POLI 138D
Special Topic in Comparative Politics:
Inequality, Corruption, and Democracy

Spring 2007
M/W/F, 10:00-10:50am, HSS 1330

Professor Jong-Sung You (유종성; 柳鍾星).
Office: Robinson Building Complex (IR/PS) #1315.
Phone: 858-534-9825. E-mail: jsyou@ucsd.edu
Web: http://irps.ucsd.edu/faculty/faculty-directory/jongsung-you.htm
Office hours: Tuesday 10:00-11:30am, Wednesday 11:00am-12:30pm

Course Webpage:
http://www.polisci.ucsd.edu/ps138d/

Course Description:
Why are some countries freer, more equal, and less corrupt than others? Does democracy promote economic equality and/or economic growth? This course will explore how democracy, economic inequality, and corruption affect one another and what impact they have on human development by studying relevant literature in comparative politics and comparative political economy. We will begin with normative questions about equality and efficiency, although most of the course will be devoted to positive theories and empirical studies. We will also study how various research questions have been explored with different research designs and methods.

Course Requirements:
(1) All students must come to class each session prepared to discuss any of the required readings. Students may be called on at any time to answer questions. (10% of the course grade)
(2) Students must submit to the whole class one or two questions or comments about the readings once a week (for Monday, Wednesday, or Friday classes), by 11pm the day before class. For the first week and the ninth week, students responsible for Monday classes will take either Wednesday or Friday class of their choice. Sign-up will take place the first day of class. Thoughtful, insightful, and/or interesting questions/comments will be appreciated and may be picked up in class. (20% of the course grade)
(3) Each student will write a short essay (1000-1500 words) on readings of their choice. The essay should be submitted to the whole class by 11pm the day before class. Sign-up will take place the first day of class. (20% of the course grade)
(4) A comprehensive final exam. (50% of the course grade)

Readings:
The following books will be used in this course and are available in the bookstore.


All other course readings will be available through the course webpage and the library e-reserves unless the links are provided in the syllabus.

Some tips for reading:

**Week 1: Justice and Development**

**April 2. An introduction to the course**

April 4. Justice as fairness and corruption, inequality, and democracy

April 6. Justice as greatest happiness


( optional reading)

**Week 2: Development as Freedom**

April 9. Capabilities approach
April 11. Development as freedom
Sen. chs. 4, 5, and 11.

April 13. Human Development Indicators
UNDP, Human Development Report 2006, pp. 263-280 (the state of human development, readers guide and notes to tables), 393-401 (technical notes 1, 2).

(optional reading)

Week 3. Democracy and Development

April 16. Economic development and political regimes
Przeworski et al. Introduction, chs. 1, 2.

(optional readings)


April 18. Political regimes and economic growth
Przeworski et al. chs. 3-5, Conclusion.


(optional)

April 20. Democracy, inequality, and human development


You, Jong-Sung. "Notes on measuring inequality."

Week 4. Democracy and Inequality

April 23. Democracy and economic inequality


April 25. Unequal participation


April 27. Unequal representation

Week 5. Inequality and Prosperity

April 30. Varieties of welfare capitalism
Pontusson. ch. 2.


May 2. Income distribution and labor markets
Pontusson. chs. 3-6.


May 4. Inequality and growth
Pontusson. chs. 1, 7.


Week 6. Politics and Political Economy of the Welfare State

May 7. Political economy of redistribution
Pontusson. ch. 7.


May 9. The logic of universalism

**May 11. Politics of the welfare state**


Pontusson. chs. 8, 9.

**Week 7. Corruption and Development**

**May 14. Rent-Seeking and corruption**

Rose-Ackerman. chs. 1-3.

**May 16. Corruption and development**


**May 18. Democracy and corruption**

Rose-Ackerman. chs. 8, 9, 11.

**Week 8. Anti-Corruption Reform**

**May 21. Assessing and measuring corruption**


(optional)

World Bank, Governance and Anti-Corruption Diagnostic Surveys. Available at: www.worldbank.org/wbi/governance/diagnostics


May 23. Anti-corruption reform in Hong Kong and La Paz
Kliggaard et al.

May 25. Inequality and corruption


( optional)

Week 9. Inequality, Corruption, and Social Trust

May 30. Social trust and social capital


( optional)  


June 1. Inequality, corruption, and social trust

Week 10. Inequality, corruption, and development

June 4. Inequality, corruption, and East Asian Development


June 6. Inequality and development across Americas


June 8. Inequality and corruption in transition economies


June 14. Final Exam