

Political Science 127
Politics of Developing Countries
UC San Diego, Spring 2013

Class Meetings: Tuesday & Thursday, 6:30-7:50 PM
Cognitive Science Building 002

Professor Simeon Nichter (nichter@ucsd.edu)
Office Hours: Friday, 3-4:30 PM
Location: Social Sciences Building #367

Teaching Assistant: Nicole Bonoff (nbonoff@ucsd.edu)
Office Hours: Thursday, 3-4 PM
Location: Social Sciences Building #345

COURSE SUMMARY

Why are some countries rich and others poor? This course explores key factors that shape the development trajectory of nations, drawing on work from political science, economics, and sociology. We will examine various aspects of development, including but not limited to economic growth. A primary focus of the course is how political institutions influence development outcomes. Topics covered include the relationship between democracy and development, the role of the state, consequences of natural resources and corruption, and the impact of foreign aid. Lectures and readings will include examples from various countries around the world.

COURSE REQUIREMENTS

Students are expected to complete all required readings prior to each lecture and to attend all lectures. Neither the readings nor the lecture slides will provide comprehensive coverage of the materials you are expected to know for the paper and exams.

There will be a midterm exam, a 5- to 7-page paper, and a cumulative final exam. The paper assignment and exams will be based on the lectures and required readings. Grading will be determined as follows:

- 25% Midterm Examination (May 2, in class)
- 25% Paper (Due May 28 at start of class)
- 40% Final Examination (June 11, 7-10 PM, Location TBA)
- 10% Attendance and Participation

No late assignments will be accepted, with the exception of documented cases of illness or family crisis. In such cases, a request must be made to the professor and TA prior to the assignment's due date. The failure to turn in a paper or to attend an exam session will

result in an F for the given assignment. Papers previously or simultaneously submitted for another course will not be accepted.

CLASS MEETINGS

Lectures will last from 6:30-7:20 PM on Tuesdays and Thursdays, with 7:20-7:50 PM typically reserved for discussion sections led by Professor Nichter. Each student is required to attend and sign in at EIGHT discussion sections during the quarter. Students are assigned to discussion sections by the last digit of their student ID number. Students whose last digit is EVEN must attend discussion sections on the days of EVEN lectures (e.g., Lecture 2, 4, 6, and so on). Those whose last digit is ODD must attend discussion sections on the days of ODD lectures (e.g., Lecture 3, 5, 7, and so on). Note there is no discussion section after Lecture 1 or Lecture 19.

IN-CLASS ELECTRONICS POLICY

Please turn all phones off before the lecture. Note that this implies no texting as well as no calls. With respect to the use of laptop computers, we will vote as a class on the first day of the term among three options: (1) no laptops allowed, (2) laptops allowed in the back rows only, (3) laptops allowed without restrictions. Laptops should be used for note taking only, and you must turn your laptop's wireless connection off during class.

ACADEMIC INTEGRITY

Students are expected to maintain the highest standards of academic integrity. Cheating, plagiarism and other forms of academic dishonesty will not be tolerated and will be subject to disciplinary action consistent with University rules and regulations. A non-exhaustive list of behaviors that violate standards of academic integrity includes: cheating, plagiarism, fabrication, obtaining an unfair advantage, aiding and abetting dishonesty, falsification of records and official documents, and unauthorized access to computerized academic or administrative records or systems. Students are expected to familiarize themselves with University regulations regarding plagiarism and academic dishonesty. Information about UCSD's academic integrity policies can be found at:

<http://students.ucsd.edu/academics/academic-integrity/ai-and-you.html>

You are strongly encouraged to take issues of academic integrity seriously. Violations can end up on your academic record and may become a red flag for employers and graduate schools. Note that even unintentional plagiarism is still plagiarism. If you are unsure about whether to cite or how to cite a source, then confer with the professor or teaching assistant.

ACCOMODATIONS FOR STUDENTS WITH DISABILITIES

All necessary accommodations will be made for students with disabilities. Please contact the professor at the beginning of the term so that we can work together with UCSD's Office for Students with Disabilities to make arrangements.

COURSE MATERIALS

There are *no required books* for this course. All readings will be made available in electronic form through UCSD's TED system. While no book purchases are mandatory, I encourage those of you with a strong interest in development to consider purchasing your own copy of the following books, from which we will be reading excerpts:

- William Easterly, *The Elusive Quest for Growth: Economists' Adventures and Misadventures in the Tropics* (The MIT Press, 2002)
- Amartya Sen, *Development as Freedom* (New York: Anchor Books, 1999)
- Paul Collier, *The Bottom Billion: Why the Poorest Countries are Failing and What Can Be Done About It* (Oxford University Press, 2007)
- Jeffrey Sachs, *The End of Poverty: Economic Possibilities for Our Time* (New York, NY: Penguin Books, 2005)
- Daron Acemoglu and James Robinson, *Why Nations Fail: The Origins of Power, Prosperity, and Poverty* (New York: Crown Publishers, 2012)

COURSE OVERVIEW

Lecture 1: Introduction

Tuesday, April 2

- Angus Maddison, "The World Economy: A Millennial Perspective," OECD Development Centre Studies (OECD, 2001)
 - Read pages 27-31, 44-48, 125-130

Lecture 2: What is Development?

Thursday, April 4

- Jeffrey Sachs, *The End of Poverty: Economic Possibilities for Our Time* (New York, NY: Penguin Books, 2005)
 - Chapters 1 and 2
- Amartya Sen, *Development as Freedom* (New York: Anchor Books, 1999)
 - Chapter 1

Lecture 3: Traditional Economic Approaches to Development

Tuesday, April 9

- David Lindauer and Lant Pritchett, "What's the Big Idea? The Third Generation of Policies for Economic Growth," *Economia* (Fall 2002)
 - Read pages 1-18
- William Easterly, *The Elusive Quest for Growth: Economists' Adventures and Misadventures in the Tropics* (The MIT Press, 2002)
 - Chapters 2 and 3

Lecture 4: Fundamental Causes of Growth – Geography and Trade

Thursday, April 11

- “Free Trade, Fair Trade,” *World Ark*, March-April 2006, pages 8-17. (Includes excerpts from “Fair Trade for All,” by Joseph Stiglitz and Andrew Charlton.)
- Ricardo Hausmann, “Prisoners of Geography,” *Foreign Policy*, No. 122 (Jan - Feb 2001), pages 44-53.
- David Bloom and Jeffrey Sachs, “Geography, Demography, and Economic Growth in Africa,” *Brookings Papers on Economic Activity*, No. 2 (1998).
 - Read pages 207-240

Lecture 5: Fundamental Causes of Growth – Institutions

Tuesday, April 16

- Douglass North, *Institutions, Institutional Change, and Economic Performance* (Cambridge University Press, 1990)
 - Chapter 1
- Daron Acemoglu and James Robinson, *Why Nations Fail: The Origins of Power, Prosperity, and Poverty* (New York: Crown Publishing Group, 2012)
 - Read pages 7-9, Chapter 2 (all), and pages 70-79
- Dani Rodrik, “Institutions for High-Quality Growth: What They Are and How to Acquire Them,” *Studies in Comparative International Development* 35, 3 (2000)
 - Read pages 3-10

Lecture 6: Washington Consensus and Beyond

Thursday, April 18

- John Williamson, “What Washington Means by Policy Reform,” pages 1-8, in John Williamson (Ed.), *Latin American Adjustment: How Much Has Happened?* (Peterson Institute for International Economics, 1990).
- Dani Rodrik, “Goodbye Washington Consensus, Hello Washington Confusion?,” *Journal of Economic Literature*, Vol. XLIV (December 2006).
 - Read pages 973-982
- Nancy Birdsall, et al. “The Washington Consensus: Assessing a Damaged Brand,” Center for Global Development, Working Paper 213, May 2010.
 - Read pages 1-32

Lecture 7: Democracy and Development

Tuesday, April 23

- Dani Rodrik, “Myth of Authoritarian Growth,” Project Syndicate, August 20, 2010.
- Howard Handelman, Chapter 2 of *The Challenge of Third World Development* (Pearson Education, Inc., 2012)

- Daron Acemoglu and James Robinson, *Why Nations Fail: The Origins of Power, Prosperity, and Poverty* (New York: Crown Publishing Group, 2012)
 - Read pages 79-95

Lecture 8: Case Study – Non-Democratic Development in Chile and China

Thursday, April 25

- Pamela Constable and Arturo Valenzuela, *A Nation of Enemies: Chile Under Pinochet* (New York, NY: WW Norton & Company, 1991)
 - Chapter 7
- John Williamson, “Is the ‘Beijing Consensus’ Now Dominant?” *Asia Policy* (January 2012): 1-16

Lecture 9: Rule of Law, Property Rights, and Development

Tuesday, April 30

- David Weimer, “The Political Economy of Property Rights,” in David Weimer, eds., *The Political Economy of Property Rights: Institutional Change and Credibility in the Reform of Centrally Planned Economies* (Cambridge University Press, 1997)
 - Read pages 1-12
- Hernando De Soto, *The Mystery of Capital: Why Capitalism Triumphs in the West and Fails Everywhere Else* (New York: Basic Books, 2000)
 - Chapter 2
- Yingyi Qian, “How Reform Worked in China,” in Dani Rodrik, ed., *In Search of Prosperity: Analytic Narratives on Economic Growth* (Princeton University Press, 2003)
 - Read pages 297-314, 318-322

THURSDAY, MAY 2: MIDTERM EXAMINATION (IN-CLASS)

Lecture 10: Case Study – Property Rights in Russia

Tuesday, May 7

- Stephen Handelman, “The Russian ‘Mafiya,’” *Foreign Affairs* 73, 2 (1994): 83-96
- Jordan Gans-Morse, “Threats to Property Rights in Russia: From Private Coercion to State Aggression,” *Post-Soviet Affairs* 28, 3 (2012): 263-295

Lecture 11: States and Development

Thursday, May 9

- “Ethiopia and Kenya: Doing it My Way.” *Economist*, March 2, 2013.
- Peter Evans, *Embedded Autonomy: States and Industrial Transformation* (Princeton University Press, 1995)
 - Read pages 47-60

- Stuart Lynn, *Economic Development: Theory and Practice for a Divided World* (Upper Saddle River, NJ: Prentice Hall, 2003)
 - Chapter 10

Lecture 12: Case Study – Statist Development in East Asia

Tuesday, May 14

- Alice Amsden, *Asia's Next Giant: South Korea and Late Industrialization* (Oxford University Press, 1989)
 - Read Chapter 1
- The World Bank, "The East Asian Miracle: Economic Growth and Public Policy – Summary," World Bank Policy Research Report, Volume 2 of 2 (Washington, DC: IBRD and World Bank, 1993)
 - Read pages 1-34

Lecture 13: Corruption and Development

Thursday, May 16

- William Easterly, *The Elusive Quest for Growth: Economists' Adventures and Misadventures in the Tropics* (The MIT Press, 2002)
 - Chapter 12
- Jakob Svensson, "Eight questions about corruption," *Journal of Economic Perspectives* 19, 3 (2005): 19-42
- Raymond Fisman and Edward Miguel, *Economic Gangsters: Corruption, Violence, and the Poverty of Nations* (Princeton University Press, 2008)
 - Chapter 4

Lecture 14: Clientelism and Development

Tuesday, May 21

- Susan Stokes, Thad Dunning, Marcelo Nazareno, and Valeria Brusco, *Brokers, Voters, and Clientelism: The Puzzle of Distributive Politics* (Cambridge University Press, forthcoming)
 - Read pages 2-30
- Javier Auyero, "The Logic of Clientelism in Argentina: An Ethnographic Account," *Latin American Research Review*, Vol. 35, No. 3 (2000)
 - Read pages 55-57, 61-75

Lecture 15: Case Study: Clientelism in Brazil

Thursday, May 23

- Robert Gay, *Popular Organization and Democracy in Rio de Janeiro: A Tale of Two Favelas* (Temple University Press, 1994)
 - Chapter 4 and Conclusion

- Simeon Nichter, “Declared Choice: Citizen Strategies and Dual Commitment Problems in Clientelism.” American Political Science Association Conference Paper, 2009.
 - Read pages 11-24

TUESDAY, MAY 28: PAPER DUE AT START OF CLASS (6:30 PM)

Lecture 16: Natural Resources and Development

Tuesday, May 28

- Paul Collier, *The Bottom Billion: Why the Poorest Countries are Failing and What Can Be Done About It* (Oxford University Press, 2007)
 - Chapter 3
- Michael Ross, *The Oil Curse: How Petroleum Wealth Shapes the Development of Nations* (Princeton University Press, 2012)
 - Read pages 1-14 and Chapter 6

Lecture 17: Case Study – Oil and Development in Venezuela

Thursday, May 30

- Terry Karl, “The Paradox of Plenty” (University of California Press, 1997).
 - Read pages 71-73, 119-126, and 233-236
- John Cassidy, “Venezuela’s ‘Resource Curse’ Will Outlive Hugo Chavez,” *The New Yorker*, March 6, 2013
- Pedro L. Rodríguez, et al. “Direct Distribution of Oil Revenues in Venezuela: A Viable Alternative?” Center for Global Development, Working Paper 306, September 2012
 - Read pages ii-21

Lecture 18: Aid and Development

Tuesday, June 4

- Jeffrey Sachs, *The End of Poverty: Economic Possibilities for Our Time* (New York, NY: Penguin Books, 2005)
 - Chapter 13
- Paul Collier, *The Bottom Billion: Why the Poorest Countries are Failing and What Can Be Done About It* (Oxford University Press, 2007)
 - Chapter 7

Lecture 19: Wrap-Up and Review

Thursday, June 6

- Steven Radelet, “Success Stories from ‘Emerging Africa,’” *Journal of Democracy*, Vol. 21, No. 4 (2010)

TUESDAY, JUNE 11: CUMULATIVE FINAL EXAMINATION (7-10 PM, LOCATION TBA)