

SOCI 550: DEVELOPING SOCIETIES

Thursday 9:35 – 11:25 AM

Winter 2017

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Office Hours: Thursday 12:30-2:00 pm (appointment sign-up sheet on office door)

Course Description and Goals

Why have certain countries developed while others have not? What is development and how does it happen? This course provides an in-depth look at the political economy of development. We will compare the divergent trajectories of both “developed” and “developing” countries. Throughout the course, we will analyze how political and social relations (global power relations between nation-states; domestic class, race, and gender inequality) shape developmental outcomes (industrial growth, social inequality, and resource distribution).

By the end of the semester, students in the course should have a firm grasp on the following debates: 1) competing definitions of development; 2) key factors that enable and impede development; 3) consequences of different developmental models for human wellbeing.

Course Requirements and Grading

Class Attendance (12 points)

Attendance is worth one point per class. You are allowed one absence without penalty.

Class Participation (9 points)

You are expected to actively participate in class discussion.

Leading Class Discussion (12 points)

You will lead class discussion twice during the semester (each presentation is worth 5 points). You will present one of the assigned readings for that week to the class. Presentations should last 5-10 minutes and include: 1) a brief summary of the author’s main argument, 2) linkages between the reading and prior class readings; 3) questions you have about the reading.

Weekly Memos (27 points)

You will write 9 memos throughout the course of the semester (each memo is worth 3 points). You will write a memo for each class EXCEPT when you lead discussion. Memos should include: 1) a brief summary of the main arguments of the readings from the week, 2) questions you have about the readings. Memos should be no more than 1 single spaced page in length.

** DUE 12:00pm the Wednesday before each class. Post to the appropriate Memos folder in MyCourses.*

Research Paper (40 points)

Pick a development-related issue that interests you (trade, development institutions, colonialism, state capacity, etc.). Pick a country and describe how your issue has impacted developmental trajectories and outcomes in this country. You are encouraged to do outside readings for the paper (at least 2 outside readings). And you must engage with concepts from class texts (minimum of 3 readings). The paper should be between 15-20 double spaced pages. You must include in-line citations for class readings and any outside references. In addition, the paper should include a bibliography.

** DUE April 13 at 5:30 pm. Upload to MyCourses.*

Course Policies

Ethics

- You are responsible for behaving respectfully towards your Instructor and your fellow students. Aggressive and condescending behavior towards others will not be tolerated.
- McGill University values academic integrity. Therefore, all students must understand the meaning and consequences of cheating, plagiarism, and other academic offences under the Code of Student Conduct and Disciplinary Procedures. See <http://www.mcgill.ca/students/srr/honest> and <http://www.mcgill.ca/students/srr/academicrights/integrity/cheating> for more information.

Written Materials

- In accord with McGill University's Charter of Students' Rights, students in this course have the right to submit written work in either English or French.
- All assignments must be typed, double-spaced, stapled, 12 point Times New Roman, with one-inch margins on all sides. Make sure your name is on your paper and that you have retained a copy.
- Your final paper must include in-line citations and a bibliography. Please use a standard bibliographic format (APA, MLA, Chicago, etc.).
- Spelling and grammatical mistakes will adversely impact your grade. The McGill Writing Centre provides help with written assignments. If you believe you may need help with the final paper, make an appointment in advance and review a rough draft with the Centre.

Requests for Re-grade

- If you feel that your assignment was not accurately graded, you must file a formal request with Professor Roychowdhury **within 1 week of receiving your grade**. The request must be one page long and include the following information: 1) The grade you believe you should have received, 2) A detailed explanation of why you deserved a different grade.

Late Assignments and Absences

- If you turn in an assignment after the due date, you will lose 1 point for every day that it is late.
- If you would like to request an extension for any assignment or receive a waiver for any absences, you must provide an original (signed) copy of either a doctor's note, a letter from the Dean's Office, or the Office of Students with Disabilities.

Extra credit

- There will be no extra credit opportunities for late or missed work.

MyCourses

- There is an online site for this course on MyCourses. You are responsible for familiarizing yourself with the site and knowing how to use it. This includes: reading class announcements, posting assignments, checking your grades, and engaging in online discussions.

Changes to Syllabus

- The syllabus is purview to changes throughout the semester. All changes will be announced in class as well as posted on MyCourses. You are responsible for keeping on top of all changes.

Required Texts

- There is a coursepack for this class. Copies are available for purchase in paper or electronically. Used copies should also be available. One copy of the coursepack is on reserve at the library.
- Ha-Joon Chang. 2002. *Kicking away the Ladder: Development Policy in Historical Perspective*. Anthem.
- Peter Gowan. 1999. *The Global Gamble: Washington's Faustian Bid for World Dominance*. Verso.

Week 1 Introduction

Week 2 Income, Ideas, Exploitation

- Debraj Ray. 1998. *Development Economics*. "Chapter 2: Economic Development Overview," pgs. 7-46.
- Paul Romer. 2014. "Economic Growth." <http://www.econlib.org/library/Enc/EconomicGrowth.html>
- Karl Marx. 1976. *Capital: Volume 1*. New York: Penguin Books.
 - "Chap 26: The Secret of Primitive Accumulation," pgs. 873-876
 - "Chap 27: The Expropriation of the Agricultural Population from the Land," pgs. 877-895
 - "Chap 33: The Modern Theory of Colonization," pgs. 931-940

Section I. State Capacity

Week 3 State Capacity Defined

- Alice Amsden. 1990. "Third World Industrialization: Global Fordism or a New Model?" *New Left Review*, 182: 5-31.
- Peter Evans. 1989. "Predatory, Developmental and Other Apparatuses: A Comparative Political Economy Perspective on the Third World State." *Sociological Forum*, 4 (4).
- Akhil Gupta. 2012. *Red Tape: Bureaucracy, Structural Violence, and Poverty in India*.
 - "Chap 2: The State and the Politics of Poverty," pgs. 41-72.

Week 4 Historical Antecedents: Colonialism

- Atul Kohli. 2004. *State-Directed Development: Political Power and Industrialization in the Global Periphery*.
 - "Part IV: Dashed Expectations – Nigeria"
- Matthew Lange. 2005. *States and Development: Historical Antecedents of Stagnation and Advance*.
 - "Chap 1: Introduction"
 - "Chap 4: Mauritius: Direct Rule and Development."

Week 5 Contemporary Constraints: Capitalists

- Vivek Chibber. 2003. *Locked in Place*. Princeton, NJ: Princeton University Press.
 - "Chap 1": Introduction
 - "Chap 2: Late Development and State-Building in India,"
 - "Chap 3: The Origins of the Developmental State in Korea"

Week 6 Contemporary Constraints: Middle Classes

- Diane Davis. 2004. *Discipline and Development: Middleclasses and Prosperity in East Asia*.
 - "Chap 1": Introduction to Middleclasses, Discipline, and Development
 - "Chap 3": Discipline and Reward South Korea
 - "Chap 5": From Victors to Victims Mexico

Section II. Global Inequalities

Week 7 Trade Policy

- Ha-Joon Chang. 2002. *Kicking away the Ladder: Development Policy in Historical Perspective*.

Week 8 Multilateral Institutions

- Michael Goldman. 2006. *Imperial Nature: The World Bank and Struggles for Social Justice*. "Chap 1: Understanding World Bank Power," pgs. 1-45
- Richard Peet. 2009. *Unholy Trinity: The IMF, World Bank, and WTO*, pgs. To be assigned

Week 9 Power and Knowledge

- William Easterly. 2014. *The Tyranny of Experts: Economists, Dictators, and the Forgotten Rights of the Poor*.
 - "Why the debate never happened," pgs 43-46
 - "Chap 4: Race, War, and the Fate of Africa," pgs, 81-104
 - "The Blank Slate versus Learning from History," pgs. 123-127
- James Ferguson. 1994. *The Anti-Politics Machine: Development, Depoliticization, Bureaucratic Power in Lesotho*.
 - "Chap 1: Introduction," pgs. 1-22
 - "Chap 9: The Anti-Politics Machine," pgs. 251-277.

Week 10 American Imperialism

- David Harvey. 2004. "The New Imperialism." *Socialist Register*.
- Peter Gowan. 1999. *The Global Gamble: Washington's Faustian Bid for World Dominance*. "Part I: The Globalization Gamble," pgs. 3-138.

Section III. Transformative Possibilities

Week 11 Investing in Human Capital

- Amartya Sen. 1999. *Development as Freedom*. "Chap 1: The Perspective of Freedom" and "Chap 2: The Ends and the Means of Development." Pgs. 13-53.
- Giovanni Arrighi, Nicole Aschoff, and Ben Scully. 2010. "Accumulation by Dispossession and its Limits: The Southern Africa Paradigm Revisited." *Studies in Comparative International Development*, 45: 410-438.
- Giovanni Arrighi. "Origins and Dynamic of the Chinese Ascent." *Adam Smith in Beijing*. Pgs. 351-378.

Week 12 Democracy and Governance

***CLASS POTLUCK**

- Dani Rodrik. 2012. *The Globalization Paradox*.
 - "Chapter 11: Designing Capitalism 3.0," pgs. 233-250
 - "Chapter 12: A Sane Globalization." pgs. 251-280.
- Patrick Heller. 2001. "Moving the State: The Politics of Democratic Decentralization in Kerala, South Africa, and Porto Alegre." *Politics and Society*, 29: pgs. 131-163.
- Partha Chatterjee. 2004. *The Politics of the Governed: Reflections on Popular Politics in Most of the World*. "Chapter 3: The Politics of the Governed." pgs. 53-78.