

INTERNATIONAL DEVELOPMENT

POL 124, Fall 2015
Thursday, 6:00-9:15pm
Adams Center, Room 217
Professor Katherine V. Bryant

...[L]et us recognize that extreme poverty anywhere is a threat to human security everywhere. Let us recall that poverty is a denial of human rights. For the first time in history, in this age of unprecedented wealth and technical prowess, we have the power to save humanity from this shameful scourge. Let us summon the will to do it. –Kofi Annan

Contact Information

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Office Hours: I will generally be available immediately before and after class each week. I am also happy to meet with you at your convenience. Please talk with me during class or email me for an appointment.

Course Description

Credits: 4. An examination of international development and the North-South gap within a political economy and human development perspective, focusing on the main arguments about the two faces of development (national and international) and the contending theories and strategies in world development.

The end of this year marks the deadline for the Millennium Development Goals, an unprecedented program committing world leaders to address serious problems of extreme poverty across a variety of issue areas. While progress in meeting some of these goals has been substantial, others have largely failed. This class is designed to provide both a theoretical and practical foundation for students to understand the patterns and processes that contribute international development. We will therefore address questions such as: Why are some nations richer than others? Why have some nations made incredible advances while others remain stagnated? What explains differences in incomes levels within a developing country? What are the domestic and international political and economic forces

that contribute to these differences? and, What can we do to improve development in the future? Addressing these questions is not only a political and economic issue, but a moral one as well, as these policies have profound implications for the real world.

The main focus of the course will be on theories of development. After first defining more precisely what a “developed” country looks like, we will then explore theoretical explanations accounting for these differences. We will examine more closely how differences in development can be attributed to (and are affected by) factors such as political institutions, globalization, regime change, urban politics, ethnicity, religion, gender issues, and the environment. While examining these issues in a theoretical context, we will also take a more practical approach by examining how today’s leaders and organizations are implementing development policies associated with each of these issue areas. We will examine the roles and strategies of national, international, and non-governmental organizations, as well as private actors. By approaching issues in development from both of these standpoints, at the end of the course students should have a broad understanding as to the nature of international development, as well as the challenges it faces in the future.

Prerequisites

POL 020 and POL 040.

Course Learning Outcomes

By the end of the course, students can expect to be able to:

- Define the concept of development.
- Describe historical approaches to development.
- Apply theories of development to contemporary issues.
- Describe the role of democratic governance in promoting development.
- Discuss the role of urbanization, ethnicity, religion, and gender in terms of promoting or hindering development in the third world.
- Discuss the interrelationship between environmental policies and development.
- Describe variations in foreign aid agencies, as well as the benefits and drawbacks each type of agency provides.
- Assess foreign aid policies in terms of their ability to contribute to development.

Students with Disabilities

Students who have been diagnosed with a disability (chronic medical, learning, physical, or psychological) are strongly encouraged to contact the Office of Disability Services (ODS) as early as possible to discuss appropriate accommodations for this course. Formal accommodations will only be granted for students whose disabilities have been verified by ODS. For more information, contact Sheri Noble, Director of Disability Services (565-6186, snoble@westmont.edu) or visit the website http://www.westmont.edu/_offices/disability. ODS is located in Voskuyl Library rooms 310A and 311.

Academic Integrity and Plagiarism

As commonly defined, plagiarism consists of using the ideas, words, writings, etc. of another as your own. In accordance with this definition, you are committing plagiarism if you copy the work of another person and turn it in as your own, even if you have the other person's permission. If you have any questions regarding plagiarism, paraphrasing, citations, etc., please see me. Please familiarize yourselves with Westmont's plagiarism policies, available online at: http://www.westmont.edu/_offices/provost/plagiarism/plagiarism_policy.html. This website also has additional resources you may wish to consult. If I find that you have violated these policies, I reserve the right to issue a failing grade.

Absences

As this course only meets once a week, it is vital that you attend each session. If you are planning to miss class due to a school activity or other conflict, please inform me as soon as possible. Missing more than two classes without consulting me ahead of time will result in a one letter deduction from your final grade.

Late Work and Missed Exams

All assignments should be completed on time. If you know that you will be missing class, please email me your assignment before class begins. I will deduct five points from your assignment for each day it is late. Make-up exams are only permitted if you have consulted with me ahead of time.

Classroom Protocol

This is a seminar style course and as such will entail a substantial amount of class discussion. I will lecture for part of the class period each week, but we will also learn from each other

through open discussion. To facilitate this, students should come to class having completed the assigned readings ahead of time. You should also be prepared to answer questions related to the week's topic and bring up any interesting points you came across. In short, you cannot just come to class, sit back, and say nothing. Everyone is expected contribute in order to foster the best learning environment possible.

This class is political in nature and you may be confronted with views you do not share. While class discussions are always encouraged, please maintain the highest level of respect towards one another. If you fail to do so, I will ask you to leave the classroom and you will receive a deduction in your grade.

Course Materials

Students are expected to complete the assigned reading before coming to class. The following two books are required.

- *The Challenge of Third World Development, 7th Edition* by Howard Handelman.
- *How the Aid Industry Works* by Arjan de Haan.

These are available at the Westmont Bookstore. Additional readings are listed in the course calendar and will be made available either in class or online. I may also assign supplemental readings throughout the course as I deem necessary.

Course Requirements

Participation and Class Assignments (10%) Students are expected to actively participate in each class session. I will also assign short homework assignments at various points throughout the semester. These may include but are not limited to: quizzes, brief written assignments, online research, or small group projects. Generally these assignments will be submitted and discussed at the beginning of the next class period.

Two Analytical Papers (15% each) Each week, approximately two students will write an analytical paper examining the week's readings. These students will essentially serve as discussion leaders for the week. The paper should include at least two additional articles from scholarly journals that address the week's topic. While the paper is expected to briefly review the main points of the required readings, I mostly want you to focus on enriching our understanding of the week's topic by discussing the insights of your supplemental articles. Please be prepared to discuss your papers and raise important discussion points during class. The papers should be 3-4 pages in length (double spaced), and are due to me **by email at 2pm the day of the class meeting**. We will sign up for paper topics in class.

Country Evaluation Paper and Presentation (35%) Each student will submit a final paper evaluating a single developing country. The paper should review the current state of a particular development issue in the chosen country while also discussing this problem in a broader theoretical context. The paper should then propose single development policy designed to help alleviate this problem. Students will present their papers in a mini-conference on **December 10th**. The final paper is due by email on **December 14th at 10:00am**. More details on the paper and presentation requirements will be provided in class.

Final Examination (25%) The final examination will cover all components of the class. It will consist of short answers and essay questions. The exam will be held on **December 18th from 3-5pm**.

Grading Policies

All assignments, exams, and final grades will be determined by the following grading scale after rounding to the nearest whole number:

93 and above = A	73-76 = C
90-92 = A-	70-72 = C-
87-89 = B+	67-69 = D+
83-86 = B	63-66 = D
80-82 = B-	60-62 = D-
77-79 = C+	59 and below = F

Grades and the grading scale are not expected to change. If you believe that you deserve a different grade on an assignment or exam, please make an appointment to see me within one week of receiving your assignment or exam back. Please know that I will not discuss grades through email or over the phone, you will need to come and see me in person. This applies to your final grades as well as grades on individual assignments and exams.

All grades will be posted on Eureka (<https://eureka.westmont.edu>) as soon as possible. I will also include a running tally of your total grade in the course, which you are expected to check regularly. This will allow you to track your progress and avoid any last minute surprises at the end of the semester.

Course Calendar

September 3rd: No class, APSA Conference

September 10th: Understanding Development

- Read Handelman Chapter 1

September 17th: The Political Economy of Development

- Read Handelman Chapter 9, pp. 280-299
- Read “How Deep are the Roots of Economic Development?” 2013. By Enrico Spolaore and Romain Wacziarg. *Journal of Economic Literature* 51(2): 325-369.
- Read “The Past, Present, and Future of Economic Growth.” 2013. By Dani Rodrik. *Global Citizen Foundation Working Paper*. Available at: http://www.law.nyu.edu/sites/default/files/upload_documents/GCF_Rodrik-working-paper-1_-6.17.131_0.pdf
- Read “Measuring Economic Growth from Outer Space.” 2012. By David Weil, Vernon Henderson, and Adam Storeygard. *American Economic Review* 102(2): 994-1028.

September 24th: The Role of Political Institutions

- Read Handelman Chapter 2
- Read Chapter 1 of *The Democracy Advantage*. 2004. By Morton Halperin, Joe Siegle, and Michael Weinstein. Council on Foreign Relations.
- Read “Introduction: The International Diffusion of Liberalism.” 2006. By Beth Simmons, Frank Dobbin, and Geoffrey Garrett. *International Organization* 60: 781-810.

October 1st: The Impact of Revolutions and Military Rule

- Read Handelman Chapters 7 and 8
- Read “Exogenous Shocks, Foreign Aid, and Civil War.” 2012. By Burcu Savun and Daniel Tirone. *International Organization* 66(3): 363-393.
- Read “Corruption in Developing Countries.” 2012. By Benjamin Olken and Rohini Pande. *Annual Review of Economics* 4(1): 479-509.

October 8th: Rural and Urban Politics

- Read Handelman Chapter 6
- Read “Urbanization as a Global Historical Process: Theory and Evidence from Sub-Saharan Africa.” 2012. By Sean Fox. *Population and Development Review* 38(2): 285-310.
- Read “Why East Asia Overtook Latin America: Agrarian Reform, Industrialization, and Development.” 2002. By Cristobol Kay. *Third World Quarterly* 23(6): 1073-1102.

October 15th: Pluralism and Ethnic Politics

- Read Handelman Chapter 4
- Read “Ethnic Conflict.” 1998. By Yahya Sadowski. *Foreign Policy* 111: 12-23.
- Read “Greed and Grievance in Civil War.” 2004. By Paul Collier and Anke Hoeffler. *Oxford Economic Papers* 56(4): 563-595.
- Read “The Security Dilemma and Ethnic Conflict.” 1993. By Barry Posen. *Survival* 35(1): 27-47.

October 22nd: Religion and Politics

- Read Handelman Chapter 3
- Read “The Causes of Terrorism.” 1981. By Martha Crenshaw. *Comparative Politics* 13(4): 379-399.
- Read “The Strategic Logic of Suicide Terrorism.” 2004. By Robert Pape. *American Political Science Review* 97:343-361.

October 29th: Women and Development

- Read Handelman Chapter 5
- Read “On the Origins of Gender Roles: Women and the Plough.” 2013. By Alberto Alesina, Paola Giuliano, and Nathan Nunn. *The Quarterly Journal of Economics* 128(2): 469-530.
- Read “Empowering Women Through Development Aid: Evidence from a Field Experiment in Afghanistan.” 2013. By Andrew Beath, Fotini Christia, and Ruben Enikolopov. *American Political Science Review* 107(3): 540-557.

November 5th: The Environment

- Read Handelman Chapter 9, pp. 299-318
- Read “Delegation to International Organizations: Agency Theory and World Bank Environmental Reform.” 2003. By Daniel Nielson and Michael Tierney. *International Organization* 57(2): 241-276.
- Read “Coding Error or Statistical Embellishment? The Political Economy of Reporting Climate Aid.” 2011. By Axel Michaelowa and Katharina Michaelowa. *World Development* 39(11): 2010-2020.

November 12th: An Introduction to Foreign Aid

- Read Haan Chapters 1-3
- Read “A Primer on Foreign Aid.” 2006. By Stephen Radelet. *Working Paper: Center for Global Development*. Available at: <http://www.cgdev.org/publication/primer-foreign-aid-working-paper-92>

November 19th: Donor Approaches

- Read Haan Chapters 4-6
- Read “Rhetoric versus Reality: The Best and Worst of Aid Agency Practices.” 2011. By William Easterly and Claudia Williamson. *World Development* 39(11): 1930-1949.

November 26th: Thanksgiving, no class

December 3rd: Evaluating Aid’s Impact

- Read Haan Chapters 7-9
- Read “Why Foreign Aid is Hurting Africa.” March 21, 2009. By Dambisa Moyo. *Wall Street Journal*. Available at: <http://www.wsj.com/articles/SB123758895999200083>
- Read “Geopolitics and the Effect of Foreign Aid on Economic Growth: 1970-2001.” 2008. By Derek Headey. *Journal of International Development* 20: 161-180.

December 10th: Class Presentations

FINAL EXAM: Friday December 18th, 3:00-5:00pm