SOCIOLOGY OF DEVELOPMENT
Fall 2010
Mondays and Thursday 12:30 - 1:50p.m.
LBR 250
Professor: Sarah Hernandez
Office Hours: Hours Tuesdays 2:30-4:30, Thursdays 2:30-3:30

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INTRODUCTION

The experience with economic, social, and political change vary greatly between nations. It has been a consistent puzzle for scholars and practitioners trying to understand what explains these divergent developments. On the basis of their research, scholars and practitioners offer recommendations to less developed countries regarding policies they should follow to achieve the success of the developed world. These policies have had both positive and negative effects in the lives of people throughout the world. This course is an introduction to the schools of thought that have influenced the recommended policies and to the effects these policies have had on people.

COURSE DESCRIPTION

In this course we will gain a sociological understanding of the complexities in the study of economic development, gaining a keen understanding of three schools of thought: Modernization, Dependent Development, and World Systems. We will explore the historical processes behind economic development and critically analyze the varied definitions of development. We will look at the underlying assumptions for each definition, which influence our understanding of the subject matter and have an effect on policy-making. We explore more recent developments in development theory, such as neo-structuralism, as well as the development experiences of current emerging economies (China and India). Furthermore, we will explore specific issues of concern in development studies, such as poverty, inequality, hunger, humanitarian aid, health, gender, and sustainable development. We close the course exploring proposed alternatives to neo-liberal globalization.

OBJECTIVES

Through this course we hope to acquire knowledge and skills. The first objective involves the comprehension of the sociological theories of development and the political economy of various nations. In this process we will also gain a better understanding of the social and economic consequences of development policies on the citizens of nations ranging from Africa, Asia, Europe, and Latin America. The second objective includes exercising our critical thinking and analytical, research and writing skills, as well as leadership and communication skills.
CLASS STRUCTURE

During class meetings we will encounter different formats. Most class time, however, will be carried through discussion sessions. During discussion the goal will be to search as a group for an understanding of the issues that are being presented. Doing the readings and providing thoughtful participation, therefore, is very important for the success of the course.

In order to sustain a safe environment in which every one can participate, it is necessary to voice our views with consideration for others and with civility. A discussion also requires an open mind to the different views that will be expressed.

EXPECTATIONS

You will be evaluated on the basis of your performance in the final paper, mid-term examination, discussion leadership, presentations, and class participation.

**Participation:** In order to participate productively, one must have done the readings. Therefore, participation includes having done the assigned readings, contributing constructively to the conversation, holding a collegial relationship, and being evidently engaged with the material and the presentations.

**Discussion Leadership:** In groups of two or three students you will be responsible for leading discussion one time in the semester.

**Examination:** We will have one take-home examination.

**Final Research Paper:** You are required to write a 15-20 page research project studying one aspect of the development of a country of your choice. You may focus on any one aspect of your interest. For instance, the way development has affected women’s employment and role at home, the way it has influenced the environment, or the causes of malnutrition and projects that have been implemented to overcome it. If you prefer, you may do a larger project conducting a historical overview of the development experience of the country of choice.

This project will develop through the following six steps:

1) Compare development measures (e.g. GNP and Human Development) of your country of choice with two wealthier and two poorer nations. For the specific area of interest you will also explore data on such issue. For example, comparing women’s education and health between your nation of choice and two wealthier and poorer nations. Accompanying these data will be a one paragraph explanation of your choice of nation and focus. Due August 30.

2) Turn in a bibliography of the history of the country and readings on the specific topic you are analyzing. It should include books and journal articles. Ideally you will plan to read no less than two books and 8 journal articles (or a combination of journal articles and additional books: e.g. 5 articles and the third book, or 3 articles and two additional books).
suggest you make your bibliography extensive and then prioritize your readings. Due September 6.

3) Submit a written report of the country’s development history and how it relates to your specific focus. Due October 7.

4) Write and submit a 4 - 6 page report explaining the development “theories” or visions/logic that have apparently been shaping development policy in your nation of study. Address what have been the strengths and limitations of such approaches. Finally explain which theoretical approach best helps us understand this nation’s development. You will share these findings through a brief presentation to a small group in class. Due November 1.

5) By November 4 you should have set up an appointment with a Student Writing Assistant at the WRC. Furthermore, the first draft of you final paper must have been reviewed by the SWA no later than November 18. That is, no later than November 4 you should know when you will meet with your SWA, and this meeting must happen no later than November 18. To prepare for the meeting with your SWA, you should go to the meeting with some specific questions. For instance, if you are uncertain with regard to organization, then ask what advice the person has to offer to improve organization. If you are uncertain as to whether certain concepts are clear, then ask for guidance on how to clarify your ideas or sharpen your arguments. Perhaps your concerns may center around sentence structure or focus of the argument. Regardless of the specific concern(s), you should provide specific questions to facilitate their feedback to your work.

6) Final Report: Shall include a general introduction to the country of study through the comparison of its general development indicators; a summary of its history of development including those issues raised in phase 4; and an assessment of how theory(ies) of development inform the specific issue in the development experience of the country. Due December 6.

**READINGS**

Two books are required. All other readings are available electronically through the library and NewDLE. These are noted below with an asterisk (*).

Books to be fully read:


Electronic Resources

WDI Online World Development Indicators database is available through the Databases link.
CLASS TOPIC AND READING SCHEDULE

INTRODUCTION
August 23: Introduction
August 26: What is Development?

* Josep h E. Stiglitz: GDP Fetishism
* Samir Amin, Amartya Sen, Development as Freedom:
  Introduction: Development as Freedom
  Chapter 1: The Perspective of Freedom
* Suda: Modernization or Americanization

THEORIES OF DEVELOPMENT

MODERNIZATION

August 30: So: Chs 1 - 3
  Due: First Paper Assignment
September 2: So: Ch.4
  Oskar Gruenwald: “Globalization Paradox”
  Susan E. Keefe: “Theorizing Modernity In Appalachia

DEPENDENCY

September 6: So: Ch.5 & 6
  Jonas: Colonial Period (pp. 101 - 126) & Imperialism Stage One (pp.138-148)
  Due: Second Paper Assignment
September 9: So: Ch. 7
  Jonas: Imperialism stage two (pp.169-210)

WORLD SYSTEM

September 13: So: Ch.8
  Sorenson: “The Horn of Africa: States of Crisis”
September 16: So Chs. 9 & 10
September 20:
*Lee, Nielsen and Alderson: Income Inequality, Global Economy and the State
*Jalata: “Poverty, Powerlessness and the Imperial Interstate System in the Horn of Africa”
*Isaac: Carrying Each Other’s Burden”
*So: “Modern East Asia in World-Systems Analysis.” (From: World-Systems Reader)

September 23: Class Cancelled. Read for final paper

NEO LIBERAL ECONOMICS

Latin America
September 27: Green: Chs 1 - 3
September 30: Green: Chs 4 - 6
October 4: Green: Chs 7 – 9

Neo Liberalism in the Middle East and Asia
October 7:
*Anne Marie Bayloun: Militarizing Welfare: Neo-liberalism and Jordanian Policy
*Vedi R. Hadiz And Richard Robison: Neo-Liberal Reforms And Illiberal Consolidations: The Indonesian Paradox
*Richard Dekmejian: The Liberal Impulse In Saudi Arabia

Optional:
*Robert Looney: The Neoliberal Model's Planned Role in Iraq's Economic Transition
*David Hundt: A Legitimate Paradox: Neo-liberal Reform and the Return of the State in Korea
Due: Third Step of Paper

Fall Break October 11 & 14

CURRENT EMERGING ECONOMIES

October 18: A Broad View
*Jan Nederveen Pieterse: Globalization the next round: Sociological perspectives
*Mark Beeson and Iyanatul Islam: Neo-liberalism and East Asia: Resisting the Washington Consensus

October 21: China and India
*Anand Kumar: Paradoxes of paradigm shift: Indian engagement with liberalization and globalization
*Sumit Ganguly and Manjeet S. Pardesi: India Rising: What is New Delhi to Do?

**TOPICS IN DEVELOPMENT**

October 25: Poverty Trends, development and inequality
* Tapan R. Mohanty: Poverty, Population and Development in India: Priorities and Predilections
* Safoura A. Boukari: How the Politics of Dependency and Globalization Widened the Gap between Rich and Poor: The Case of Togolese Women
* Erik Thorbecke And Machiko Nissanke: The Impact of Globalization on the Poor in Latin America

October 28: Hunger and Humanitarian Aid
* Marc-Antoine Perouse De Montclos: A Crisis of Humanitarianism
* Lynn Letukas and John Barnshaw: A World-System Approach to Post-Catastrophe International Relief
* Jane Barratt: International Perspectives on Aging and Disasters
* Prendergast: “roots of Famine in Sudan’s Killing Fields”
* Dwight D. Murphey: Do Something About Darfur": A Review of the Complexities

November 1: Share your findings.
**Due:** Fourth Step of the Paper

November 4: Health and Development
* João Biehl: Pharmaceuticalization. AIDS Treatment and Global Health Politics
* Lee-Nah Hsu: HIV epidemics in developing countries: Looking beyond health dimensions to the role of development
* Maureen T Upton: Global Public Health Trumps the Nation-State.
* Paola Roggero, MD, MSc, Viviana Mangiaterra, MD, PhD, Flavia Bustreo, MD, and Furio Rosati, PhD: The Health Impact of Child Labor in Developing Countries: Evidence From Cross-Country Data

Optional:
* Guang-zhen Wang: Testing the impact of gender equality on reproductive health: An analysis of developing countries
November 8: Women and development – historical trends
*Jenny B. White: State Feminism, Modernization, and the Turkish Republican Woman
*Donna E Murdock: Neoliberal, Gender, and Development Institutionalizing "Post-Feminism" in Medellin, Colombia

November 11: Women and development – current trends
*Sandya Hewamanne: Development And Sri Lanka's Free Trade Zone Women Workers
*Robin G. Isserles: Micro credit The Rhetoric of Empowerment, the Reality of "Development As Usual"
*Jelke Boesten: Poor Women in Peru Reproducers of Poverty and Poverty Relievers
*Barbara J. Dilly: Gender, Culture, and Ecotourism Development Policies and Practices in the Guyanese Rain Forest

November 15: Sustainable development – history and debates
*Adams: Green Development:
  ch.2: The Origins of Sustainable Development
  ch3: The Development of Sustainable Development
  ch4: Sustainable Development The Rio Machine

November 18: Sustainable development – steady state economy
*Herman Daly: Beyond Growth:
  Introduction; Part I: introduction, ch1
  Part V: Introduction, ch. 10 & 11
**Due**: Step 5 of final paper

November 22: Alternatives to Globalization
*Songok Han Thornton: From Miracle To Mirage: Rethinking Asian Exceptionalism Vis-à-Vis The Third World
*Darren Noy: Happiness And Global Justice: Contrasts, Convergences, Overlaps, And Complementarities Of The World Social Forum And The Gross National Happiness Movements
*James V. Fenelon and Thomas D. Hall: Revitalization and Indigenous Resistance to Globalization and Neoliberalism
*Gery Nijenhuis: Political decentralisation and participatory governance in Latin America, Africa and Asia: an overview.

November 25 & 26: Thanksgiving.
November 29: CLOSING
**December 6**: Step 6 of Final Paper Due