

CPO 4034 Politics in Developing Nations

Spring 2023 Tuesday 3:00-4:55 pm; Thursday 4:05-4:55 pm TUR 2354

Instructor: Anqi Yang

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Office Hours: Tuesday 1:45-2:45 pm, Thursday 1:45-3:45 pm, or by appointment

Make an appointment: <https://calendly.com/anqiyang/officehours>

Syllabus

Course Description

This course focuses on theories of development and issues concerning the developing world. We will examine how important factors influence levels and trajectory of development, among which are state structure, state policy, regime type, institutions, colonial legacy, temporality, etc. In this course, we will revisit the classic debates of whether development leads to democracy and vice versa.

Throughout the semester, we will look at country cases from all over the world. We start the semester by looking at regions where development seems elusive: What are the reasons for the failure of development? Is there a way out? We will also examine theories of development that originated from western experiences when Europe was first developing, including the modernization theory and the world-system theory; in another part, we will discuss regions that develop at a tremendous speed (e.g. developmental Asia): What are the historical/structural causes of rapid development? Does development solve everything? What other challenges are these countries facing? Through looking at both theories and empirical cases, we will familiarize ourselves with the academic discussions concerning development and the developing world.

Grading

Participation (10%). Your participation will be assessed by both your attendance and your contributions to class discussions. Students with excused absence must submit documentation within one week of absence. Students who miss more than 30% (around 4 weeks equivalent) of the class will not be able to complete/pass the course.

Weekly Posts (10%). Please post two sets of questions you think that are worth further discussion in class based on the weekly readings (100 words minimum). This exercise helps you practice raising good and important questions. Your idea of the final paper can be developed from these weekly questions. It is due **each Wednesday 11:59 pm** on Canvas. Late posts and retrospective make-up are not accepted, but you can skip two weeks of your choice without penalty.

Presentation (5%). Once in the semester, you are asked to find a case from current news (can also be a historical case if you feel strong about it) and present how the theory (or theories) of the week's readings apply to your selected case. This exercise helps you develop analytical skills by examining theories using empirical evidence. The presentation should be around 5 to 10 minutes. A sign-up sheet will be distributed at

the beginning of the semester.

Midterm (25%). Midterm takes place on **March 2nd** during normal class hours through Canvas. You need to bring your own device to the classroom and take the exam in person.

Final (25%). Final takes place on **May 5th 12:30-2:30 pm** through Canvas. You need to bring your own device to the classroom and take the exam in person.

Office Hour (5%). Please come to my office hours to discuss your chosen topic of the final paper. While you can reach me throughout the semester, the initial meeting needs to take place **no later than week 11.**

Final Paper (20%). It can take the form of a research proposal or a research paper. The topic of the paper should tie back to one of the themes we have covered in this course, broadly defined, and cite at least **three readings** from the class. A clear research question and an argument (can take the form of a hypothesis) should be developed regardless of the form you choose. The length should be between 2000 to 3000 words. **Due: April 28th 11:59 pm.** Late papers will be accepted through May 5th 11:59 pm with a deduction of 4 points each day delayed.

Extra Credit Assignment (2 extra points): In the latter half of the semester, we will organize several final paper workshops during Thursday sessions. You will receive 2 extra credits for the course if you present your idea of the final paper in class. Spaces are limited so first confirm first served. Requirements and details will be explained in class.

Grading Scale

A	94 or above	C-	70-73.99
A-	90-93.99	D+	67-69.99
B+	87-89.99	D	64-66.99
B	84-86.99	D-	60-63.99
B-	80-83.99	E	<60
C+	77-79.99	E1	Stopped attending
C	74-76.99	I	Incomplete

Books

We will read portions of the following texts. In an effort to reduce educational costs, electronic versions are all provided on Canvas. Please do not distribute the e-versions outside this class. Articles that are not uploaded to Canvas can be found online with free access.

Acemoglu, Daron, and James A. Robinson. 2012. *Why Nations Fail: The Origins of Power, Prosperity, and Poverty*. London: Profile Books.

Collier, Paul. 2007. *The Bottom Billion: Why the Poorest Countries are Failing and What Can Be Done About It*. New York: Oxford University Press.

Gerschenkron, Alexander. 1966. *Economic Backwardness in Historical Perspective: A Book of Essays*. Cambridge: Harvard University Press.

- Huntington, Samuel P. 1968. *Political Order in Changing Societies*. New Haven: Yale University Press.
- Kohli, Atul. 2004. *State-Directed Development: Political Power and Industrialization in the Global Periphery*. New York: Cambridge University Press.
- Mahoney, James. 2010. *Colonialism and Postcolonial Development: Spanish America in Comparative Perspective*. New York: Cambridge University Press.
- Pei, Minxin. 2016. *China's Crony Capitalism: The Dynamics of Regime Decay*. Cambridge: Harvard University Press.
- Slater, Dan, and Joseph Wong. 2022. *From Development to Democracy: The Transformations of Modern Asia*. Princeton: Princeton University Press.
- Tsai, Kellee S. 2007. *Capitalism without Democracy: The Private Sector in Contemporary China*. Cornell University Press.
- Wallerstein, Immanuel. 2004. *World-Systems Analysis: An Introduction*. Durham: Duke University Press.

Course Schedule

Week 1 Introduction

Jan 10

Please read the syllabus.

Jan 12

Acemoglu and Robinson, *Why Nations Fail*, Preface.

Collier, *The Bottom Billion*, Preface & Chapter 1.

Week 2 Colonial Legacy

Jan 17

Acemoglu and Robinson, *Why Nations Fail*, Chapter 1.

Mahoney, *Colonialism and Postcolonial Development*, Chapter 1.

Jan 19

In-Class Movie: *Blood Diamond* (2006)

Week 3 Hindrance to Development

Jan 24

Collier, *The Bottom Billion*, Chapter 2-5.

Jan 26

Discussion

Week 4 Aid & Humanitarianism

Jan 31

Barnett, Michael, and Peter Walker. 2015. "Regime Change for Humanitarian Aid: How to Make Relief More Accountable." *Foreign Affairs* 94 (4): 130-141.

Yrjölä, Riina. 2009. "The Invisible Violence of Celebrity Humanitarianism: Soft Images

and Hard Words in the Making and Unmaking of Africa.” *World Political Science Review* 5 (1):1-22.

Film Screening: *Poverty Inc.* (2014)

Feb 2

Discussion

Week 5 Theories of Development

Feb 7

Przeworski, Adam, and Fernando Limongi. 1997. “Modernization: Theories and Facts.” *World Politics* 49 (2): 155-183.

Huntington, *Political Order in Changing Societies*, Chapter 1: 1-11, 32-59, 78-92.

Sen, *Development as Freedom*, Introduction & Chapter 1.

Feb 9

Discussion

Week 6 Temporality: World System & Late Development

Feb 14

Wallerstein, *World-Systems Analysis: An Introduction*, Chapter 1-3.

Gershenkron, *Economic Backwardness in Historical Perspective*, Chapter 1.

Feb 16

Discussion

Week 7 Institutions

Feb 21

Acemoglu and Robinson, *Why Nations Fail*, Chapter 12-13.

North, Douglass, and Barry Weingast. 1989. “Constitutions and commitment: The Evolution of Institutions Governing Public Choice in Seventeenth-Century England.” *Journal of Economic History* 49 (4): 803-832.

Feb 23

Discussion

Week 8 Mid-term

Feb 28

Review Session

Mar 2

Mid-term

Week 9 State

March 7

Kohli, *State-Directed Development*, introduction.

Evans, Peter B. 1989. “Predatory, Developmental, and Other Apparatuses: A Comparative

Political Economy Perspective on the Third World State.” *Sociological Forum* 4 (4): 561-587.

Doner, Richard F., Bryan K. Ritchie, and Dan Slater. 2005. “Systemic Vulnerability and the Origins of Developmental States: Northeast and Southeast Asia in Comparative Perspective.” *International Organization* 59 (2): 327-361.

March 9
Discussion

Week 10 Spring Break/No Class

Week 11 Gender

March 21

Elias Juanita, and Adrienne Roberts. 2016. Feminist Global Political Economies of the Everyday: From Bananas to Bingo. *Globalization* 13 (6): 787-800.

Ross, Michael L. 2008. “Oil, Islam, and Women.” *American Political Science Review* 102 (1): 107-123

Sen, *Development as Freedom*, Chapter 8.

March 23
Discussion

Week 12 Democracy: As Dependent Variable

March 28

Slater and Wong, *From Development to Democracy*, Chapter 1.

Tsai, *Capitalism without Democracy*, Chapter 1-2.

Inglehart, Ronald, and Christian Welzel. 2009. “How Development Leads to Democracy: What We Know About Modernization.” *Foreign Affairs* 88 (2): 33-48.

March 30
Discussion

Recommended:

Kang, David C. 2004. *Crony Capitalism: Corruption and Development in South Korea and the Philippines*. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press.

Week 13 Democracy: As Independent Variable

April 4

Olson, Mancur. 1993. “Dictatorship, Democracy, and Development.” *The American Political Science Review* 87 (3): 567-576.

Ross, Michael. 2006. “Is Democracy Good for the Poor?” *American Journal of Political Science* 50 (4): 860-874.

Sen, *Development as Freedom*, Chapter 6.

April 6
Final Paper Workshop

Week 14 State-Business Relations

April 11

Pei, *China's Crony Capitalism*, Introduction & Chapter 1.

Ho, Wing-Chung. 2013. "The New 'Comprador Class': the reemergence of bureaucratic capitalists in post-Deng China." *Journal of Contemporary China* 22 (83): 812-827.

April 13

Final Paper Workshop

Week 15 Summary

April 18

Acemoglu and Robinson, *Why Nations Fail*, Chapter 15.

Collier, *The Bottom Billion*, Chapter 11.

April 20

Activity

Week 16

April 25

Review Session

Final Exam: May 5th 12:30-2:30 pm

Academic Integrity

UF students are bound by The Honor Pledge which states, "We, the members of the University of Florida community, pledge to hold ourselves and our peers to the highest standards of honor and integrity by abiding by the Honor Code. On all work submitted for credit by students at the University of Florida, the following pledge is either required or implied: "On my honor, I have neither given nor received unauthorized aid in doing this assignment." The Conduct Code specifies a number of behaviors that are in violation of this code and the possible sanctions. [Click here to read the Conduct Code.](#)

Students Requesting Accommodations

Students with disabilities that may affect your performance in this class should request academic accommodations with the *Disability Resource Center*. It is your responsibility to share the accommodation letter and communicate directly with the instructor at the beginning of the semester (or as soon as the disability occurs).

Recording and Sharing Policy

Students are allowed to record video or audio of class lectures. However, the purposes for which these recordings may be used are strictly controlled. The only allowable purposes are (1) for personal educational use, (2) in connection with a complaint to the university,

or (3) as evidence in, or in preparation for, a criminal or civil proceeding. All other purposes are prohibited. Specifically, students may not publish recorded lectures without the written consent of the instructor.

Publication without permission of the instructor is prohibited. To “publish” means to share, transmit, circulate, distribute, or provide access to a recording, regardless of format or medium, to another person (or persons), including but not limited to another student within the same class section. Additionally, a recording, or transcript of a recording, is considered published if it is posted on or uploaded to, in whole or in part, any media platform, including but not limited to social media, book, magazine, newspaper, leaflet, or third party note/tutoring services. A student who publishes a recording without written consent may be subject to a civil cause of action instituted by a person injured by the publication and/or discipline under UF Regulation 4.040 Student Honor Code and Student Conduct Code.

COVID-Related Recommendations

In response to COVID-19, the following recommendations are in place to maintain your learning environment, to enhance the safety of our in-classroom interactions, and to further the health and safety of ourselves, our neighbors, and our loved ones.

If you are not vaccinated, get vaccinated. Vaccines are readily available and have been demonstrated to be safe and effective against the COVID-19 virus. Visit one.ufl.edu for screening/testing and vaccination opportunities.

If you are sick, stay home. Please call your primary care provider if you are ill and need immediate care or the UF Student Health Care Center at 352-392-1161 to be evaluated.

Course materials will be provided to you with an excused absence, and you will be given a reasonable amount of time to make up work.

Campus Resources

U Matter, We Care: If you or someone you know is in distress, please contact umatter@ufl.edu, 352-392-1575, or visit [U Matter, We Care website](#) to refer or report a concern and a team member will reach out to the student in distress.

Counseling and Wellness Center: [Visit the Counseling and Wellness Center website](#) or call 352-392-1575 for information on crisis services as well as non-crisis services.

Student Health Care Center: Call 352-392-1161 for 24/7 information to help you find the care you need, or [visit the Student Health Care Center website](#).

University Police Department: [Visit UF Police Department website](#) or call 352-392-1111 (or 9-1-1 for emergencies).

UF Health Shands Emergency Room / Trauma Center: For immediate medical care call 352-733-0111 or go to the emergency room at 1515 SW Archer Road, Gainesville, FL 32608; [Visit the UF Health Emergency Room and Trauma Center website](#).

GatorWell Health Promotion Services: For prevention services focused on optimal wellbeing, including Wellness Coaching for Academic Success, visit the [GatorWell website](#) or call 352-273-4450.

Academic Resources

E-learning technical support: Contact the [UF Computing Help Desk](#) at 352-392-4357 or via e-mail at helpdesk@ufl.edu.

Career Connections Center: Reitz Union Suite 1300, 352-392-1601. Career assistance and counseling services.

Library Support: Various ways to receive assistance with respect to using the libraries or finding resources.

Teaching Center: Broward Hall, 352-392-2010 or to make an appointment 352-392-6420. General study skills and tutoring.

Writing Studio: 2215 Turlington Hall, 352-846-1138. Help brainstorming, formatting, and writing papers.

Student Complaints On-Campus: [Visit the Student Honor Code and Student Conduct Code webpage for more information.](#)

On-Line Students Complaints: [View the Distance Learning Student Complaint Process.](#)