its relation to politics and international organizations. It addresses general issues such as what is international development, what is political development and democratization, what is poverty and inequality, and what is (and ought to be) the role of the state and international organizations in the process of poverty alleviation and political development. It also deals with more specific questions such as the relation between different political regimes and their impact on poverty alleviation and development, and the effect that institutions, globalization and international aid have on political and economic development. Empirical evidence is drawn from recent experiences in Latin America, Sub-Saharan Africa, and South Asia.

Course Requirements:

Attendance and Participation. Students are required to attend all class sessions. Each student is expected to read (before class) the items listed for each session and be prepared to discuss and argue about them. The discussion will center on how the readings address important issues, are flawed in particular dimensions, or can be developed or improved in specific directions.

Assignments. Students will hand in assignments at the beginning of the class. There will be two assignments due on April 3 and April 12.

Midterm Exam. All students are required to take the in-class midterm exam on Thursday April 26.

Final Exam. All students are required to take a two hours exam on Tuesday, June 5 (or before that date for those graduating in Spring 2007) from 1:30 to 3:30 pm. Place TBA

Grading:

The overall grade for the course will be calculated using the following weights:

Attendance and Participation	45%
Assignments (2)	10%
Midterm Exam	15%
Final Exam	30%

Final grades will be assigned as a percentage of total points using the scale below:

A	94.0-100	B+	87.0-89.9	C+	77.0-79.9	D+	66.0-69.9
A-	90.0-93.9	B	84.0-86.9	C	74.0-76.9	D	60.0-65.9
		B-	80.0-83.9	C-	70.0-73.9	No credit	< 60

Notes:

If a student is not able to present any of the two exams or receives less than 15 pts in the final exam (out of 30 possible points), s/he will not receive any credit for the course.

If you need to have your final grade by a particular date (e.g. due to graduation), please let me know on the first day of class to plan accordingly.

Course Materials:

Articles and papers are posted on chalk website. The following books are on reserve at Regenstein and have been ordered at the Seminary Coop Bookstore:

Easterly, William. 2006. *The White Man's Burden: Why the West's Efforts to Aid the Rest have done so much Ill and so Little Good*, New York, NY: The Penguin Press

Harrison, Lawrence E. and Samuel P. Huntington (eds.) 2000. *Culture Matters: How Values Shape Human Progress*, New York, NY: Basic Books

Helpman, Elhanan. 2004. *The Mystery of Economic Growth*, Cambridge, MA: The Belknap Press of Harvard University Press

Jones, Gareth S. 2004. *An End to Poverty? A Historical Debate*, London: Profile Books Ltd

Rist, Gilbert. 2002. *The History of Development: from Western Origins to Global Faith*, New York, NY: Zed Books Ltd

Sachs, Jeffrey D. 2005. *The End of Poverty*, New York, NY: Penguin Books

Sen, Amartya. 1999. *Development as Freedom*, New York, NY: Anchor Books

Course Outline:

Introduction to the course

[Tuesday, March 27] No readings assigned

Economic, Political, and Development Indicators

[Thursday, March 29]

Skim:

UNDP. 2004. Technical Notes to the 2004 Human Development Report

UNDP. 2005. Technical Notes to the 2005 Human Development Report

UNDP. 2006. Technical Notes to the 2006 Human Development Report

UNDP. 2006. Human Development Indicators, 2006 Human Development Report

What is Development? (Assignment 1 due)

[Tuesday, April 3]

Sen (1999) Introduction, Chapters 1 & 2 “The Perspective of Freedom” and “The Ends and the Means of Development”

Rist (2002) Introduction, Chapters 1 & 2 “Definitions of Development” and “Metamorphoses of a Western Myth”

Helpman (2004) Chapter 1 “Background”

Anand and Ravallion. 1993. “Human Development in Poor countries: On the role of private incomes and public services,” *Journal of Economic Perspectives*, pp.133- 150.

Evans, Peter. 2004. “Development as Institutional Change: The Pitfalls of Monocropping and the Potentials of Deliberation,” *Studies in Comparative International Development*, pp.30-52.

Frey and Stutzer. 2002. “What can economists learn from happiness?,” *Journal of Economic Literature*, pp.402-435

Poverty, Inequality and Development

[Thursday, April 5]

Sen (1999) Chapter 4 “Poverty as Capability Deprivation”

Kanbur and Squire. 2001. “The Evolution of Thinking about Poverty: Exploring the interactions” in Meier and Stiglitz *Frontiers of Development Economics: The Future in Perspective*, World Bank

Banerjee and Duflo. 2006. “The Economic Lives of the Poor” mimeo

Sachs (2005) Chapter 1 “A Global Family Portrait”

Sala i Maritn, Xavier. 2002. “The Disturbing ‘Rise’ of Global Income Inequality” *NBER Working Paper* No. 8904

International Development

[Tuesday, April 10]

Rist (2002) Chapters 3, 4, 5 & 11 “The Making of a World System”, “The Invention of Development”, “The International Doctrine and Institutions Take Root”, and “A Mixture of Realism and Fine Sentiments”

Sachs (2005) Chapter 2 “The Spread of Economic Prosperity”

Easterly (2006) Chapters 1 & 2 “Planners Versus Searchers” and “The Legend of the Big Push”

Organizations for International Development (Assignment 2 due)

[Thursday, April 12]

Students’ presentation

World Bank, UNDP, WHO, UNICEF, Millennium Development Goals, Oxfam, USAID

Economic Development

[Tuesday, April 17]

Helpman (2004) Chapters 2 to 6

[Thursday, April 19]

Easterly, William. 2001. *The Elusive Quest for Growth: Economists’ Adventures and Misadventures in the Tropics*, MIT Press, Ch.1 pp. 5-19

Sen (1999) Chapter 5 “Markets, State and Social Opportunity”

Rist (2002) Chapter 6 “Modernization Poised between History and Prophecy”

Political Development and Democratization

[Tuesday, April 24]

Valenzuela, S. and A. Valenzuela. 1978, “Modernization and Dependency: Alternative Perspectives in the Study of Latin American Underdevelopment” *Comparative Politics* 10 (4): 535-557

Przeworski, A. and Fernando Limongi. 1997. “Modernization: Theories and Facts,” *World Politics* 49

Boix, C. and S. Stokes. 2003. “Endogenous Democratization.” *World Politics* 55: 517-49.

Midterm Exam

[Thursday, April 26]

Political Economy of Development

[Tuesday, May 1]

Bates, R. 1990. "Macropolitical Economy in the Field of Development." In James E. Alt and Kenneth Shepsle (eds). 1990. *Perspectives on Positive Political Economy*. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press. Chapter 2.

Przeworski, Adam and Fernando Limongi. 1993. "Political Regimes and Economic Growth", *Journal of Economic Perspectives*

Robinson, James. 2006. "Economic Development and Democracy" *Annual Review of Political Science*, 9: 503-527

[Thursday, May 3]

Ross, M. 2006 "Is Democracy Good for the Poor?" *American Journal of Political Science*

Varshney, Ashutosh. 2000, "Why Have Poor Democracies Not Eliminated Poverty? A Suggestion", *Asian Survey*, 40,5: 718-736

Sen (1999) Chapters 6 & 7 "The Importance of Democracy" and "Famines and other Crises"

[Tuesday, May 8]

Krueger, Anne O. 1990. "Government Failures in Development" *Journal of Economic Perspectives*, 4: 9-23

Boone, P. 1996. "Politics and the Effectiveness of Foreign Aid", *European Economic Review* 40(2): 289-329

Robinson, James. 2003, "Politician-proof Policy?" Prepared as a background paper for the World Bank's 2004 World Development Report. mimeo

Culture and Development

[Thursday, May 10]

Sen (1999) Chapter 10 "Culture and Human Rights"

Harrison and Huntington eds. (2000) Chapters 1,6-9

Current Issues on International Aid and Debt

[Tuesday, May 15]

Sachs (2005) Chapters 3, 4, 9-11

[Thursday, May 17]

Easterly (2006) Chapters 5-9

The End of Poverty?

[Tuesday, May 22]

Jones (2004) Introduction, Chapters 4 – 6 and Conclusions. Skim the rest.

Which way now?

[Thursday, May 24]

Harrison and Huntington eds. (2000) Chapters 20-22

Rist (2002) Chapters 12 - 14

[Tuesday, May 29]

Sachs (2005) Chapters 12 - 15

Easterly (2006) Chapters 10 & 11

Final Exam

[Tuesday, June 5 1:30 - 3:30 pm]
