

POL 201
Politics of Development: Issues and Controversies
Fall 2020

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Course overview

Welcome to POL201, The Politics of Development, online version! This course critically analyzes the politics of development in the global south, including issues and country cases that span Asia, Africa and Latin America. The course maintains a balance between abstract notions and theories of development, and real-world issues and challenges in development politics. The course begins with a focus on the conceptual, historical, and theoretical study of development and underdevelopment, then moves to specific factors that explain patterns of prosperity and poverty as well as challenges that developing countries typically confront at the national and local levels.

How it will work

This class will be conducted entirely online. Except for office hours, the entire course will be asynchronous. However, the course will require consistent engagement each week.

Each week, students will 1) complete the assigned readings, 2) watch a lecture from Professor Jung, 3) submit a short assignment, and 4) participate in tutorial group discussion boards.

You are free to do these activities at whatever moment during the week suits you, but a typical student schedule might be:

Monday – Read assigned readings and watch lecture

Tuesday & Wednesday – Complete and submit weekly assignment (Due Wednesdays at 5PM EST)

Thursday & Friday – Discuss weekly topic on discussion board with tutorial group and TA. (Discussion boards close for the week on Friday at 5PM EST.)

Weekly Course Schedule:

Day	Activity
Friday	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Lecture and assignments posted in advance for the following week
Monday	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Week officially begins• Most students expected to watch lecture and complete readings

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Discussion boards open for questions and conversations about the week's reading and lecture
Wednesday	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Weekly assignment is due by 5PM EST (submitted via Quercus) • Weekly assignment answer key is posted on Quercus (after deadline)
Thursday	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • TA posts discussion question in tutorial group discussion board (Some TAs may post Wednesday night) • Most TAs hold office hours
Friday	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Last day to post in discussion board for the week. <i>Posts after 5pm EST will not count toward weekly participation grades.</i> • (Next week's lecture and assignments posted)
Monday	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • TA returns last week's assignment • New week begins, discussion boards open

How it will be organized

Tutorial Groups

Students in the course are divided into tutorial groups. Each tutorial group is assigned a TA, who will grade your weekly assignments, moderate discussion boards, and make themselves available to you for office hours.

TA Office hours

Each TA will host drop-in office hours using BbCollaborate for one hour each week. Office hours are student-led – you should come with a question, regarding the readings, lectures, or assignments in the course. Office hours are open; if you prefer to speak to a TA privately, you should contact them by email.

Your TA will also be available to answer questions via your tutorial discussion board. You are encouraged to use the discussion board to ask questions and share ideas with the other students in your tutorial.

If you would like more information about using Bb Collaborate, you can view this page: <https://qstudents.utoronto.ca/blackboard-collaborate-ultra-student-use/>

Contacting your TA

In addition to attending weekly office hours, you can get help from your TA by either 1) asking them questions on the tutorial discussion board, 2) sending them a private message on Quercus, or 3) sending them an email.

In general, you should ask questions about the course material on the discussion board so that the rest of the tutorial can benefit from your question and the TA's response.

GRADING SCHEME

Assignment	Percentage	Due date
Weekly Notes Assignment	40% (5% x 8 assignments)	Wednesdays by 5PM EST (Submissions after 5PM EST will not be accepted.)
Discussion Board Posts	20%	In order to count as having posted in a given week, students must make at least one substantive post <i>before</i> Friday at 5PM EST.
Essay (5-7 pages)	40%	Due December 11, 5PM

Weekly notes assignment - 40% (5% x 8 assignments)

Forty percent of your grade in POL 201 will come from completing eight 'notes' assignments. There will be eleven (11) weekly notes assignments. You must only complete eight (8). If you write more than eight, the ninth, tenth and eleventh *will not be graded*.

You will not be excused from completing the weekly assignment except for medical or family emergencies. You should plan your calendar for the semester accordingly.

Each weekly assignment will be worth 5% of your final grade.

Assignments will be made available on Friday evenings, and are due on Wednesdays at 5PM EST.

Notes submitted after Wednesday at 5PM EST will not be accepted.

Assignments can be submitted using the 'assignments' function on Quercus. A detailed rubric will be distributed with each assignment.

Discussion Board – 20%

Discussion Boards are hosted on Quercus. The tutorial discussion board is a place to share ideas, ask for help, and discuss the course with your fellow students.

There will be 11 weekly discussion boards. You must post on the discussion board during at least six (6) different weeks. A post can be a response to a TA's discussion question, a thoughtful question of your own about the course material, or a response to another student's question or comment.

Participation will be evaluated as follows:

- Posts in 0-5 different weeks = 0/10
- Posts in 6+ different weeks = 7/10
- Higher grades will be assigned at the TA's discretion based on both the quality and frequency of posts.

For more information on discussion board expectations, please refer to the [POL 201 Discussion Board Guidelines](#), posted on Quercus.

Essay – 40%

You will receive the essay topic and instructions one month before the essay is due.

Grade Appeals

If you believe that an error has been made in one of your assignment grades, you should send an email or private Quercus message to your TA explaining the error, with clear reference to the

answer key or rubric for the assignment. It is your responsibility to demonstrate that your work merits a higher grade.

Grade appeals must be raised within seven (7) days of the assignment being returned to you.

If you are unable to resolve the issue with the grading TA, you may appeal to the professor. Your appeal should clearly explain why the work you submitted warrants a higher grade than it received, with clear and explicit reference to the answer key and/or rubric.

If you believe an error has been made with your participation grade, you may appeal to your tutorial TA. Tutorial TAs have total discretion over participation grades; you may not appeal to the professor to overturn a TAs decision. The only exception is if the student can provide evidence of meeting the minimum requirements for posting on the discussion board.

Readings

All the readings for the course are available online or posted on Quercus. The reading load for this course is not heavy, but some of it will be written in a style that is not familiar.

Plagiarism

Cheating and plagiarism are serious academic offences. University policy requires that course instructors refer suspected plagiarism cases to the Office of Academic Integrity for resolution. For further clarification and information, please see the University of Toronto's policy on plagiarism at <http://www.writing.utoronto.ca/advice/using-sources/how-not-to-plagiarize>

Course outline

Week 1 (September 10)

Introduction

No reading

Watch: Hans Rosling, "Let my Dataset Change your Mindset"

https://www.ted.com/talks/hans_rosling_let_my_dataset_change_your_mindset?language=en

Week 2 (September 14)

What is development, how do we measure it

Watch: Francis Fukuyama, "What is Development?"

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=iG3G56YdFeE>

"Giant Strides in World Health but it could be so much better"

<https://www.nytimes.com/2019/02/04/upshot/giant-strides-in-world-health-but-it-could-be-so-much-better.html?searchResultPosition=11>

Week 3 (September 21)

The Industrial Revolution as a model of development

Watch: BBC documentary, "The Industrial Revolution"

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=GYIn_S2PVYA

Adam Smith, *Wealth of Nations*, book 1, Chapter 2

<http://geolib.com/smith.adam/won1-02.html>

Week 4 (September 28)

Modernization, the hegemonic theory of development

Adam Przeworski and Fernando Limongi, "Modernization: Theories and Facts." *World Politics* 49, no. 2 (1997): pp. 155-183.

<http://www.jstor.org/stable/25053996>

Week 5 (October 5)

Dependency theory, a critique

J. Samuel Valenzuela and Arturo Valenzuela, "Modernization and Dependency: Alternative Perspectives in the Study of Latin American Underdevelopment," *Comparative Politics* 10, 4 (July 1978), pp. 535-552.

<http://www.jstor.org/stable/pdfplus/421571.pdf>

Thanksgiving, no class (October 12)

Week 6 (October 19)

Solving the core-periphery problem

Eliana Cardoso and Ann Helwege, "Import Substitution Industrialization," in *Modern Political Economy and Latin America*, eds. Jeffrey Frieden, Manuel Pastor, Jr. and Michael Tomz (Boulder: Westview Press, 2000), pp. 155-164. (Quercus)

Robert J. Alexander "The Import Substitution Strategy of Economic Development" *Journal of Economic Issues* Vol.1, No.4 December 1967

<http://www.jstor.org/stable/4223869>

Week 7 (October 26)

Neoliberal development

John Williamson, "What Washington Means by Policy Reform," in *Latin American Adjustment: How Much has Happened?* Ed. John Williamson (Washington, D.C., Institute for International Economics, 1990). (Quercus)

William Finnegan, "The Economics of Empire: What Washington Means by the Washington Consensus," *Harper's Magazine* Vol.306, No.1836, May 2003 (Quercus)

Week 8 (November 2)

Debt and debt servicing

Watch: Life and Debt

Fall reading week, no classes (November 9)

Week 9 (November 16)

Critical Development Studies

Arturo Escobar, "Development and the Anthropology of Modernity," in *Encountering Development: the Making and Unmaking of the Third World* (Princeton University Press, 1993)

Ashok Kumbamu (2020) The philanthropic-corporate-state complex: imperial strategies of dispossession from the 'Green Revolution' to the 'Gene Revolution', *Globalizations*, DOI:

[10.1080/14747731.2020.1727132](https://doi.org/10.1080/14747731.2020.1727132)

Week 10 (November 23)

Queer Development

Neville Hoad, "Arrested development or the queerness of savages: Resisting evolutionary narratives of difference," *Postcolonial Studies: Culture, Politics, Economy*, 3:2, 133-158,

<https://doi.org/10.1080/13688790050115277>

Kate Bedford, "Loving to straighten out development: sexuality and "ethnodevelopment" in the World Bank's Ecuadorian Lending" *Feminist Legal Studies* (2005) 13:295–322

Week 11 (November 30)

Coronavirus and the economies of the global south

https://www.foreignaffairs.com/articles/united-states/2020-08-06/coronavirus-depression-global-economy?utm_medium=promo_email&utm_source=pre_release&utm_campaign=mktg_reguser_reinhart_pandemic_depression&utm_content=20200806&utm_term=registrant-prerelease

Watch: "Covid the last nail in the coffin of globalization,"

<https://www.hks.harvard.edu/centers/mrcbg/programs/growthpolicy/reinhart-says-covid-19-last-nail-coffin-globalization-carmen>

Frederic Megret

<http://opiniojuris.org/2020/03/30/covid-19-symposium-returning-home-nationalist-international-law-in-the-time-of-the-coronavirus/>

Week 12 (December 7)

Is there a post Washington consensus? Global financial crisis, Keynesianism, protectionism, coronavirus

Readings to be assigned closer to the date