The University of Toronto  
Faculty of Arts and Science, Department of Political Science  
POL 201H1 (F) Politics of Development: Issues and Controversies, S2021 (Online)

Professor: Abbas Gnamo, Ph.D.  
Place: SS 1072  
Office: Rm. 3062 SSH (Meeting is virtual)  
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Course Description

This course seeks to introduce students to the politics of development of the Global South (Latin America, Oceania, Africa, and Asia) from WWII to the present. It attempts to provide a balanced mix of current issues and structural problems of developing countries and theoretical and practical approaches to development. It explains the idea of “development”, its ideological roots and how the various theoretical models have shaped both “Third World” strategies of development and the way we think about that part of the globe. As part of that, we will examine the role of development assistance and neo-liberal reform in the global south. It will focus on the socio-economic and political development broadly defined and specific challenges developing nations face including, not limited to, the politics of regime change, democratization, civil/ethnonational conflicts, environmental sustainability, and globalization.

Required Readings

All the required readings are available electronically and accessed via Quercus under Course Reserve. Instructions for accessing the readings can also be found in the “Course Materials” section of the course page on Blackboard.

Course Format and Requirements

The course is fully taught and managed online. Students are expected to have basic tools including reliable internet access and a webcam to follow lectures delivered virtually. Writing tests and submitting essays and getting access to posted lectures, videos and other important info and course reserves require internet access. Some participation in virtual tutorial discussion/chats will be expected and the modality will be determined.

The course requirements or the evaluation criteria are as follows:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Requirements</th>
<th>Evaluation</th>
<th>Due date</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>First Term Test</td>
<td>25%</td>
<td>June 11, 2021</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Research Proposal (5pp)</td>
<td>15%</td>
<td>May 20 2020</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Research Essay (11-12pp)</td>
<td>25%</td>
<td>June 15, 2021</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Final Test</td>
<td>25%</td>
<td>June 22-26 (TBA)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Tutorial/Participation</td>
<td>10%</td>
<td>Virtual</td>
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</table>
Late penalty: 1% per day

**e-website – Quercus**

Logging in to your Quercus Course Website

Like many other courses, POL201 uses Quercus for its course website. This website plays a central role in the functioning of the course as the course is now offered online. You are therefore strongly advised to visit it frequently as all readings, lectures, and other important information are made available. It is also through Quercus you submit your assignments and tests. Important administrative and other announcements and updates will be posted on it regularly, and it will feature links to documents and required for the course. You must ensure that your e-mail address on ROSI is a utoronto e-mail address; otherwise you may not receive important information we send via the website. We may use other means of communication and you will be notified.

To access the POL201 website, or any other Blackboard-based course website, go to the UofT portal login page at [http://portal.utoronto.ca](http://portal.utoronto.ca) and log in using your UTORId and password. Once you have logged in to the portal using your UTORId and password, look for the My Courses module, where you’ll find the link to the POL201 course website along with the link to all your other Quercus based courses.

**Please note:** Assignment grading will follow the University of Toronto’s grading regulations as outlined in the Arts and Science 2006/2007 course calendar ([www.artsandscience.utoronto.ca/ofr/calendar](http://www.artsandscience.utoronto.ca/ofr/calendar)). Assignments are due at the beginning of class. A penalty of 3% per working day will be applied to all late assignments up until a maximum of ten late days, after which late papers will not be accepted except under exceptional circumstances. Assignments will also not be accepted via email. Late assignments should be delivered to the receptionist’s office (Room 3018, Sidney Smith Hall) to be date stamped. Students are strongly advised to keep draft work and hard copies of their essays. These should be kept until the marked assignments have been returned. Any medical-based assignment extension requests or make-up term test requests will require an official Student Medical Certificate and will require advance notice ([www.utoronto.ca/health/forms/medcert.pdf](http://www.utoronto.ca/health/forms/medcert.pdf)).

**Note:** There will be only one make-up test in each case. Only those with a valid, documented reason for missing the mid-term test will be allowed to write a make-up test. It is the student's responsibility to ascertain the date and place of the make-up test. Late penalties on essay may be reduced (but not necessarily eliminated) upon presentation of medical documentation. For full elimination of the late penalty the student must show evidence of a protracted medical condition that has affected his/her performance over the course of 3-4 weeks.

**Plagiarism**

Plagiarism is a most serious academic offense, and the offender will be punished. In the academy where the currency of the realm is ideas, to cite someone else’s words or thinking without due attribution is theft. It is not sufficient merely to list your sources in the bibliography or to use only footnotes. You must ensure that you identify and attribute all your sources in text, whether
you are quoting them directly or paraphrasing them – and every time you cite someone verbatim, you MUST indicate this using quotation marks.

According to the University’s Code of Behavior on Academic Matters, it shall be an offence for a student knowingly:

a) to forge or in any way alter or falsify any document or evidence required for admission to the University, or to utter, circulate or make use of any such forged, altered or falsified document, whether the record be in print or electronic form;
b) to use or possess an unauthorized aid or aids or obtain unauthorized assistance in any academic examination or term test or in connection with any other form of academic work;
c) to personate another person, or to have another person personate, at any academic examination or term test or in connection with any other form of academic work;
d) to represent as one’s own any idea or expression of an idea or work of another in any academic examination or term test or in connection with any other form of academic work;
e) to submit, without the knowledge and approval of the instructor to whom it is submitted, any academic work for which credit has previously been obtained or is being sought in another course or program of study in the University or elsewhere;
f) to submit for credit any academic work containing a purported statement of fact or reference to a source which has been concocted.

For further information on plagiarism and how to avoid it, please refer to the University’s policy at www.utoronto.ca/writing/plagsep.html.

Students are strongly encouraged to explore the numerous resources available at the “Writing at the University of Toronto” website at www.utoronto.ca/writing.

Turnitin.com

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 the purpose of detecting plagiarism. The terms that apply to the University’s use of the Turnitin.com service are described on the Turnitin.com website.

If, as a student, you object to using Turnitin.com, an alternative arrangement for the submission of your written assignment will be made available. You will be required to do all of the following: 1) meet the instructor for a brief interview about the research process prior to the assignment due date, 2) submit all your rough work and notes with your assignment, and 3) submit an electronic copy of your essay to the head teaching assistant (in addition to a hard copy) by e-mail (TBA)(utoronto.ca) with the course identifier [POL 201] in the subject line.

Please follow the instructions on how to set up a Turnitin.com account, enroll in the course and submit a paper in the “Turnitin.com guide for students” available on the course website.

Note that all students (including those using Turnitin and those not) are required to submit a hard copy of their assignment (whether or not it is submitted late) and that, for the purposes of calculating a late penalty, it will be the hard copy, and NOT the one submitted to Turnitin.com that counts. Those using Turnitin MUST attach a printout of the Turnitin.com
receipt to the hard copy of their assignment, indicating that they have already submitted the electronic copy of the assignment.

**Evaluation Criteria for Written Work**

1) *Level of Style and Organization*: Your work must be completely free of grammatical, spelling and typographical errors. References can be in any style but the same format must be used consistently and they must be accurate. The organization of the paper should assist the reader by providing a readily understandable presentation of background information, research findings, analysis and conclusions.

2) *Adequacy of the Research*: Your findings should be derived from thorough research. Your work should be free of major factual errors or unsupported and/or undocumented assertions. You should link your findings to those of other scholars and draw meaningful conclusions based on your evidence.

3) *Cogency of the Argument*: Your written work should have a clear focus and an argument that is logically constructed. Your analysis should display understanding of the topic and originality of thought.

**Assignment Guidelines**

Attendance and Participation Students are expected to attend all classes and tutorial sessions and complete the assigned readings before they are discussed in class. Student participation and discussion will be actively encouraged in both the lectures and tutorials in particular. Students will be expected to present their research findings in tutorial session. The TA will give further information about the organization of tutorial session. The participation grade will be based on tutorial attendance and performance.

**Term Test and exams**

The Mid-Term test will be held during regular class hours whereas the final test will take place in the last class of the course (June 11th for the midterm test and August 13th for the final test). The tests will include a mix of short answer and essay questions and will test your familiarity with the lecture material and reading assignments as well as your ability to apply what you have learned.

**Research Proposal**

The purpose of this assignment is to provide you with instructor feedback during the preparation of your research essay. The proposal is also intended to assist you in selecting your essay question, locating sources and organizing your ideas in a timely fashion. Research proposals should be between 4-5 double-spaced pages (not including the bibliography and the cover page). Proposals should: a) identify your selected question; b) outline what other scholars have said or found on the topic; c) identify the limitations of other treatments of the subject and how your research will fill an existing gap in the literature; d) outline your basic argument;
and c) explain what kinds of data you will gather to support your argument. You should also attach a one-page proposed bibliography to your proposal.

**Research Essay**

Please choose one of the posted essay topics to be posted under Assignment on May 10, 2020. No alternative topic or country case will be permitted. The final essay should be between 11-12 double-spaced pages (excluding the bibliography and the cover page). Ensure that you state your argument in the introduction, support your assertions with evidence (citing any contrary views or evidence as relevant) and conclude by summarizing your findings and outlining any questions or avenues that may require future research.

You must cite sources either in footnotes, endnotes or embedded in the text and provide a bibliography. A research essay of this length should draw upon at least 9-10 academic sources. Please note that you must incorporate a minimum of two sources maximum five maximum from the course syllabus in your essay. And remember, if you use another author's words, you must enclose them in quotes and cite the source. If you use another author's ideas directly or indirectly, you must cite the source.

**Guidelines for Essay Writing**

1. You should use consistently one recognized system for citing references (in either footnotes, endnotes, or in-text citations) and your paper should conclude with a bibliography that cites, in full, all of the sources that you refer to in your essay. You are advised not to artificially “pad” your bibliography with sources that you did not actually consult.

2. Pay careful attention to the appropriateness of your sources, particularly web-based ones. Note that “Wikipedia,” for example, is NOT considered an appropriate source for an academic paper.

3. Read carefully and observe the advice contained in this syllabus regarding plagiarism and assignment format. Your TA will also be happy to provide guidance at any point prior to the submission of your work as to what constitutes plagiarism and how to avoid it.

4. You may not submit the same or very similar papers to two separate university courses unless you receive in advance the consent of both course instructors.

5. Pay particular attention to the organization of your ideas and to the clarity and quality of your writing. Ensure that you preview your argument or thesis in the introduction to your paper, that you support that argument in the body of your paper with appropriate evidence (citing any contrary views or evidence as relevant) and that you conclude by summarizing your findings, considering their implications and/or suggesting what questions remain unanswered.

**Extensions and medical notes**

Only valid and documented reasons (such as severe illness or the death of a close relative) will be accepted for late submissions of assignments or for requesting to write a make-up test. This must be submitted within one week of the test or assignment date and it should be submitted
on the official UofT Medical Note form. Note also, “Only 5 groups are permitted to sign this form - physicians, surgeons, nurse practitioners, dentists, clinical psychologists - and only regarding matters within the scope of their practice”.

If you foresee difficulties in meeting the deadline AND you have documentation, please contact the teaching assistant as soon as possible. Do not wait until the due date has passed to contact him/her. Please note that, while valid documentation may result in the reduction of a late penalty, it does not guarantee that the penalty will be entirely eliminated.

Requests due to work overload (either university-related or extra-curricular) will not be accepted. Please be advised that computer problems (such as crashes, viruses, corrupted disks, etc.) will NOT be accepted as grounds for extensions. Make sure you back up your work in reliable media often and avoid leaving work to the last minute to prevent problems.

Late papers must be submitted to the Department of Political Science main office on the 3rd floor of Sidney Smith Hall during business hours. You must ensure that the paper is dated and stamped. You should never attempt to submit your paper by leaving it under an instructor’s office door or sending it by e-mail or fax.

More helpful information

1. All undergraduate students taking summer courses in the Faculty of Arts and Science are eligible to use any of the five college writing centres that remain open in the summer: Innis College, New College, University College, Victoria College and Woodsworth College Writing Centres. Students may book up to TWO appointments per week. For information about writing centre appointments in the summer session, they may visit http://writing.utoronto.ca/news. To learn more about how writing centres work, they may visit http://www.writing.utoronto.ca/writing-centres/learning.

2. More than 60 Advice files on all aspects of academic writing are available from www.writing.utoronto.ca/advice. Students benefit from your recommendation of specific material relevant to your course and assignments. Printable PDF versions are listed at www.writing.utoronto.ca/about-this-site/pdf-links.

Please read carefully, "How Not to Plagiarize" and other advice on documentation format and methods of integrating sources. These pages are all listed at www.writing.utoronto.ca/advice/using-sources.

3. Information about the English Language Learning program (ELL) is available at http://www.artsci.utoronto.ca/current/advising/ell. The non-credit August course ELL010H will take enrolment via ROSI starting in mid to late July. For more information, please contact the ELL Coordinator Leora Freedman at leora.freedman@utoronto.ca.

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CLASS SCHEDULE AND ASSIGNED READINGS

May 4 (Tuesday): Introduction to the course

Part I: The politics of development in global and comparative perspective

I. The Meaning of Development

May 6 (Thursday): The Making of Three Worlds of Development


May 11 (Tuesday): Colonialism, and Neocolonialism and Decolonization


May 13 (Tuesday): The Theory of development: modernization and dependency


May 18 (Tuesday): Theories of development II (the role of the state and the rise of East Asia)


May 20 (Thursday) Debating the role of Foreign Aid in International Development

May 25 (Tuesday) Contagious Disease and Global Health


June 1 (Tuesday): Mid-term Test

May 27 (Tuesday): Multilateral institutions, the debt crisis, Neo-liberalism, and post Washington Consensus


In class movie: Life and Debt

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June 1 (Tuesday) Ethnicity and Ethnic Conflict


June 3 (Thursday): Authoritarian regimes and democratic transitions in the


June 8 (Tuesday): The politics of sustainable development and global Environment


June 10 (Tuesday): Democracy, Human Rights and Development


In class movie: Hacking Democracy

June 15 (Thursday): The debate about globalization


June 17 - 28 Final Assessment