Princeton University

WWS561/POL523

Fall Term 2007

Comparative Political Economy of Development

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Course Assistant: Jennifer Oh

Tues. 1:30 – 4:30pm
WWS - Robertson - 023

This course will provide a graduate level introduction to the comparative study of development. A central question will help organize the course: why have some parts of the developing world succeeded at “development,” while others have not? Whereas East Asia has often been viewed as economically successful, sub-Saharan Africa has just as often been treated as a failure. Latin America and South Asia are commonly perceived as mixed cases, with both pockets of success and failure. While defining what success or failure may mean, and qualifying these assessments as necessary, our collective focus will be on how best to understand such variations. The main contending explanations of developmental success and failure that we will examine generally point to varying roles of national states and/or of markets.

The course is divided into three parts. After a brief overview that will emphasize the interaction of states and markets as our conceptual framework, we will examine a variety of development pathways. The readings will introduce you to main regions of the developing world—and to their experience with development—as well as to some specific countries. I will often draw my examples from four cases, namely, Korea, Nigeria, India, and Brazil. The cross-regional focus will also enable us to discuss some standard issues that ought to be covered in such a course: state-led growth, growth versus distribution, managing external dependencies, structural adjustment, and democracy versus authoritarianism. We will finally end the course by focusing on emerging issues that cut across the regions and that are likely to be significant enough to merit our special attention. I have picked four such issues for discussion: Globalization; Democracy, Ethnic Conflict; and Distribution and Poverty.
**Course Requirements:**

The course is designed as a heavy reading course. All seminar members will be expected to keep up with the readings and to participate in discussions. There will be two “take home” exams, a mid-term and a final. I will provide further details in the class. Doctoral students will have the option of writing a research paper. Depending on the size of the class, the structure of the course and of the assignments may have to be modified.

**Readings:**

All “required” readings are (or ought to be) on e-reserve set up by the WWS library. The books that you will read cover to cover (or nearly) have been ordered at the university bookstore and ought to be available; these are listed below.

**Books Ordered:**


Weekly Course Topics and Readings

Session 1: **Introduction to the course; no readings are assigned for the first week.**

Session 2: **Four major debates in comparative political economy of development:**
   a. States versus Markets
   b. Global arena: opportunity or constraint
   c. Growth versus Distribution (as ends but also as means)
   d. Democracy versus Authoritarianism (as ends but also as means)


**Supplementary Readings:**


Alice Amsden, The Rise of the “Rest”: Challenges to the West from Late-Industrializing Economies, 2001.


John Williamson, On the “Washington Consensus” (Google for various essays).

Samuel Huntington, Political Order in Changing Societies, 1968.


Peter Evans, et al., Bringing the State Back In, 1985.


Peter Evans, Embedded Autonomy, 1995.


Session 3: The East Asian “Miracle”


Atul Kohli, State-Directed Development, Chs. 1-3 (skim Ch. 1).


**Supplementary Readings:**


**Note:** There is quite an extensive literature on the “Asian Financial Crisis.” If the topic interests you, consult one or more of the following: T.J. Pempel, ed., 1999; Stephan Haggard, 2000; Yun-Peng Chu and Hal Hill, eds., 2001; Joseph Stiglitz and Shahid Yusuf, eds., 2001; and Ha-Joon Chang, Gabriel Palma and D. Hugh Whittaker, eds., 2001.

**Session 4: The False Start in Africa**


Atul Kohli, *State-Direct Development*, Chs. 8 and 9 (skim Ch. 8).
Supplementary Readings:

Nicholas van de Walle, *Overcoming Stagnation in Aid-Dependent Countries*, 2005.


Session 5: Dependent Development and Beyond: Latin America


Barbara Stallings and Wilson Peres, Growth, Employment and Equity: The Impact of the Economic Reforms in Latin America and the Caribbean, 2000, Chaps. 1 and 7.

Robert Kaufman, in Kohli, et al., States, Markets and Just Growth, Ch. 4.

Atul Kohli, State-Directed Development, Chs. 4 and 5 (skim ch. 4).


Supplementary Readings:

Andrés Solimano, Vanishing Growth in Latin America: The Late Twentieth Century Experience, 2006.


Daedalus, Spring 2000 (Special issue on Brazil).


Ruth and David Collier, Shaping the Political Arena, 1991.

Fernando Cardoso and Enzo Falletto, Dependency and Development in Latin America, 1979.

Peter Evans, Dependent Development, 1979.


**Session 6: Import Substitution and Beyond: India**

Bimal Jalan, *India's Economic Crisis*, pp. 1-60.

Atul Kohli, *State-Directed Development*, Chs. 6 and 7 (skim Ch. 6).


**Supplementary Readings:**


*Foreign Affairs*, July/August 2006 (The Rise of India; four articles).


**Session 7: Communism and Beyond: China**


**Supplementary Readings:**


**Session 8: Globalization**


Barbara Stallings, in Kohli et al., *States, Markets and Just Growth*, 2003, Ch. 1.


**Supplementary Readings:**


Session 9: Democracy


Supplementary Readings:


Larry Diamond and Marc Plattner, Democracy in Developing Counties, 1993.


**Session 10: Ethnic Conflicts**


Crawford Young, *The Rising Tide of Cultural Pluralism*, 1993, pp. 3-35.


**Supplementary Readings:**


Session 11: Poverty and Distribution


HDR 1996, Ch. 3, 66-85.

Mick Moore and Howard White in Kohli et al., eds., *States, Markets and Just Growth*, 2003, Ch. 3.


Supplementary Readings:


John Sheahan, *Patterns of Development in Latin America*, 1987, Ch. 2.


**Session 12: Conclusion** (If you have not read it, please read the Conclusion to Kohli, *State-Directed Development*).