

POL447H
POLITICAL ECONOMY OF DEVELOPMENT
WINTER 2022

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Class Time: Tuesdays 10-12

Location: OISE (OI) 4426

Office Hours: Tuesday 1-2PM or Virtual by Prior Arrangement

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. 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 insights and certainties as well as doubts.

The reading requirement for this course is **moderate**. You are expected to complete all the required readings prior to each session. All readings are available electronically either as links through the library's website or as PDFs. You can locate the electronic links and PDF files under library resources on the course page in Quercus.

There will be no lectures. I will occasionally spend a few minutes introducing the main themes of weekly session. 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 10 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 25)** and the first weekly reaction papers are due on January 17 for readings for Session 2 (**January 18**)

3. **Course Delivery Mode**

The first three sessions of this course (January 11, 18 and 25) will be online. 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.

Whether the course will continue online or in-person after January 31 will be determined by yet-to-be announced university policy.

4. **Course requirements**

Attendance and Participation 20%
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 your 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 **4PM** on the day 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 on time 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.

Thematic Position Paper (Due February 15)**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 (Due March 08)**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 conceptual/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 (Due April 05)**35%**

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.

5. Note on Plagiarism

The University of Toronto treats cases of academic misconduct very seriously. All suspected cases of academic dishonesty will be investigated following the procedures outlined in the relevant Code. The consequences for academic misconduct can be severe, including a failure in the course and a notation on your transcript. If you have any questions about what is or is not permitted in this course, please do not hesitate to contact the course instructor. If you are having questions about appropriate research and citation methods, seek out additional information from me, or from other available campus resources like the U of T Writing Website. If you are experiencing personal challenges that are having an impact on your academic work, please speak to me or seek the advice of your college registrar.

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>.

Ouriginal: “Normally, students will be required to submit their course essays via Ouriginal (integrated into Quercus) 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 Ouriginal reference database, where they will be used solely for the purpose of detecting plagiarism. If you object to using Ouriginal you must contact the relevant course instructor well ahead of time (i.e. at least three weeks before your essay is due) to establish appropriate alternative arrangements for submission of your written assignments. This will involve devising alternative methods for verifying the originality of your work, likely including submitting rough work along with your essay and having a brief interview about the work with the relevant instructor.

The terms that apply to the University’s use of **Ouriginal** are described on the [Centre for Teaching Support & Innovation web site.](#)”

6. 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.

7. COVID-19 Etiquette and Safety Measures

According to U of T policy, face masks have to be worn in indoor spaces on campus. If you do not have an official exemption and refuse to do so, you will be asked to leave the class room or any other in-person meeting space for protection of you and others.

8. Late penalty:

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

9. Submission of written work

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

10. 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 electronic format through University of Toronto Libraries and can be accessed via library resources on the course page on Quercus.

WEEKLY TOPICS AND READINGS

Week 1/January 11: Introduction

Course introduction: Organization, requirements, and logistics

Week 2/ January 18: 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.

A. Thomas . 2021. “Chapter 3: Meanings and Views of Development” in. A. Thomas. And T. Allen. eds. Poverty and Development in the 21st Century. 3rd ed. Oxford Univ. Press

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

Week 3/ January 25: Historical Legacies and Challenge of Development

At Issue: *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:

Frank, F. 1966. “The Development of Underdevelopment,” Monthly Review 18 (4):17-31

Acemoglu, D., S. Johnson & J. Robinson. 2001. “The Colonial Origins of Comparative Development,” American Economic Review 91 (5): 1369-1401.

Nunn, N. 2007. “Historical Legacies: A Model linking Africa’s past to its Current Underdevelopment” Journal of Development Economics 83 (1): 157-175.

Week 4/ February 1: Post-War International 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:

Williams, D. 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

Harris, J. 2014. "Development Theories" in B. Currie-Adler et al. ed. International Development: Ideas, Experience and Prospects. Oxford University Press/Oxford Scholarship
Horner, R. and D. Hulme. 2017. "From International Development to Global Development: New Geographies of 21st Century Development." Development and Change 50 (2): 347-378.

Week 5- February 8: State Forms, 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:

Kerstenetzky, 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
Stubbs, R. 2017. "The Origins of East Asia's Developmental State and Pressures for Change." Chapter 2 in Carrol, T. and D. Jarvis, ed. Asia after the Developmental State. Cambridge: Cambridge University
Hayashi, S. 2017. "Globalisation and Development: The Evolving Idea of the Developmental State." Chap 3 in T. Carrol and D. Jarvis, ed. Asia after the Developmental State. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press.
T. Mkandawire 2001. "Thinking about Developmental States in Africa," Cambridge Journal of Economics 25 (3): 289-314.

Week 6/ February 15: Deconstructing Development Discourse and Practice: Post-Development/Anti-Development/Alternative Development

At Issue: Core premises of post-development/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.
D. Simon. 2007. "Beyond anti-development: discourses, convergence and practice," Singapore Journal of Tropical Geography 28 (2):205-218.
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.

February 23: Reading Week, No Class

Week 7/ March 1: BRICS, Global Economic Governance and Development

At Issue: *How have emerging economies (BRICS) impacted the 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 to their potential challenges to the neoliberal development model?*

Required readings:

Kahler, M. 2013. "Rising Powers and Global Governance: Negotiating Change in a Resilient Status Quo." International Affairs 89 (3): 711-729.

McNally, C. 2020. "Chaotic Melange: Neo-liberalism and Neo-statism in the age of Sino-Capitalism." Review of international Political Economy. 27 (2): 281-301.

Beeson, M. and J. Zeng. 2018. "The BRICS and global governance: China's contradictory role." Third World Quarterly 39 (10): 1962-1978.

Güven, A. B. 2017. Defending supremacy: How the IMF and the World Bank navigate the challenge of rising powers. International Affairs 93(5): 1149–1166

Week 8 – March 8 – 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:

Beneria, L., 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)

Dedeoglu, S. 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.

Bandiera, O. and Ashwini Natraj. 2013. "Does Gender Inequality Hinder Development and Economic Growth: Evidence and Policy Implication." World Bank Research Observer 28:2-21.

Kabeer, N. 2018. "Women's Work and the Politics of Claims Making: the local and the global." Development and Change. 49 (3): 759-789.

Week 9/ March 15: 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 at global level?*

Required:

Conca, J. and G. Dabelko, eds. 2019. Green Planet Blues: Four Decades of Global Environmental Politics. 6th ed. London: Routledge (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."

Jakob, M. and O. Edenhofer. 2014. "Green growth, degrowth, and the commons." Oxford Review of Economic Policy 30(3):447-468.

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

Agarwal, A. 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 Person to Planet. London: Routledge.

Kallis, G. and F. Demaria and G. d'Elisa, eds. 2015. "Introduction" in Degrowth: A Vocabulary for a New Era. Routledge.

Week 10/ March 22 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:

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

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

Treux, R. 2017. "The Myth of the Democratic Advantage." Studies in Comparative International

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

Edozie, R. K 2021. "Neoliberal Democracy versus Neoliberal Authoritarianism: Capitalism and Democracy's Global Contest in the Twenty-First century." Chap. 5 in G. Crawford and A-G.

Abdulai, eds. Research Handbook on Democracy and Development. Northampton, MA: Edward Elgar Publishing.

Week 11/March 29: 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:

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

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

Morvaridi, B. and C. Hughes. 2018. "South-South Cooperation and Neoliberal Hegemony in Post-aid World." Development and Change. 49 (3): 867-892.

Mawdsley, E. 2018. "Southern Leaders, Northern Followers? Who has socialized whom in International Development." pp. 191-204 in E. Fiddin Oasmiyeh and P. Daley, ed. Routledge Handbook of South-South Relations. London: Routledge

Week 12: April 5: Human 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:

Gauri, V. and S. Gloppen, 2012. "Human Rights-Based Approaches to Development: Concepts, Evidence, and Policy," Polity, 44(4): 485-503

Wing, S. 2012. "Human Rights-Based Approaches to Development: Justice and Legal Fiction in Africa," Polity, 44(4): 504-522

Nelson, P. and E. Dorsey. 2018. "Who Practices a Rights Based Approach to Development?: A Progress Report on Work at the Nexus of Human Rights and Development." World Development. 104 97-107.

Oestrich, J. 2020. "Headwinds and tailwinds in the human rights approach to development: a regime theory perspective." Journal of Human Rights. 19 (4): 449-463