
DEPARTMENT OF POLITICAL SCIENCE—UNIVERSITY OF WISCONSIN-MADISON

PS 652—THE POLITICS OF DEVELOPMENT—FALL 2008

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Office hours: Wednesdays 2-5 and by appointment

Class: Monday, Wednesday, Friday • 8:50-9:40 • Science 360

PURPOSE OF THE COURSE

Why some countries are rich while others remain poor? The purpose of this course is to introduce students to the main debates around this central question in the study of the politics of development

The course begins by looking at a lively debate between scholars over what development means. We then move on to influential theories of why some countries are rich and others poor. It is essential to understand these theories given their influence on decision-makers in the past and today. The third part of the course focuses on contemporary debates in the study of the politics of development: does democracy help or hinder development? Is foreign aid good or bad for encouraging economic growth? And perhaps most troubling for political scientists, does geography matter more than politics for explaining a country's level of development?

As students will soon find out, there is no one simple solution, no easy answers. Political economists, policymakers, policy advisors, and citizens do not agree on many aspects of development. It is of utmost importance, therefore, to develop a critical eye towards everything that is presented as given. (This includes what your lecturer tells you.) Critically evaluate what is presented to you: be constantly aware of the assumptions that each author holds and question the quality and appropriateness of the data that the author employs.

On completion of this course, students will be able to:

1. Explain the different ways in which we can conceive of "development"
2. Critically evaluate the strengths and weaknesses of competing explanations for economic growth
3. Write a paper on a topic of real-world significance that presents an original argument based on solid empirical research
4. Present their research in front of their peers and in turn give their peers constructive feedback

READINGS

The following have been ordered at the Underground Textbook Exchange. They are also available on reserve at College Library.

Amartya Sen. 1999. *Development as Freedom*. New York NY: Oxford University Press. ISBN 0385720270. **College Reserve HD75 S455 2000**

Jeffrey Sachs. 2005. *The End of Poverty: Economic Possibilities for Our Time*. New York, NY: Penguin Press. ISBN 0143036580 **College Reserve HC59.72 P6 S225**

William Easterly. 2001. *The Elusive Quest for Growth: Economists' Adventures and Misadventures in the Tropics*. Cambridge, MA: MIT Press. ISBN 026255042 **College Reserve HC59.72 P6 E17** either year is fine.

Other readings in this syllabus are available online or through electronic reserve. Go to my.wisc.edu and log in. Click on the tab Academics. Look under Course Resources to locate the course under P for Political Science. Click Library/Reserves to access the electronic readings.

COURSE REQUIREMENTS

Participation (class attendance, quality of contribution)	15%	
Midterm exam	25%	Oct. 17, 2008
Response papers (2 x 10% each)	20%	
Research paper	30%	Proposal due Oct. 3, 2008 Draft due Nov. 24, 2008 Final due Dec. 17, 2008, 4:45pm
Conference presentation and participation	10%	
Total	100%	

Participation (15%) – Students are expected to come with a list of questions, thoughts, and observations on the readings. Respect for your classmates, for guest lecturers and for me is crucial in creating a comfortable learning environment. Cell phone use (talking or texting) is not permitted during class.

Develop Country Expertise – Each student will become our class expert for one developing country of their choosing. You will think about how each topic and the readings speak to your country. You will follow news on your country throughout the semester at one or several of the following sources:

 www.economist.com/

 <http://news.bbc.co.uk/>

 <http://nytimes.com>

 <http://www.ft.com/home/us>

 <http://www.pbs.org/newshour/>

 www.guardianweekly.co.uk/

Developing a country expertise may help you formulate your research paper. Be warned that to help encourage participation, I will call on students for their country expertise.

Midterm (25%) – The midterm will cover material for the first half of the course. It will consist of a combination of multiple choice, short answer and longer essay questions. It is expected that you will refer to readings in the essay portion of the exam.

Response papers (2 x 10%) – You will write two response papers during the second half of the course on two of the readings on the syllabus from two separate weeks of your choosing. These are typically around 3 pages long; they should (1) summarize the core contention of the paper and then (2) critique the assumptions, data and conclusions. You will (3) indicate whether this paper contributes valuable new information, and if not, (4) give suggestions as to how to improve the reading. The best response papers will situate the reading within the larger course and add relevant empirical data to support or decry the value of the reading. These reports can easily be the basis of your research paper.

Research Paper (30%) – Students will submit a 2,500-3,000 (10-12 pages double spaced) paper related to the politics of development. This paper will present and support an original argument. Guidelines for the assignment will be handed out in class. A one-page proposal for the paper is due on October 3. The proposal will state the topic of the paper and provide an initial bibliography. All research paper topics MUST be approved this way, though it will not be graded.

You will submit a draft of your paper to me on or by class time November 24, 2008. You will be penalized if the draft is turned in after class on Nov. 24. This draft will be assigned an initial grade based on its merits. The final version of your paper is due in my mailbox by December 17, 2008, 4:45pm. If you make the necessary improvements to your draft, your final grade for the paper may go up a grade. E.g., If you receive a BC on your draft, you may receive a B for the final version provided that the paper merits a B.

Students are expected to complete all assignments on time. Late assignments will be penalized one grade a day (an A paper would receive an AB, and AB paper a B, etc.). An extension will not be granted without a valid written medical excuse. Should a grading dispute arise, students are asked to provide me with a one page memo detailing why they believe the grade to be incorrect. Students will submit a copy

of the graded paper or exam along with the memo. Note that a re-grade means that their new grade may end up being higher or lower, depending on my assessment.

Conference presentation and participation (10%) – You will present your research paper to your classmates for their feedback.

Academic Honesty – When we use other people’s ideas (which is what we all do when writing papers; it is part of contributing to existing knowledge), we are required to give credit where credit is due. If you are caught cheating or plagiarizing (which I can use software to detect), you will fail the course. I want you to email, call or see me if you have any doubts about whether to cite someone’s work. For further information, consult www.wisc.edu/writing/Handbook/QPA_plagiarism.html.

Office Hours – Come to office hours! My office hours are Wednesdays, 2-5pm and by appointment. I enjoy teaching and especially getting to know the students on an individual basis, so I like receiving students during office hours. We can go over any questions one-on-one (e.g., help brainstorm topics for your research paper).

Students with disabilities that would affect their work for this course, see me early in the semester!

Let’s have a great class!

PART I. DEBATING THE MEANING OF DEVELOPMENT

Week 1 Introduction

Wed, September 3 Course Mechanics

Fri, September 5

Jeffrey Sachs. 2005. *The End of Poverty: Economic Possibilities for Our Time*. New York, NY: Penguin Press. Acknowledgements, Foreword by Bono, Preface, Introduction, and Chapters 1 and 2.

Week 2 Defining Development

Mon, September 8

Amartya Sen. 1999. *Development as Freedom*, Preface, Chapters 1, 2 and 8 (Women).
Read about the Human Development Index at <http://hdr.undp.org/en/statistics/indices/hdi/>

Wed, September 10

Arturo Escobar. 1995. *Encountering Development: The Making and Unmaking of the Third World*. Princeton, NJ: Princeton University Press.
Chapter 2, “The Problematization of Poverty”.
[EReserve]

Amartya Sen. 1999. *Development as Freedom*, Chapter 11, “Social Choice and Individual Behavior”.

Fri, September 10

Ronald Inglehart, Roberto Foa, Christopher Peterson, and Christian Welzel. 2008.
“Development, Freedom, and Rising Happiness,” *Perspectives on Psychological Science* 3, 4: 264-85.

http://margaux.grandvinum.se/SebTest/wvs/SebTest/wvs/articles/folder_published/article_base_107/files/Happiness.%20PSS.pdf



PART II. THEORETICAL DEBATES ON ECONOMIC GROWTH

Week 3 Modernization Theory of Growth

Mon, September 15

W.W. Rostow. 1959. The Stages of Economic Growth. *The Economic History Review* 12 (1): 1-16.
<http://www.jstor.org/stable/pdfplus/2591077.pdf>

Wed, September 17

Jim Granato, Ronald Inglehart and David Leblang. 1996. The Effect of Cultural Values on Economic Development: Theory, Hypotheses, and Some Empirical Tests. *American Journal of Political Science* 40 (3): 607-31. <http://www.jstor.org/stable/pdfplus/2111786.pdf>
[http://www.jstor.org/sici?sici=0092-5853\(199608\)40:3%3C607:TEOCVO%3E2.0.CO;2-2](http://www.jstor.org/sici?sici=0092-5853(199608)40:3%3C607:TEOCVO%3E2.0.CO;2-2)

Fri, September 19

Robert Jackman and Ross Miller. 1996. A Renaissance of Political Culture? *American Journal of Political Science* 40 (3): 632-59. <http://www.jstor.org/stable/pdfplus/2111787.pdf>
[http://www.jstor.org/sici?sici=0003-0554\(198812\)82%3A4%3C1203%3ATROP C%3E2.0.CO%3B2-4](http://www.jstor.org/sici?sici=0003-0554(198812)82%3A4%3C1203%3ATROP C%3E2.0.CO%3B2-4)

Amartya Sen. 1999. *Development as Freedom*, Preface, Chapter 10 "Culture and Human Rights"

Week 4 Dependency Theory of Growth

Mon. September 22

Theotonio dos Santos. 1970. The Structure of Dependence. *American Economic Review* 60 (2): 231-6. <http://www.jstor.org/stable/pdfplus/1815811.pdf>
[http://www.jstor.org/sici?sici=0002-8282\(197005\)60%3A2%3C231%3ATSOD%3E2.0.CO%3B2-9](http://www.jstor.org/sici?sici=0002-8282(197005)60%3A2%3C231%3ATSOD%3E2.0.CO%3B2-9)

Wed September 24

Tony Smith. 1979. The Underdevelopment of Development Literature: The Case of Development Theory. *World Politics* 31 (2): 247-288. <http://www.jstor.org/stable/pdfplus/2009944.pdf>
[http://www.jstor.org/sici?sici=0043-8871\(197901\)31%3A2%3C247%3ATUODLT%3E2.0.CO%3B2-1](http://www.jstor.org/sici?sici=0043-8871(197901)31%3A2%3C247%3ATUODLT%3E2.0.CO%3B2-1)

Andres Velasco. 2002. Dependency Theory. *Foreign Policy* 133 (November-December): 44-45.
http://www.cid.harvard.edu/cidinthenews/articles/FP_11-1202.pdf

Fri. September 26

Robert Bates. 1998. *Open-Economy Politics: The Political Economy of the World Coffee Trade*. Princeton, NJ: Princeton University Press. [EReserve]

Week 5 Statist Approaches to Growth

Mon. September 29

Peter Evans. 1995. *Embedded Autonomy: States and Industrial Transformation*. Princeton, NJ: Princeton University Press. [EReserve]

Wed. October 1

Werner Baer. 1972. Import Substitution and Industrialization in Latin America: Experiences and Interpretations. *Latin American Research Review* 7 (1): 95-122.
<http://www.jstor.org/stable/pdfplus/2502457.pdf>
[http://www.jstor.org/sici?sici=0023-8791\(197221\)7:1%3C95:ISAIL%3E2.0.CO%3B2-D](http://www.jstor.org/sici?sici=0023-8791(197221)7:1%3C95:ISAIL%3E2.0.CO%3B2-D)

Fri. October 3 ** One-page proposals due **

Robert Wade. 1989. What Can Economics Learn from East Asian Success? *Annals of the American Academy of Political and Social Science* 505: 68-79.

<http://www.jstor.org/stable/pdfplus/1047278.pdf>

[http://www.jstor.org/sici?sici=0002-7162\(198909\)505%3C68%3AWCE LFE%3E2.0.CO%3B2-Z](http://www.jstor.org/sici?sici=0002-7162(198909)505%3C68%3AWCE LFE%3E2.0.CO%3B2-Z)

Week 6 Neoliberal Approaches to Growth**Mon. October 6**

Marion Fourcade-Gourinchas and Sarah Babb. 2002. "The Rebirth of the Liberal Creed". *American Journal of Sociology*, vol. 108(3): 533-579. http://sociology.berkeley.edu/faculty/fourcade-gourinchas/pdf/AJS_Final.pdf

Optional:

Thomas Biersteker. 1995. The "Triumph" of Liberal Economic Ideas in the Developing World". In *Global Change, Regional Response: The New International Context of Development*, Barbara Stallings (Ed.), Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, pp. 174-196. [EReserve]

Wed. October 8 Case Study: Jamaica

Richard Bernal. 1985. The IMF and Class Struggle in Jamaica , 1977 -1980. *Latin American Perspectives* 11 (3): 53-82. <http://www.jstor.org/stable/pdfplus/2633290>

[http://www.jstor.org/sici?sici=0094-582X\(198422\)11%3A3%3C53%3ATIACS I%3E2.0.CO%3B2-K](http://www.jstor.org/sici?sici=0094-582X(198422)11%3A3%3C53%3ATIACS I%3E2.0.CO%3B2-K)

Optional:

Randall W. Stone, "The Political Economy of IMF Lending in Africa," *American Political Science Review* 98:4 (November 2004): 577-591. <http://www.jstor.org/stable/pdfplus/4145326>

http://journals.cambridge.org/download.php?file=%2FPSR%2FPSR98_04%2FS000305540404136Xa.pdf&code=169c18c001ee17791d84a553e6b92ef1

Friday, October 10 Documentary: Of Life and Debt

Week 7

Monday, October 13 Documentary: Of Life and Debt

Wed, October 15 Discussion: Of Life and Debt

**** MIDTERM: Friday, October 17, in class ****

PART III. CONTEMPORARY DEBATES**Week 8 Can Aid Spur Economic Growth?****Mon, October 20**

Jeffrey Sachs. 2005. *The End of Poverty: Economic Possibilities for Our Time*. New York, NY: Penguin Press. Chapters 3, 4, 6 (Poland)

Wed, October 22

The End of Poverty Chapters 11, 12, 13

Fri, October 24

The End of Poverty Chapters 14, 15, 16

Week 9**Mon, October 27**

William Easterly. 2001. *The Elusive Quest for Growth: Economists' Adventures and Misadventures in the Tropics*. Cambridge, MA: MIT Press. Chapters 2 and 3

Wednesday, October 29

The Elusive Quest for Growth Chapters 4-7

Friday, October 31

The Elusive Quest for Growth Chapters 11-12

James Ferguson. 1994. *The Anti-Politics Machine: 'Development', Depoliticization, and Bureaucratic Power in Lesotho*. University of Minnesota Press. [EReserves]

Optional:

William Easterly. 2006. "The Future of Western Assistance" in *The White Man's Burden*. [EReserve]

Week 10 What is the Impact of Democracy on Development?**Monday, November 3**

Amartya Sen. 1999. *Development as Freedom*, Preface, Chapter 6. "The Importance of Democracy" and Chapter 7 "Famines and Other Crises"

Adam Przeworski and F. Limonge. 1993. Political Regimes and Economic Growth. *Journal of Economic Perspectives* 7 (Summer): 51-69. <http://www.jstor.org/stable/pdfplus/2138442.pdf>
[http://www.jstor.org/sici?sici=0895-3309\(199322\)7%3A3%3C51%3APRAEG%3E2.0.CO%3B2-L](http://www.jstor.org/sici?sici=0895-3309(199322)7%3A3%3C51%3APRAEG%3E2.0.CO%3B2-L)

Optional:

Olson, Mancur (1993) "Dictatorship, Democracy, and Development", *American Political Science Review* 87 (3): 567-576.

[http://www.jstor.org/sici?sici=0003-0554\(199309\)87:3%3C567:DDAD%3E2.0.CO:2-H](http://www.jstor.org/sici?sici=0003-0554(199309)87:3%3C567:DDAD%3E2.0.CO:2-H)

Wednesday, November 5

John Gerring, Philip Bond, William T. Brandt, and Carola Moreno. 2005. Democracy and Economic Growth: A Historical Perspective. *World Politics* 57 (3): 323-64.

http://muse.jhu.edu/journals/world_politics/v057/57.3gerring.pdf

Optional:

Ashutosh Varshney, "Why Have Poor Democracies Not Eliminated Poverty? A Suggestion," *Asian Survey* 40:5 (2000): 718-736 <http://www.jstor.org/stable/pdfplus/3021173.pdf>

[http://www.jstor.org/sici?sici=0004-4687\(200009%2F10\)40%3A5%3C718%3AWHPDNE%3E2.0.CO%3B2-A](http://www.jstor.org/sici?sici=0004-4687(200009%2F10)40%3A5%3C718%3AWHPDNE%3E2.0.CO%3B2-A)

Friday, November 7 Case Study: China

Montinola Gabriella, Yingyi Qian, and Barry R. Weingast. 1996. Federalism, Chinese Style: The Political Basis for Economic Success in China," *World Politics* 48 (1): 50-81.

<http://elsa.berkeley.edu/~yqian/93-4.pdf>

Kellee Tsai. 2007. *Capitalism without Democracy: The Private Sector in Contemporary China*. Ithaca, NY: Cornell University Press. pp 1-13, pp 44-71 [EReserves]

Week 11 Is Political Corruption Bad for Growth?



Mon, November 10

Paolo Mauro. 1995. Corruption and Growth. *The Quarterly Journal of Economics* 110 (3): 681-712.

<http://www.jstor.org/stable/pdfplus/2946696.pdf>

[http://www.jstor.org/sici?sici=0033-](http://www.jstor.org/sici?sici=0033-5533(199508)110%3A3%3C681%3ACAG%3E2.0.CO%3B2-Q)

[5533\(199508\)110%3A3%3C681%3ACAG%3E2.0.CO%3B2-Q](http://www.jstor.org/sici?sici=0033-5533(199508)110%3A3%3C681%3ACAG%3E2.0.CO%3B2-Q)

Pranab Bardhan. 1997. Corruption and Development: A Review of Issues. *Journal of Economic Literature* 35: 1320-1346.

<http://www.jstor.org/stable/pdfplus/2729979.pdf>

[http://www.jstor.org/sici?sici=0022-](http://www.jstor.org/sici?sici=0022-0515(199709)35%3A3%3C1320%3ACADARO%3E2.0.CO%3B2-6)

[0515\(199709\)35%3A3%3C1320%3ACADARO%3E2.0.CO%3B2-6](http://www.jstor.org/sici?sici=0022-0515(199709)35%3A3%3C1320%3ACADARO%3E2.0.CO%3B2-6)

Wed, November 12

Continue Monday's readings

Fri, November 14 Case Studies: South Korea and the Philippines

David C. Kang. 2002. *Crony Capitalism: Corruption and Development in South Korea and the Philippines*. Cambridge, UK: Cambridge University Press. [EReserves]

Week 12 Geography versus Politics

Mon, November 17

Jeffrey Sachs. 2005. *The End of Poverty: Economic Possibilities for Our Time*. New York, NY: Penguin Press. Chapter 10, "The Voiceless Dying"

Optional:

Jeffrey Sachs and Andrew Warner. 1995. Natural Resource Abundance and Economic Growth. *NBER Working Paper No. 5398*.

http://www.cid.harvard.edu/ciddata/warner_files/natresf5.pdf

Wed, November 19

Nancy Birdsall and Arvind Subramanian. 2004. Saving Iraq from its Oil. *Foreign Affairs* July/August 77-89.

<http://www.cgdev.org/doc/commentary/Birdsall%20Iraq%20and%20Oil.pdf>

Fri, November 21 Case Study: Botswana

Maria Sarraf and Moortaza Jiwani. Beating the Resource Curse: The Case of Botswana. *World Bank Environment Department Papers* 247: 1-23.

<http://www->

[wds.worldbank.org/servlet/WDSContentServer/WDSP/IB/2002/09/24/000094946_02090504023362/Rendered/PDF/multi0page.pdf](http://www-wds.worldbank.org/servlet/WDSContentServer/WDSP/IB/2002/09/24/000094946_02090504023362/Rendered/PDF/multi0page.pdf)

Optional:

V.T. Jike. 2004. Environmental Degradation, Social Disequilibrium, and the Dilemma of Sustainable Development in the Niger-Delta of Nigeria. *Journal of Black Studies* 34 (5): 686-701.

<http://jbs.sagepub.com/cgi/reprint/34/5/686>

Xavier Sala-i-Martin and Arvind Subramanian. 2003. Addressing the Resource Curse: An Illustration from Nigeria. *IMF Working Paper* WP/03/139

<http://www.econ.upf.edu/docs/papers/downloads/685.pdf>

Week 13**Mon, November 24****TBA****** FIRST DRAFT DUE IN CLASS ******Wed, November 26****Discussion of world events****No Class November 28*****Happy Thanksgiving*****Week 14 Conference on the Politics of Development****Mon, December 1****Panel #1****Wed, December 3****Panel #2****Fri, December 5****Panel #3****Week 15 Conference on the Politics of Development (cont.)****Monday, December 8****Panel #4****Wednesday, December 10****Panel #5****Friday, December 12****Future Directions****** FINAL PAPER DUE DEC. 17, 2008, by 4:45pm ****

Drop off the paper in my mailbox in 110 North Hall
Submit your final paper along with the draft that you submitted to me.

Have a great Winter Break!