Political Development

This course deals with the socioeconomic and political challenges that developing or "third word" countries face in today’s globalized world. Readings focus on poverty, "underdevelopment," development, modernization, traditional and other cultural values, the nature and effects of colonial rule, the legacy of ethnic, cultural, and religious divisions, and the various development strategies and models to which Third World peoples have been subjected by their governments, by foreign powers, and by international institutions.

Students will be graded on the quality of both their written work and seminar participation. All will be required to attend at least half of the sessions of POSC 159, the undergraduate course in Third World politics that meets on Tuesdays and Thursdays from 3:35 to 4:50. Additionally, they will be asked submit, along with its students, a 1,200-word take-home essay on an assigned topic in early March. This essay will count for 15 points of their semester grade for the seminar. Two additional 2000-word essays, each of which will be worth 25 points, will also be required. The first will be due on March 22nd, following spring break, and the second on May 7th. The remaining 35 points will be based on two 1,000-word reviews (on recommended readings), each worth 5 points, one's work-group presentation worth another 10 (with each member receiving the same grade), and one's individual participation in seminar discussions worth the remaining 15 points.

The following books should be purchased:


Seminar Outline

1. January 16th - Organizational Meeting and Discussion (with handout)
2. **January 23rd** - Development in Historical Perspective - I

**Required Readings:** Ricardo Hausmann, *Prisoners of Geography* (on electronic reserve); S. Huntington, * Cultures Count,* and L. Harrison, *Why Culture Matters,* both in Huntington and Harrison (eds.), *Culture Matters,* pp. xiii - xxxiv; and Barrington Moore, Jr., *The Social Origins of Dictatorship and Democracy,* Chs. I (England), II (France), III (the U.S.), and IV (China);

**Recommended Readings:** David Landes, *Nature's Inequalities,* "Answers to Geography: Europe and China," and *European Exceptionalism, a Different Path,* in Landis, *The Wealth and Poverty of Nations,* pp. 3-28 (on regular reserve); and Theda Skocpol, *Explaining Social Revolutions,* in Skocpol, *States and Social Revolutions,* pp. 3-43 (on regular reserve);

3. **January 30th** - Development in Historical Perspective - II

**Required Readings:** Barrington Moore, Jr., *The Social Origins of Dictatorship and Democracy,* Chs. V (Japan), VI (India), VII (democracy); VIII (communism and fascism); IX (peasants and revolution), and epilogue;

**Recommended Readings:** Margaret Levi, *Why We Need a New Theory of Government* (on electronic reserve); and Gerardo Munck, *The Past and the Present of Comparative Politics* (on regular reserve); and Stepan, *Paths to Democratization: Theoretical and Comparative Considerations,* in Stepan, *Arguing Comparative Politics,* pp. 111-137 (on regular reserve);

4. **February 13th** - Modernization and Modernization Theory


5. **February 20\(^{th}\) - Alternative Perspectives - I**

**Required Readings:** Luca Meldolesi, *Discovering the Possible: the Surprising World of Albert O. Hirschman*, Part 1, Chapters 1 through 5, pp. 3-137;


6. **February 27\(^{th}\) - Alternative Perspectives - II**

**Required Readings:** Meldolesi, *Discovering the Possible*, Part II, Chapters 6 through 8, pp. 140-215;


7. **March 6\(^{th}\) - Development in Post-Modern Perspective - I**

**Required Readings:** Arturo Escobar, *Encountering Development*, Ch. 1 (Development), Ch. 2 (Poverty), and Ch. 3 (Growth and Capital), pp. 1-100;

**Recommended Readings:** Robert Bates, *Prosperity and Violence: the Political Economy of Development*; and Clapham, *Third World Politics*, Chs. 5 (Managing the Economy), and 6 (Managing the External Political Arena), all on regular reserve;

**First (mid-term) essay exam (POSC 159) - due**

8. **March 20\(^{th}\) - Development in Post-Modern Perspective - II**

**Required Readings:** Arturo Escobar, *Encountering Development*, Ch. 4 (Food and Hunger); Ch. 5 (Peasants, Women, and the Environment), and Ch. 6 (Conclusion); pp.102-225;
Recommended Readings: Albert O. Hirschman, The Rise and Fall of Development Economics,” in Kanth (eds.) Paradigms in Economic Development: Classic Perspectives, Critiques, and Reflections, pp. 191-210; and Deepa Narayan et alia, Voices of the Poor: Can Anyone Hear Us?, Chs. 2 (Definitions of Poverty), 3 (State Institutions), 4 (Civil Society Institutions), 5 (Changing Gender Relations in the Household), 6 (Social Fragmentation);

Second essay exam - due

9. March 27th - Culture and Development - I

Required Readings: S. Huntington and L. Harrison, Culture Matters (Chapters 1, 2, 4-10, 13-15 and 17);

Recommended Readings: R. Inglehart, The Renaissance of Political Culture” (on regular reserve); Laitin, Religion, Political Culture, and the Weberian Tradition” (on regular reserve); and Gabriel Almond, The Study of Political Culture” (on regular reserve);

10. April 3rd - Culture and Development - II

Required Readings: Huntington and Harrison (eds.), Chapters 3 (Sachs), 11 (Weisner), 12 (Shweder) and 16 (Glazer); Clifford Geertz, Thick Description: Towards an Interpretative Theory of Culture,” in Geertz, The Interpretation of Culture, pp. 3-30 (on electronic reserve); and Wilson, The Many Voices of Political Culture, Assessing Different Approaches;”

Recommended Readings: Jackman and Miller, The Poverty of Political Culture;” Alfred Stepan, The World’s Religious Systems and Democracy: Crafting the Twin Tolerances,” and Jose Casanova, Catholic and Muslim Politics in Comparative Perspective,” and Schmitter and Karl, What Democracy is and Is Not” (all on regular reserve);

11. April 10th - State and Society in the Third World - I


Recommended Readings: Ira Katznelson, Structure and Configuration in Comparative Politics;” and Joel Migdal, Studying the State;” both in
12. **April 24th – State and Society in the Third World - II**

**Required Readings:** Migdal, Kohli, and Shue (eds.), *State Power and Societal Forces: Domination and Transformation in the Third World*, Parts III and IV, Chs. 6-10;

**Recommended Readings:** Alfred Stepan (with Cindy Skach), *Constitutional Frameworks and Democratic Consolidation: Parliamentarism vs. Presidentialism*, in Stepan, *Arguing Comparative Politics* (on regular reserve); Christopher Clapham, *Third World Politics*, Chs. 3 (The Third World State) and 4 (Managing the State); and Naguib Mahfouz, *Adrift on the Nile*;

13. **May 1st - Research Group Presentations**

14. **May 7th, 5:00 p.m., Third Essay Exam - due**