

Political Science 407I
Politics and Problems of Developing Areas
Spring 2008

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Office Hours: T/TH 12:50PM-2:20PM

This course focuses on the politics and problems of developing areas. The first part of the course examines the major theoretical approaches to explain development and underdevelopment in the Third World. The second part of the course provides an overview of selected policy issues and problems in developing countries, with a focus on democratization, revolution and political violence, health promotion, and environmental degradation.

Requirements and Policies

Lecture and Discussion: The class will meet on Tuesday from 4 to 6:45PM in Wright Hall C237 for lectures and discussion. Students are expected to finish all of the assigned readings and to be prepared for group discussion. Participation counts for 5% of the final grade.

Exams, Papers, and Grading: The first exam will be given **February 26**. The final exam is on **May 13 at 6PM in Wright Hall C237**. In addition, students are required to write a short research paper (10-12 pp.); the paper is due on **April 22**. Guidelines for the paper will be given in class. Exam 1 is worth 25% of the final grade, while the research paper and the final exam each count for 35% of the final grade. Make-up exams will be given only if the student can demonstrate she/he was absent due to illness or participation in an official university function. Students must provide an excuse in writing from a licensed health care provider or from a university administrator.

University Policy for Students with Disabilities: Any student who, because of a disabling condition, may require special arrangements to meet course requirements should contact the instructor as soon as possible to make necessary accommodations. Pursuant to UNLV policy, students must present appropriate verification from the Disability Resource Center in order to receive accommodations (Room 137, Reynolds Student Services Center; 895-0866 [TDD 895-0652]).

Observance of Religious Holidays: Students who miss class due to

observance of a religious holiday shall be given the opportunity to make up the missed class. Please notify the instructor no later than the end of the first week of class if you will miss class due to observance of a religious holiday.

Contact via E-mail: A new UNLV policy requires students to use

1/26	Introduction	Begin readings for 1/29
1/29	The Concept of Development; Contemporary Situation of the Developing World	(1) Brian S. Smith, "The Idea of a Third World," in ER; Amartya Sen, "The Concept in Development," in ER. (2) John T. Passe-Smith, "The Persistence of the Gap Between Poor and Rich Countries," in ER; (3) Joseph Stiglitz, "Freedom to Choose?" <u>Suggested:</u> Joseph Stiglitz, "The Promise of Global Institutions," in ER.

Rebelmail accounts when they contact faculty via e-mail. As the official e-mail system for students, Rebelmail is available to all students who have been admitted to the university. Non-matriculated students should contact the Office of Information Technology at UNLV students for assistance.

Readings: Most of the required readings for this course are on reserve on the Lied Library and are accessible through the web at <http://ereserves.library.unlv.edu/eres/default.aspx>. E-reserve readings are designated "ER" in the syllabus. Some readings are also available through library databases, such as Academic Search Elite Project Muse (available at <http://library.unlv.edu/search/databases/index.html>).

2/5	Theoretical Perspectives: Cultural	(1) Herman Kahn, "Confucian Ethic and Economic Growth," in ER; (2) Oscar Lewis, "Culture of Poverty," in ER; (3) Jim Granato, Ronald Inglehart and David Leblang, "Effect of Cultural Values on Economic Development," in ER.
2/12	Theoretical Perspectives: Historical-Structural & World Systems	(1) Brian S. Smith, "Neocolonialism and Dependency," in ER; (2) Immanuel Wallerstein, "The Rise and Future Demise of the World Capitalist System," in ER; (3) William I. Robinson, "Transnational Processes, Development Studies, and Changing Hierarchies in the World System," <i>Third World Quarterly</i> (2001), in Academic Search Elite database. <u>Suggested:</u> T dos Santos, "The Structure of Dependence," in ER
2/19	Theoretical Perspectives: State-Centered & Neoliberal	(1) Brian S. Smith, "The State in the Third World," in ER; (2) Peter Evans, "The State," in ER. (3) John Rapley, "The Neoclassical Answer to Failure," in ER. <u>Suggested:</u> Dietrich Rueschemeyer and Peter Evans, "The State and Economic Transformation," in ER.
2/26	Exam 1	
3/4	Theoretical Perspectives: Gender & Development	(1) Saskia Sassen, "Global Cities and Survival Circuits," in ER; (2) Drucilla Barker and Susan F. Feiner, "Globalization is a Feminist Issue," in ER; <u>Suggested:</u> Jasper Goss, "Postcolonialism: Subverting Whose Empire?," <i>Third World Quarterly</i> (1996), in Academic Search Premier
3/11	Democratization in Developing Areas	(1) Brian S. Smith, "Democratization in the Third World," in ER; (2) Adam Przeworski, "Transitions to Democracy," in ER. <u>Suggested:</u> Larry Diamond, "Can the Whole World Become Democratic?" Center for Study of Democracy, Stanford, available at: http://repositories.cdlib.org/csd/03-05
3/18	Spring Break	
3/25	Democratization - continued.	(1) Brennan Kraxberger, "Failed States: Temporary Obstacles to Democratic Diffusion or Permanent Holes in the World Political Map?" <i>Third World Quarterly</i> 28, no. 6 (2007), in Article First Database; (2) Minxin Pei, "How Will China Democratize?" <i>Journal of Democracy</i> 18, no. 3 (2007), in Article First or Project Muse database; (3) Anwar Ibrahim, "Universal Values and Muslim Democracy," <i>Journal of Democracy</i> 17, no. 3 (2006), in Article First or Project Muse database; (4) BBC News Service, "Kenya Crisis Talks End in Failure," January 10, 2008, stable URL: http://news.bbc.co.uk/2/hi/africa/7181184.stm <u>Suggested:</u> Mark Plattner and Sumit Gunguly, "India's Unlikely Democracy," <i>Journal of Democracy</i> 18, no. 2 (2007), in Article First or Project
4/1	Revolution &	(1) Brian S. Smith, "Instability and Revolution," in

	Political Violence	ER; (2) Theda Skocpol, "Explaining Revolutions: In Quest of a Social Structural Approach," in ER.
4/8	Revolution & Political Violence--continued	(1) Timothy Wickham-Crowley, "Winners, Losers, and Also-Rans: Toward a Comparative Sociology of Latin American Guerilla Movements," in ER; (2) Ian Bannon and Paul Collier, "Natural Resources and Conflict: What Can we Do?," in <i>Natural Resources and Violent Conflict: Options and Actions</i> , Vol. I, eds. Ian Bannon, Paul Collier (Oxford: World Bank, 2003), pp. 1-18, electronic book available through UNLV library (search under the title in the UNLV Library Catalog, and then follow instructions for linking to E-Brary; <u>Suggested</u> : James D. Fearon, "Why Do Some Civil Wars Last So Much Longer than Others?" <i>Journal of Peace Research</i> Vol. 41, No. 3 (2004), 275-301.
4/15	Health and Development	(1) Alan Berkman, Jonathan Garcia, Miguel Muñoz-Laboy et al, "A Critical Analysis of the Brazilian Response to HIV/AIDS: Lessons Learned for Controlling and Mitigating the Epidemic in Developing Countries," <i>American Journal of Public Health</i> 95, no. 7 (2005) in Article First or Pubmed database; (2) Andrew Price-Smith, "Viscous Cycle--HIV/AIDS, State Capacity, and National Security: Lessons from Zimbabwe, 1990-2005," <i>Global Health Governance</i> 1 (2007), http://diplomacy.shu.edu/academics/globalhealth ; (3) BBC News, "India's cheap drugs under patent threat," February 15, 2007, available at: http://news.bbc.co.uk/2/hi/south_asia/6358721.stm
4/22	Health and Development	(1) Jeffrey Sachs, "The Problem: Malaria; How To Stop a Serial Killer," <i>Foreign Policy</i> May/June 2007, pp. 49-50, in Article First Database; (2) Michael Finkel, "Bedlam in the Blood: Malaria," <i>National Geographic</i> July 2007, in Article First database; (3) Mike Ceaser, "Cuban Doctors Provide Care in Venezuela Barrios," <i>The Lancet</i> 363, Issue 9424 (June 5, 2004), (2 page article), in Article First database.
4/29	Environmental Degradation and Development	(1) Jagdish Bhagwati, "Environment in Peril?" in ER; (2) Kun-mun Zhang and Zong-guo Wen, "Review and Challenges of Environmental Protection and Sustainable Development in China," <i>Journal of Environmental Management</i> [article in-press] 2007, in Elsevier Journal database (link through university-based IP address for access) or Article First database; (3) "So Hard to See the Wood for the Trees," <i>Economist</i> , December 19, 2007, at http://www.economist.com/ use the search bar and enter article title, (4) film: "Trinkets or Beads."

5/6	Conclusion	Review for final.
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