

UNIVERSITY OF WISCONSIN OSHKOSH
Department of Political Science
 PS326 – *The Politics of Development*
 Fall 2011 3:00-4:30 MW in Sage Hall 2221

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“UWO Political Science”

COURSE DESCRIPTION

What is the meaning of *development*? Why have some countries and regions of the world been more successful than others in their efforts to promote development? How do we (in the developed world) influence development and underdevelopment in the developing world? Can development be sustainable? How do developing country governments confront major issues such as economic change, corruption, democratization, urbanization, deadly conflict, environmental degradation, poverty, and injustice? These are some of the questions we will explore over the course of the semester. The course is organized around understanding the kinds the kinds of policies that domestic and global political actors have devised to confront significant development challenges associated with three basic needs: food, water, and basic health. Learning objectives in the course include the following: (1) to critically evaluate dominant conceptions and theories of development in the political science literature; (2) to explore the domestic and international political causes and consequences of development policy; and (3) to further develop the research, problem solving, and writing skills at the heart of your UWO liberal arts education.

COURSE POLICIES

Readings: The following texts have been ordered by the bookstore for purchase. *You may wish to consider finding them in alternative venues (amazon.com, half.com, etc.).*

- ✘ Alastair Greig, David Hulme and Mark Turner. 2007. *Challenging Global Inequality: Development Theory and Practice in the 21st Century*. Palgrave Macmillan Ltd.
- ✘ Carol Lancaster. 2007. *Foreign Aid: Diplomacy, Development, Domestic Politics*. University of Chicago.
- ✘ Richard Joseph and Alexandra Gillies (eds). 2009. *Smart Aid for African Development*. Boulder: Lynne Rienner.
- ✘ Robert Bates. 2009 (second edition). *Prosperity and Violence: The Political Economy of Development*. W.W. Norton & Co.

*Additional readings can be found on the course D2L website and/or on e-reserve. Unless otherwise noted, ALL readings are required readings.

Grading and Assignments: Final Grades will be calculated using UWO's 93/90/87 grading scale as follows:

I. Participation 30%

- ✘ **In-class** participation includes voluntary comments in class, ability and willingness to ask and answer questions, preparation for discussion, participation during in-class activities, and ability to collaborate with others.
- ✘ **Inter-teach sessions** are evaluated based on preparation for discussion, professionalism, quality of the contribution, and willingness to engage constructively with peers.

II. Map (world geography) test 10%

- ✘ 30 countries chosen at random on the day of the test from a list of 60 countries provided to students in advance – see D2L for the list and a world map.

III. Short papers and assignments 20%

- ✘ These short assignments occur at my discretion and include short reflections on readings and concepts as well as mini research tasks; some of these will become components of your project

IV. NGO project 30%

- ✘ Poster presentation
- ✘ e-presentation of project

V. Final exam 15%

- ✘ Comprehensive concept focused exam (you may use notes you have taken on the readings and discussion, but only your notes; so take good notes along the way).

* If you are unsatisfied with the way your work has been graded you may request that it be re-graded. This request must be submitted in writing (*typed*) no later than one week from when the assignment was returned. The request should provide a reasoned and persuasive account of why your assignment deserves a different grade. Note that re-grading may result in a grade either higher or lower than the grade you received.

Plagiarism and Academic Honesty: *Plagiarism is using someone else's ideas, words, theories, evidence, findings, argument, etc. and passing them off as your own by not properly attributing or acknowledging the original source of those ideas.* Plagiarism in its many forms is wrong, unethical and dishonest. At minimum, plagiarism in this course will result in a failing grade on the assignment and may result in course failure and academic expulsion. If you are unsure whether or not what you have written constitutes plagiarism, please ask before you turn your assignment in. "Academic Honesty is fundamental to the University, and academic misconduct is taken very seriously. Students are responsible for the honest completion and representation of their work, *for the appropriate citation of sources*, and for respect of others' academic endeavors" (UWS, 14.01, emphasis added).

Citations: In ALL of your written work for this course you need to appropriately cite your sources (even course material) using the *American Political Science Association (APSA) citation style*, including in-text citations. I have provided you with a chapter outlining the APSA format on D2L – you are responsible for familiarizing yourself with the APSA citation style and using it properly – if you have questions just ask!

Excused absences, make-ups and late work: Make-up work must be requested and arranged with me *prior* to the date of the assignment; make-ups and excused absences require *documentation* of medical necessity or an approved college-sanctioned event. I DO accept *late work*, but only with a penalty. Late papers are penalized one third grade for each day they are late (i.e. a B would become a B-, then a C+, etc.). Note: you are always better off submitting something rather than nothing, even if it's late! Advice: get started early, come see me about your ideas, give yourself plenty of time for writing and rewriting, and avoid procrastinating.

Note to Non-Majors:

This is an upper division course in Political Science and assumes familiarity with concepts taught in Comparative Politics (PS101) and International Relations (PS115). If you do not have this background and find you are having difficulty with the literature please come talk to me.

Note to Political Science Majors:

Political Science majors should keep final drafts of research papers and other graded material for their portfolio submitted in PS401 (Senior Seminar) – If you have questions or concerns about the senior seminar requirements please feel free to ask me.

COURSE SCHEDULE

Introduction: What is Development? How is it Political?

W September 7

**Prosperity and Violence* (all)

M September 12

**Prosperity and Violence* (all)

W September 14

**Prosperity and Violence* (all)

PART I: DEVELOPMENT THEORY (WEEKS 2-4)

"Underdevelopment is not a step towards development, but the historic consequence from foreign development"

-Eduardo Galeano

"What people can positively achieve is influenced by economic opportunities, political liberties, social powers, and enabling conditions of good health, basic education, and the encouragement and cultivation of initiatives."

-Amartya Sen

M September 19

**Development as Freedom* (Chapters 1 and 2 on e-reserve)

*"Causes of Poverty and a Framework for Action" *World Development Report (WB) 2000-2001*(Ch. 2) (D2L)

*Explore the World Bank's Voices of the Poor Website (D2L Link)

☉ *Inter-teach 1*

W September 21

**Challenging Global Inequality* “Introduction” and Chs 1-2-3

☉Map Test

M September 26

**Challenging Global Inequality* Chs 4-5

*“Rethinking Development Theory: Insights from East Asia and Latin America” (1989/94 – reprinted 2007) (e-reserve)

W September 28

**Challenging Global Inequality* Ch 6

*“Cotton: The Huge Moral Issue” 2006 (D2L).

*“What Strategies are Viable for Developing Countries Today? The WTO and the Shrinking of ‘Development Space’” (2003) – (e-reserve)

☉Inter-teach 2

M October 3

**Development as Freedom* (Ch. 8: Women’s Agency and Social Change on e-reserve)

*“Saving the World’s Women” NYT Magazine, August 2009 (D2L Link)

*“Double Standards: Women’s Property Rights Violations in Kenya” Human Rights Watch, 2003 (D2L; read Summary and Recommendations, skim rest as interested)

☉Inter-teach 3

W October 5

**Challenging Global Inequality* Chs 7 (MDGs)

* Explore and Reflect: MDGs

UN Gateway to MDGs (D2L Link)

PART II: SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT (WEEKS 5-9)

“Sustainable development is development that meets the needs of the present without compromising the ability of future generations to meet their own needs.”

–Brundtland Commission

“When we try to pick out anything by itself in nature, we find it hitched to everything else in the Universe.”

–John Muir

M October 10

*“The tragedy of the commons” 1968 (D2L Link)

**Politics and the Environment* – excerpts 1 and 2 (v. short) (D2L)

*Basic Principles for Sustainable Development” 2004 (D2L)

W October 12

*“The View from the South” (D2L)

*“Ecological Interdependence and the Spread of Infectious Disease” 2011 (D2L)

*“Globalization, Global Environmental Problems, and Transnational Advocacy Networks” 2011 (D2L)

☉Inter-teach 4

Water

“Four hundred top decision-makers [gathered at the World Economic Forum] listed the myriad looming threats to global stability, including famine, terrorism, inequality, disease, poverty and climate change. Yet when we tried to address each diverse force, we found them all attached to one universal security risk: fresh water.”

–Margaret Catley-Carlson, Global Water Partnership

M October 17

**Water Security: The Water-Food-Security-Climate Nexus—World Economic Forum Issue Report, 2011* (D2L – just pgs. 24-39) or *Coping with Water Scarcity, FAO World Water Day Report 2007* (D2L)

**“Thirst for Profit: Corporate Control of Water in Latin America”* (D2L Link)

**Flow or Blue Gold (Film; in-class)*

W October 19

Explore and Reflect: Water

UN Water (D2L Link)

Global Water Partnership (D2L Link)

FAO-Water (D2L Link)

FAO Interactive Tool “Water and Rural Poor” (D2L Link)

Health

“One impediment to progress is the large number of factors that make adolescent girls and women vulnerable to death and complications during pregnancy and childbirth. We do not have a single tool to rally around – like bed nets for malaria, or antiretroviral therapy for AIDS, or vaccines and vitamins for young children. [W]omen die during pregnancy and childbirth because they are illiterate, undernourished, poor, pregnant, and powerless. These are failures of society.”

–Margaret Chan, Director-General of the World Health Organization

M October 24

**“Reversal of Fortune” in Foreign Policy* 2006 (D2L)

* *“Patents and Pills, Power and Procedure: The North-South Politics of Public Health in the WTO”* 2004 (D2L)

W October 26

Explore and Reflect: Maternal Mortality

Every Mother Counts (NGO/Media – D2L Link):

UNFPA Safe Motherhood (D2L Link)

Amnesty Maternal Health is a Human Right (D2L Link)

M October 31

**The Age of Aids (Film, Frontline PBS 2006 – Part II)*

W November 2

**“The Politics of AIDS Policy Development and Implementation in Post-apartheid South Africa”* 2004 (D2L)

Food

"If we don't take the necessary measures, famine will be the scandal of this century."

– **Bruno Le Maire**, French Agriculture Minister

"We are sleepwalking towards an avoidable age of crisis."

– **Barbara Stocking**, Oxfam

M November 7

**Development as Freedom* (Chs. 9: Population, Food, and Freedom on e-reserve)

*"The End of Plenty" National Geographic June 2009 (e-reserve) or (D2L link)

*"A Warming Planet Struggles to Feed Itself" NYT (June 2011) (D2L link)

*"Can the Yield Gap be Closed – Sustainably?" NYT Green Blog (June 2011) (D2L link)

☉*Inter-teach 5*

W November 9

Explore and reflect: Food Insecurity

The Future of Food: A Looming Crisis (BBC-Documentary)

"What a global food crisis looks like: Oxfam's food prices map" Oxfam 2011 (D2L link)

Famine in Somalia When Does the World Decide to Use the 'F' Word? Time 2011 (D2L link)

World Bank: Global Food Crisis Response Program (GFRP) (D2L link)

PART III: DEVELOPMENT AID (WEEKS 10-14)

"By the early 1990s, Africa's relationship with the international economy was almost entirely mediated by public aid flows."

–Nicolas van de Walle

"...If by aid we mean making a difference in the lives of people over the long term, helping people to live in a situation whereby they do not have to face those kinds of emergencies, then obviously aid has failed, because the number of people affected by emergencies has significantly increased over the years...Aid in the short term might have saved lives, but in the long run it seems things are getting worse..."

–Ethiopian Economics Association.

"I doubt that many of Africa's problems can be attributed to aid. It is, in my view, something of a sideshow. Because it lends itself to a simple morality story of guilt and reparation, it receives more attention than is warranted."

–Paul Collier

M November 14

**Foreign Aid* (Ch 1 and 2)

**Smart Aid* (Ch. 2)

*"Rogue Aid" 2007 (e-reserve)

☉*Inter-teach 6*

W November 16

**Smart Aid* (Ch. 5, 7, 10, 11)

☉*Inter-teach 7*

M November 21

Explore and Reflect:

**Good Fortune* (Film-in class)

[Thanksgiving Recess]

M November 28

**Foreign Aid* (The United States and Japan)

W November 30

**Foreign Aid* (France, Germany and Denmark)

M December 5

NGO Project Presentations

W December 7

NGO Project Presentations

M December 12

Evaluation and reflection: e-Presentations

W December 14

Final exam