

**POL447H
POLITICAL ECONOMY OF DEVELOPMENT
WINTER 2021**

Professor Dickson Eyoh
3030 Sidney Smith Hall
416.978-3342
dickson.eyoh@utoronto.ca

Class Time: Tuesdays 10-12

Virtual Office Hours: Tuesday 1-2PM

1. Overview

This course explores some key issues in the study and practice of international development. It aims to deepen appreciation of major theoretical and substantive debates taking place in the political economy of development. It is organized in roughly two parts: overview of evolution of major perspectives on the political economy of development and development practice in the post-WW2 era and examination of analysis and debate on some major issues in the field today.

2. Logistics

This is an online synchronous course. We will use Zoom for meetings and students are required to attend sessions at the scheduled class time (Tuesdays 10-12). Discussions will not be recorded.

Since this is a small seminar class, you are encouraged (though not required) to turn your camera on if you are able to and if connectivity permits.

3. Format

The seminar will be mainly driven by student participation and discussion. Emphasis during the seminar will be placed on critical interpretation of assigned readings through the active participation of students in classroom dialogue and debate. Useful participation will be informed by knowledge of the readings and a willingness to share doubts as well as insights and certainties.

Each session will open with 2 or 3 students (depending on class size) providing succinct summaries of the required readings to lay the groundwork for discussion. These presentations will be for a maximum of 8 minutes for each presenter. The summaries will specify the key

issues being addressed, the main argument(s) of the reading(s) and the supporting evidence and offer an opinion on the strengths and limitations of author(s)' analysis. Presentations will be assessed as part of the participation mark and are separate from the weekly reaction papers required of all.

For logistical reasons, I will assign weekly presentation by alphabetical order. If your assignment is inconvenient, it is your responsibility to arrange a swap with someone else. You will be penalized for failing to present when you are supposed to.

Presentations begin in **Session 3 (January 26)** and the first weekly reaction papers are due on January 18 for readings for Session 2 (**January 19**)

3. Course requirements

Attendance and Participation 25%
Steady but quiet attendance yields 40% of the total marks for this element. Active and informed participation yields higher grades. 10% of this component will be based on presentation.

Weekly Reaction Papers: 10%
Weekly reaction papers of a maximum of one single-spaced page (about 300 words) summarizing the arguments in two of the required readings for Sessions 2-11. WRPs are to be posted on Quercus Course page by 8PM on the night before the relevant session. WRPs are intended to facilitate discussion in seminars. You can use them to ask for clarification of issues in the readings that you do not understand and to raise questions you think are important for the class to consider.

The first weekly response paper is due January 18 for Session 2 (January 19)

The reactions papers will not be graded, but you will be penalized for failing to post them before the relevant session and if they are not clearly written, coherent, and grammatically correct. You are expected to read and reflect on the reaction papers of other seminar participants prior to class meetings. This will inform you of the reactions of other class members to the readings. WRP submitted after the deadline will not be accepted.

Theme Position Paper (February 23) 20%
A 1000 maximum word (approximately 3-4 double-spaced pages) position paper on contending perspectives on a theme/topical issue in the political economy of development from a recommended list. You will use the relevant required readings (and additional sources if you wish) for this assignment. The emphasis is on concise, focused thought. You **must state** a clear position with respect to the perspectives and defend your position through a critical engagement with the literature: what are the main tenets of the contending perspectives, which of them do you side with, and why do you find the perspective you side with more

persuasive. If you have an idea of the topic for your final essay, you can use this assignment as groundwork for the essay.

Analytical Paper (March 09)

15%

Treat this assignment as the first part of your final paper (see below). The analytical paper will be a maximum of 5 double-spaced pages. It will: (1) specify the issue you will write your paper on and why it is important; (2) present your main hypothesis or argument; (3) sketch and briefly justify your intended theoretical approach; (4) discuss the type(s) of evidence you will use to sustain your analysis; and (5) provide a sample bibliography of a minimum of seven items (articles in academic journals, books and/book chapters) you will use for the paper. Secure my approval of your essay topic before beginning work on this assignment.

Final Paper (April 09)

30%

Write a critical essay exploring an issue covered in the seminar. Feel free to use a case study or comparison of cases to sharpen your discussion. Either way, the paper will elaborate the conceptual and substantive issues laid out in the analytical paper that is due March 02. Therefore, be sure to get my approval of your essay topic before you start work on the analytical paper.

Maximum length: 15 double-spaced pages (approximately 3,500 words), exclusive of cover page, notes and bibliography.

4. Note on Plagiarism

i. "Plagiarism is a serious offence and will be dealt with accordingly. For clarification and information, see the University of Toronto's policy on Plagiarism at <http://www.writing.utoronto.ca/advice/using-sources/how-not-to-plagiarize>"

ii. "Keep rough and draft work and hard copies of your essays before handing them in. Keep them until the marked assignments have been returned."

iii. "Normally, students will be required to submit their course essays to Turnitin.com for a review of textual similarity and detection of possible plagiarism. In doing so, students will allow their essays to be included as source documents in the turnitin.com reference database, where they will be used solely for detecting plagiarism. Terms that apply to the University's use of the turnitin.com service are described on the turnitin.com web site."

5. Accessibility Needs

The University of Toronto is committed to accessibility. If you require accommodations or have any accessibility concerns, please visit <http://www.accessibility.utoronto.ca/> as soon as possible.

6. Late penalty:

Two percentage points per day, including weekends. The penalty will be strictly enforced.

7. Submission of written work

Written assignments must be submitted electronically in Word or pdf formats.

8. Readings for the Course

This syllabus identifies required readings for each week. Obviously, you must read the required readings for each week if we are to have a stimulating seminar. The required readings are available in physical or electronic format through University of Toronto Libraries with these designations:

RCR - Robarts Course Reserves (except of some on Quercus Course page)

E-Journal – Electronic Journal available through UT Library

E-Book–electronic books available through UT Library

WEEKLY TOPICS AND READINGS

Week 1/January 12: Introduction

Course introduction: Organization, requirements, and logistics

Week 2/ January 19: What is “Development”?

At Issue: What does “development” mean? Why is there no agreed upon definition of “development”? How does development theory connect to development policy and practice?

Required:

M. Cowen and R. Shenton. 1995. “Invention of Development.” In Jonathan Crush, ed. Power of Development. London: Routledge. 25-41 **ebook**

A. Thomas and T. Allen. 2000. “Chapter 2: Meanings and Views of Development” in. A. Thomas. And T. Allen. eds. Poverty and Development in the 21st Century. Rev ed. Oxford Univ. Press **(Quercus course page)**

L. Haddad. 2012. “Five Assumptions of Dominant Thinking in International Development.” Development 55 (1) 34-44. **e-Journal**.

Week 3/ January 26: Historical Legacies and Challenge of Development

At Issue: *Colonialism and the emergence/ evolution of global capitalism. Did colonialism contribute to processes of development or underdevelopment in societies in the ‘global south’? How useful is the dependency perspective to understanding how development challenges in the global south today are shaped by the legacies of colonialism? Do the analysis of Nunn and Acemoglu and Johnson support, complicate or are quite different from the dependency perspective?*

Required:

- A. Frank. 1966. “The Development of Underdevelopment,” Monthly Review 18 (4):17-31 **e-journal**
- N. Nunn. 2007. “Historical Legacies: Model linking Africa’s past” Journal of Development Economics 83 (1): 157-175 **e-journal**
- D. Acemoglu, S. Johnson & J. Robinson. 2001. “The Colonial Origins of Comparative Development,” American Economic Review 91 (5): 1369-1401. **e-journal**

Week 4/ February 2: Post-War Development Project in Theory and Practice

At Issue: *Context of the emergence of international development promotion as a key component of the post-war international order. The intersection of politics, power, and ideas/ideology in shaping the rise and decline and rise of dominant paradigms and policy approaches to development.*

Required:

- D. Williams, 2011. International Development and Global Politics: History, theory and practice London and New York: Routledge, Chapter 1: The Sovereign Order” and Chapter 5: The Liberal Order”, if time available, peruse chapters 2 and 6 **(RCR – JV1318 W5475 2012)**
- J. Harris. 2014. “Development Theories” in B. Currie-Adler et al. ed. International Development: Ideas, Experience and Prospects. Oxford University Press/Oxford Scholarship **e-book**.
- Charles Gore. 2000. “The Rise and Fall of the Washington Consensus as a Paradigm for Developing Countries. World Development. 28 (5):789-804 **e-journal**.

Week 5- February 9: State Formations, Institutions and Development Trajectories

At Issue: *How central is the state to shaping development trajectories? What are the defining characteristics of the developmental state? What factors hinder the emergence of developmental states in some regions/societies?*

Required:

- P. Evans. 1992. “The State as Problem and Solution: Predation, Embedded Autonomy, and Structural Change” in S. Haggard & R. Kaufman, eds. The Politics of Economic Adjustment: International Constraints, Distributive Conflicts, and the State. Princeton: Princeton Univ. Press. **RCR HD87 P65 1992 (Quercus course page)**

- A. Naseemullah and C. Arnold. 2015. "The Politics of Developmental State Persistence: Institutional Origins, Industrialization, and Provincial Challenge." Studies in Comparative International Development, 50(1), 121-142. **E-journal**
- T. Mkandawire 2001. "Thinking about Developmental States in Africa," Cambridge Journal of Economics 25 (3): 289-314. **e-journal**
- C. and J. Kerstenetzky. 2014. "Chapter 45: The State as a Development Actor." pp. 771-787 in Currie-Alder et al International Development: Ideas, Experience, and Prospects *e-book*

February 16 Reading Week, No Class

Week 6/ February 23: Deconstructing Development Discourse and Practice: Post-Development/Anti-Development/Alternative Development

At Issue: Core premises of postdevelopment/alternative development/anti-development perspective's critique of the post-war development theory and practices. What are the contributions to understanding social, economic and political change in developing countries? Do adherents to this perspective offer credible alternatives to hegemonic discourse(s) and practice(s) of development?

Required:

- A. Escobar. 2012. Encountering Development: The Making and Unmaking of the Third World. Princeton: Princeton University Press (chapter 2: The problematization of poverty: the tale of the three worlds and development, if time available, Chapter 1: Introduction: Development and the Anthropology of Modernity")
- J. Ferguson. 2006. "The Anti-politics machine". pp. 270-285 in A. Sharma and A. Gupta. ed. The Anthropology of the State: A Reader. Cambridge: Blackwell. RCR GN492 A54 2006 (**Quercus course page**)
- D. Simon. 2007. "Beyond anti-development: discourses, convergence and practice," Singapore Journal of Tropical Geography 28 (2):205-218 **e-journal**
- A. Ziai. 2017. 'I am not a Post-Developmentalist but . . .' The Influence of Post-Development on Development Studies. Third World Quarterly 28,12: 2719-2734. **e-journal**

Week 7/ March 2: BRICs, Global Economy and Development

At Issue: Impacts of emerging economies (BRICs) on evolution of the International Political Economy and institutions of global economic governance? Have emerging economies (BRICs) been able to propose and advance alternative models of development? What has been the response of leading international development institutions (especially World Bank) to the potential changes to its preferred neoliberal development model?

Required readings:

- M. Kahler. 2013. "Rising Powers and Global Governance: Negotiating Change in a Resilient Status Quo." International Affairs 89 (3): 711-729.
- M. Beeson. 2009. "Comment: Trading Places? China, the United States and the Evolution of the International Political Economy." Review of International Political Economy 16 (4): 729-741. **E-journal**
- R. Wade. 2013. "The Art of Power Maintenance", Challenge 56(1), 5-39. **e-journal**
- C. McNally. 2012. "Sino-Capitalism: China's Reemergence and the International Political Economy." World Politics 64 (4):741-776 **e-journal**

Week 8 – March 9 – Gender and Development

At Issue: *Roots of resilience of gendered economic inequalities; contributions of feminist scholarship to development theory and practice; dynamic of patterns of gender inequalities in the age of neoliberal globalization*

Required:

- L. Beneria, G. Berik, and Maria Floro. 2016. Gender, Development and Globalization: Economics as if all People Mattered. 2nd ed. London and New York: Routledge. (Ch. 1: Gender and Development: A historical Overview" pp. 1-35; if you have the time, peruse Chapter 3: gender and neoliberalism, pp. 93-130) **eBook**
- Andrea Cornwall, Elizabeth Harrison, and Ann Whitehead. 2007. Gender Myths and Feminist Fables: The Struggle for Interpretative Power in Gender and Development. Development and Change 38 (1):1-20.e **-journal**
- S. Dedeoglu. 2014. "Patriarchy Reconsidered: Women's Work in Three Global Commodity Chains of Turkey's Garment Industry", pp. 105-118 in Wilma Dunaway, ed. Gendered Commodity Chains: Seeing Women's Work and Households in Global Perspective. Palo Alto, CA: Stanford Univ. Press. **e-book**
- O. Bandiera and Ashwini Natraj. 2013. "Does Gender Inequality Hinder Development and Economic Growth: Evidence and Policy Implication." World Bank Research Observer 28:2-21 **e-journal**

Week 9/ March 16: Environment, Sustainability and Development

At Issue: *Evolution of thinking and debate on sustainable development; what the core premises and limitations of "green growth"? Must considerations of equity and justice be integral to the pursuit of sustainable development at global and national levels? What are the main obstacles to ensuring environmental equity/justice?*

Required:

- K. Conca and G. Dabelko, eds. 2019. Green Planet Blues: Four Decades of Global Environmental Politics. 6th ed. London: Routledge Press (read pp. 1-12 of K. Conca and G. Dabelko, "Introduction: From Stockholm to Sustainability", J. Castro, chapter 2: Castro, "Environment and Development: The Case for Developing Countries"; P. Dauvergne, Chap. 17: The Problem of Consumption" and J. Stiglitz, Chap. 30, "Inequality and Environmental Policy". e-book
- M. Jakob and O. Edenhofer. 2014. "Green growth, degrowth, and the commons." Oxford Review of Economic Policy 30(3):447-468.

S. Dercon. 2014. "Climate Change, Green Growth and Aid Allocation to poor countries." Oxford Review of Economic Policy 30 (3):531-549. **e-journal**

A. Agarwal and S. Narain. 2015. "Environmental Colonialism: The Perverse Politics of Climate change." Chap. 25 in S. Nicolson and R. Wapier, ed. Global Environmental Politics: From People to Planet. London: Routledge. **e-book**

Week 10/ March 23 Democracy and Development

At Issue: What are the core premises of Sen's advocacy of democracy as a universal value rather than an instrument for economic development? Are democratic regimes better at promoting economic development or not? How successful has the use of development aid to promote development been?

Required:

A Sen. 1999. "Democracy as a Universal Value." Journal of Democracy 10 (3): 3-15 **e-journal**

J. Gerring, P. Bond, W. T. Brandt, and C. Mareno. 2005. "Democracy and Economic Growth: A Historical Perspective." World Politics 57 (3): 323-364. **e-journal**

R. Treux. 2017. "The Myth of the Democratic Advantage." Studies in Comparative International Development 52 (3):261-277 **e-journal**

A. Chua, A. 2003. "The Underside of Western Free Market democracy." Pp 189-210 in World on Fire: How Exporting Free Market Democracy Breeds Ethic Hatred and Global Instability. New York: Anchor Books. **e-journal**

S. Dietrick and J. Wright. 2015. "Foreign Aid Allocation and Democratic Change in Africa." Journal of Politics. 77 (1):216-234. **e-journal**

Week 11/March 30: Aiding Development: Politics and Rhetoric

At Issue: What has been the justification for development aid in the post-ww2? What are the key determinants of patterns of aid allocation? Has foreign aid been beneficial or harmful to the development prospects of recipients? How are emerging aid donors from the global South reshaping the international aid architecture and is this a good or bad thing?

Required:

A. Alesina and D. Dollar. 2000. "Who Gives Foreign Aid to Whom and Why?" Journal of Economic Growth 5(1): 33-63 **e-journal**

N. Woods. 2008. "Whose Aid? Whose Influence? China, Emerging Donors and the Silent Revolution in Development Assistance." International Affairs 84 (6): 1205-1221. **e-journal**

I. Taylor. 2016. "The BRICs in Africa: Agents of Development?" chapter 3 in J. van De Werwe et. al eds. Emerging Powers in Africa: In New Wave of Relation? Palgrave Macmillan **e-book**

E. Mawdsley. 2017. "Development Geography 1: Cooperation, Competition and Convergence between 'North' and 'South,'" Progress in Human Geography 41 (1):108-117. **e-journal**

Week 12: April 6: Empowerment, Participation and Rights Based Approaches to Development

At Issue: *What are the key elements of rights-based approach(es) to development? What evidence do we have that rights-based approaches are effective at achieving their objectives? what are the tradeoffs associated with a rights-based approach and do they effectively incorporate concerns for justice with concerns for economic growth?*

Required:

Varun Gauri and Siri Gloppen, "Human Rights-Based Approaches to Development: Concepts, Evidence, and Policy," Polity, 44(4), October 2012, pp. 485-503 **e-journal**

Susanna D. Wing, "Human Rights-Based Approaches to Development: Justice and Legal Fiction in Africa," Polity, 44(4), October 2012, pp. 504-522 **e-journal**

Paul Farmer. 2003. "Rethinking Health and Human Rights: Time for a Paradigm Shift," pp. 213-246 in Pathologies of Power: Health, Human Rights and the New War on the Poor. Berkeley: Univ. of California Press. **e-book**

Andrea Cornwall and Karen Brock. 2005., "What do Buzzwords do for Development Policy? A critical look at 'participation', 'empowerment' and 'poverty reduction'," Third World Quarterly, 26(7), 2005, pp. 1043-1060 **e-journal**