



COLGATE UNIVERSITY

POSC 354: CAPITALISM, THE STATE, AND DEVELOPMENT IN LATIN AMERICA (Spring 2019)

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Office hours: Monday and Wednesday 4:30-6:00 p.m.

Overview

This course offers a theoretical and historical examination of development in the Latin American region. Its goal is to provide students with the basic tools to understand the position that the region as a whole occupies within the global economy as well as the relative differences that exist between different Latin American countries. By the end of the course, students should be able to identify leading theories of development, the role of the state in promoting or hindering it, and competing hypotheses to explain the varied long-run performance of Latin American economies. The historical and empirical material covered in the course draws particularly from “continental” Latin America, and only occasionally will it touch on the experience of the countries of the Caribbean basin.

Global Engagements Statement

This course provides students with theoretical and empirical tools to understand development as process that is deeply shaped by factors that have a transnational character, such as colonization, democratic diffusion, or the global architecture of economic exchange, to mention just a few of them.

Course Requirements

Students are expected to complete all readings for the session prior to each class and to actively participate in the discussion of the material assigned. There will be two in-class exams, one in-class presentation, and students will have to complete a research paper of about 12-15 pages (see below). Performance in the course will be evaluated as follows:

- In-class exams: 20% each, 40% total.
- Research Paper: 35%.
- In-class presentation: 10%.

- Participation: 15%.

**Late Policy:* Barring an extraordinary excuse, late assignments will be marked down a third of a grade (example: A to A-) for every 24 hours that it is handed in after the due date.

Research Paper

Early in the semester you will select a topic of interest to you as well as a country of the region. Your research project should: 1) ask an empirically relevant research question, 2) provide a reasonable argument to answer it, 3) establish a conversation with the existing literature on the subject, and 4) collect evidence in support of the main hypotheses derived from the argument. The research project will be conducted in stages, each of which will be explained in class:

- 1) Focus Essay and Preliminary Bibliography. (2/15)
- 2) Preliminary Argument and Literature Review. (3/29)
- 3) Final Research Paper. (5/3).

Some of you may find that writing can sometimes be hard. Fortunately, the University counts with an excellent resource that may be of help: the Writing and Speaking Center in 208 Lathrop Hall offers assistance with essays for any course. Experienced writing consultants can help native and non-native speakers alike with a written paper's focus, development, organization, clarity, citations, or grammar. Details about all meetings remain private. To make an appointment, go to:

<http://www.colgate.edu/writingcenter> or call (315) 228-6085.

In-Class Presentation

Students will be assigned to four groups, each of which will present a case study of the developmental trajectory of a country of the region during a particular period.

Use of electronic devices: Please note that computers, cell phones, and all other technological devices must be turned off during class out of respect for the instructor and fellow students. This is an interactive course that demands your attention and participation.

Readings

All readings will be available on Moodle, unless otherwise noted.

SCHEDULE OF READINGS

1) Capitalism and Development

Topic 1: On the Origins of Capitalism and Development

January 21st - *Intro*

January 23th – *Unlikely Affinities: The Cultural Horizon of Early Modern Europe*

- Weber, “The Protestant Ethic and the Spirit of Capitalism” (Chs. 1-3)

January 28th – *History of a Concept*

- Rist, Gilbert (2014). *The History of Development: From Western Origins to Global Faith*. London: Zed Books. (Selection of Chs. 2-4)

January 30th – *Meanings and Dimensions of Development*

- Sen, Amartya (1988). “The Concept of Development”, in Hollis Chenery and T.N. Srinivasan (eds.) *Handbook of Development Economics*. Amsterdam: Elsevier. (pp. 9-26)
- Thomas, Alan. (2000). "Meanings and Views of Development" in Tim Allen and Alan Thomas (eds.), *Poverty and Development into the 21st Century*. Oxford: Oxford University Press. (Ch. 2)

****February 4th – NO CLASS****

February 6th – *First In Class Paper Workshop*

February 11th – *Measuring Development*

- UNDP (2018). *Human Development Indices and Indicators: 2018 Statistical Update*. New York: United Nations. (Intro chapter and stats for Latin American countries)

2) States and Economic Growth

Topic 2: The Politics of Wealth Creation

February 13th -- *Basic Mechanics of Growth*

- Easterly, William (2001). *The Elusive Quest for Growth: Economists' Adventures and Misadventures in the Tropics*. Cambridge: MIT Press. (chs. 2 and 3)
- Helpman, Elhanan (2004). *The Mystery of Economic Growth*. Cambridge: Harvard University Press. (ch. 1)

February 18th – *Why Institutions Matter*

- Acemoglu, Daron et al (2005). “Institutions as the fundamental cause of economic growth,” in Philippe Aghion and Steven N. Durlauf (eds) *Handbook of Economic Growth*. Amsterdam: Elsevier. (pp. 388-396, 402-407, 421-428).
- Dani Rodrik and Arvind Subramanian (2003) “The Primacy of Institutions (and what this does and does not mean)”. *Finance & Development* 40(2)

****Focus Essay and Preliminary Bibliography due on 02/15****

Topic 3: Post-colonial States and Development

February 20th – *Forms of State Rule*

- Evans, Peter (1989). “Predatory, Developmental, and Other Apparatuses: A Comparative Political Economy Perspective on the Third World State”. *Sociological Forum*, 4(4), 561-587.
- Kohli, Atul (2004). *State-directed Development: Political Power and Industrialization in the Global Periphery*. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press. (Introduction)

February 25th – *States and Development in the Periphery*

- Cardoso, F. H., & Faletto, E. (1979). *Dependency and development in Latin America*. Oakland: University of California Press. (pp. 8-28)
- Amsden, A. H. (1979). Taiwan's economic history: a case of etatisme and a challenge to dependency theory. *Modern China*, 5(3), 341-379.

Topic 4: Paths to Development in Latin America

February 27th – *Brazil*

- Kohli, Atul (2004). *State-directed Development: Political Power and Industrialization in the Global Periphery*. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press. (Skim ch. 4, read ch. 5)
- Evans, P. (1987). "Class, state, and dependence in East Asia: lessons for Latin Americanists", in Frederic C Deyo (ed), *The political economy of the new Asian industrialism*, Ithaca: Cornell University Press.

March 4th – *Mexico*

- Middlebrook, Kevin (1995). *The Paradox of Revolution*. Baltimore: Johns Hopkins University Press. (Ch. 1)

- Moreno-Brid, Juan Carlos and Jaime Ros (2009). *Development and Growth in the Mexican Economy: An Historical Perspective*. Oxford: Oxford University Press. (Ch 5)

****March 6th – Mid-term Exam****

****March 9th – 17th Mid-term Recess****

March 18th – *Second In Class Paper Workshop*

March 20th – *Cuba*

- TBD

March 25th – *Chile*

- Nef, Jorge (2003). "The Chilean Model: Fact and Fiction". *Latin American Perspectives* 30 (5), pp. 16-40

3) Development Beyond Growth

Topic 5 -- Poverty and Inequality

March 27th -- *Concepts and Measures*

- de Ferranti, David et al (2004). *Inequality in Latin America. Breaking with History?* Washington: The World Bank. (Chapter 1, pp. 17-32)
- Smeeding, Timothy (2016). "Poverty Measurement" in David Brady and Linda M. Burton (eds.), *The Oxford Handbook of the Social Science of Poverty*, Oxford: Oxford University Press

April 1st — *Historical Sources of Inequality*

- TBD

****Preliminary Argument and Literature Review due on March 29th****

Topic 6 – Class, Race, and Ethnicity

April 3rd – *Movie Screening*

April 8th – *Ambiguous Social Hierarchies*

- Peter Wade, *Race & Ethnicity in Latin America*, Chapter 1

April 10th – *Irreconcilable Logics?*

- Davis, “Indigenous Peoples, Poverty, and Participatory Development”

Topic 7: Health, Education, and Conditional Cash Transfers

April 15th -- *The Recent Evolution of Latin American Social Policy*

- Ferreira, Francisco and David Robalino (2011). “Social Protection in Latin America: Achievements and Limitations” in José Antonio Ocampo and Jaime Ros (eds), *Oxford Handbook of Latin American Economics*, Oxford: Oxford University Press.

April 17th -- *The Political Economy of Policy Change*

- Garay, Candelaria. *Social Policy Expansion in Latin America*. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press. (Ch. 2)

4) Globalization and Development

Topic 8: Technological Change, Capital Mobility, and the Future of Democracy and Development

April 22nd – *Brave New World*

- Rodrik, Dani (2010). *The Globalization Paradox*. New York: Norton. (Ch. 1)

April 24th – *The Future of Populism and Development*

- Dasgupta, Rana (2017). “The Demise of the Nation State”.
- Finchelstein (2017). *From Populism to Fascism in History*. Oakland: University of California Press. (Epilogue)

April 29th – *Can Global Governance be Achieved?*

- Held, David and Anthony McGrew (2007). *Globalization/Anti-globalization: Beyond the Great Divide*. Cambridge: Polity. (Chs. 10-11)

May 1st – *Review Session*

****Final Papers are due on May 3th****

**** FINAL EXAM ****

Tuesday May 7th 12:00 – 2:00 pm