Poli127: Politics of Developing Countries
Winter Quarter 2012

Professor: Maureen Feeley
Office: SSB #383
Office Hours:
  Thurs. after class: 5 - 6 pm
  Tuesdays after class: 5 – 6 pm, every other week, beginning week 1 (So, odd weeks: 1, 3, 5, 7, 9.)
  Fridays: 3 – 4 pm, and by appt.
  Sat. office hours: 3 March, 2 – 4 pm
Teaching Assistant: Kai Ostwald
E-mail: kostwald@ucsd.edu
Office Hours: Fridays, 1 – 3 pm, SSB#326
Teaching Assistant: Lindsay Nielson
E-mail: lnielson@ucsd.edu
Office Hours: Wednesdays, 12 – 2 pm, SSB#322
Teaching Assistant: Rita Kreig
E-mail: rkreig@ucsd.edu
Office Hours: Mondays and Wednesdays, 9:30 – 10:30, at Peet’s Coffee by SSB.

Course materials are available on TED at https://ted.ucsd.edu. From the main TED page for poli127, click on “Content” in the upper left menu. This will bring you to the course syllabus, research guides, rubrics, and turnitin.com and PeerMark access. Please just let me, or one of the TAs, know if you have any questions.

Course Description:
What do we mean by “development”? Why have some countries and regions of the world been more successful in their efforts to promote development than others? Why should “we” (in the “developed” world) care about development problems in the “developing” world, or should we? This course provides an introduction to competing conceptions and theories of development. We will examine the assumptions and predictions of different theoretical approaches, and assess the explanatory power of competing theories in understanding the central problems faced by developing countries in the early 21st century. In so doing, the course has four primary objectives: (1) to critically evaluate dominant conceptions and theories of development in the political science literature; (2) to assess the relative value of these theories by applying them to specific case studies drawn from three regions of the developing world: Latin America, Sub-Saharan Africa and Southeast Asia; (3) to compare and critique patterns of development across these three regions; and (4) to further develop our skills as social scientists in formulating and testing hypotheses concerning the causes and consequences of development and underdevelopment in our world.

Course Requirements:
Summary:
(1) Midterm Exam: Tuesday, 31 Jan. (week 4) 20%
(2) Research Project:
  1) Brief project proposal (week 3) 5%
     • E-copy due to turnitin.com (TED) Monday, 23 Jan., 11:59 pm
     • Hard copy due Tuesday, 24 Jan. at beginning of class
  2) 1 paragraph project summary and annotated bibliography (week 6) 10%
     • E-copy due to turnitin.com Monday, 13 Feb., 11:59 pm
     • Hard copy due Tues., 14 Feb at the beginning of class
  3) First draft of research project (week 8) 3%
     • E-copy due to turnitin.com Tuesday, 28 Feb, 11:59 pm (Pass/Fail)
  4) Feedback to research partner (week 8) (Pass/Fail) 2%
     • due to PeerMark (TED) no later than Friday, 2 March, 11:59 pm
  5) Final draft of research project (week 9) 25%
     • E-copy due to turnitin.com Monday, 5 March, 11:59 p.m.
     • Hard copy due at beginning of class, Tuesday, 6 March
(3) Final Exam: (cumulative) Tuesday, 20 March, 3 - 6 p.m. 35%
Exams:
There are two exams in this course: a midterm and a final. The midterm exam will constitute 20% of your final grade, and the final exam is worth 35%. Both exams will have five short answer identifications, and the final (but not the midterm) will also have an in-class essay question. The midterm is scheduled for Tuesday, 31 January (week 4) and the final exam (cumulative) is final’s week, Tuesday, 20 March, 3 - 6 p.m. Please note that exams cannot be made up without exceedingly well documented evidence of an emergency.

Research Projects:
This course also requires that you write a short (8 – 10 pages, double-spaced) research paper/essay or policy paper, which will count for a total of 45% of your final grade. Depending on your personal interests and goals, you may choose to write either a more traditional research paper/essay, or a policy paper. Regardless of which option you choose, your projects should focus on a specific problem of development and you should consult a minimum of five relevant academic sources outside of course readings. These sources can be books, book chapters, or articles from peer-reviewed journals. (See the course’s library/research guide for assistance: http://libguides.ucsd.edu/poli127)
The general purpose of this assignment is to allow you the opportunity for more in-depth analysis of a development problem or question of particular interest to you, and to further hone your critical thinking and writing skills in defending the development position(s) you put forth. In addition, since we can only address a small subset of country case studies in a 10-week quarter, it gives you the opportunity to explore a case study of your interest and choice.

If you choose the research paper/essay option, your paper should have a clear thesis statement and your argument should be carefully developed with supporting evidence. If you choose the policy paper option, for the purposes of this assignment, you will become a development policy analyst employed by either a governmental organization (i.e., U.S. AID --Agency for International Development, U.S. State Department, etc.), an inter-governmental organization (i.e., UNDP –United Nations Development Program, World Bank, IMF, WHO, ILO, etc.), or a non-governmental organization (i.e. Oxfam, Grameen Foundation, The Nature Conservancy, etc.) of your choice and your brief will be directed to an organization (or state agency, etc.) or your choice. Regardless of which research option you choose, your projects should focus on a specific problem of development. For example, if you have chosen Kenya as your country case study, you should not then attempt to address all problems of underdevelopment in Kenya. Choose one specific problem, as the focus of your analysis. You may also choose to focus on a development problem in a specific region or city in your country of choice. If you need help narrowing your topic, or if you run into problems finding information on the topic you’ve chosen, please consult me, one of the TAs, a reference librarian at Geisel, or the political science research librarian at Geisel, Annelise Sklar. For further details and guidance on your research projects, please consult the research guides and rubrics on the TED course content page. Also, for examples of research projects that students have published, please see UCSD’s online undergraduate journal of international affairs, Prospect: http://prospectjournal.ucsd.edu/. (I will also discuss Prospect in class.)

To help you write an excellent paper, we have established the following project deadlines:
1. A proposal for your research project is due to turnitin.com (see course TED site, click on “content” in the upper left menu) no later than Monday, 23 January at 11:59 p.m., and a hard copy is due at the beginning of class on Tuesday, 24 January (week 3). If you are writing a research paper, your proposal should include three things: (1) your proposed country case study; (2) statement of the development problem you would like to investigate; (3) a brief single spaced paragraph explaining why this is an important problem and how it is linked to development, given your understanding of this concept. If you are writing a policy paper, in addition to these three things, your policy proposal should include: (4) a statement of the organization you will represent; and (5) a statement of your target audience. Please number the above items 1 – 3, or 1 – 5 in your proposal and ensure that your proposals do not exceed 1 page. Research proposals count for 5% of your final grade.

2. A one-paragraph summary of your argument or policy stance and an annotated bibliography of five relevant sources is due to turnitin.com no later than 11:59 p.m. on Monday, 13 February, and a hard copy due at the beginning of class on Tues, 14 Feb. (week 6). If you are writing a research paper, all five sources should be academic sources, meaning books or book chapters by academic presses, or peer-reviewed journal articles. (You can use “further reading” recommendations on the syllabus.) If you are writing a policy paper, three of your five sources should be academic sources and the remaining two may
include policy briefs by other organizations, organizational reports, existing legislation and case law, website or documents issued by stakeholders, and newspaper or magazine articles, etc. The “annotation” for each of your five sources in the bibliography should: (1) summarize the main argument relevant to the development problem you are investigating; and (2) explain how the source will contribute to your paper, or how will you use this information in your brief. Annotations should be no longer then 3 – 5 sentences (single space) per source. (Please see the sample annotated bibliography from a former senior honors thesis student on the course content page of TED.) This interim research assignment counts for 10% of your final grade.

3. A first draft of your paper (minimum of 6 – 8 pages) is due to turnitin.com no later than 11:59 p.m., Tuesday, 28 February (week 8). Please use the research guides and rubrics as you proofread this draft prior to submitting it. (Note that there are separate rubrics for research vs. policy paper assignments.) These will be graded on a pass/fail basis for 3% of your final grade. That said, please make this is your strongest draft possible. The higher the quality of the draft, the greater the likelihood the peer review process will strengthen your work.

4. Comments to your research partners are due on PeerMark no later than 11:59 p.m. on Friday, 2 March. (PeerMark is also accessed via the course’s “content” page on TED.) These will also be graded on a pass/fail basis for a total of 2% of your final grade. The TAs and I will review these on-line for quality, but as long as you have made a conscious effort to provide thoughtful/high quality feedback to your research partner, you will receive full points.

5. Final papers are due to turnitin.com no later than 11:59 on Monday, 5 March (week 9). Hard copies are due at the beginning of class on Tuesday, 6 March (week 9). For two extra credit points, please print out the rubric for your research or policy paper, self-evaluate your paper, and staple this to the hard copy of your project that you turn in at the beginning of class. Because of the size of the class, the importance of maintaining standards of fairness for all students, and out of respect for the TAs grading time, late assignments cannot be accepted. Please see “Late Policy” below. Please also note that e-mailed versions of assignments cannot be accepted under any circumstances. Final drafts are worth 25% of your final grade.

Class Participation:
As an upper-division political science course, you are expected to come to class meetings prepared to discuss central questions, puzzles and concerns that arise from course readings assigned for that day, or current events that are related to course topics. There are three main ways to participate in the course: (1) discussion in class; (2) postings on the course’s discussion board (click on “Discussions” in the upper left menu on the course TED page); and (3) office hours. General participation in the course in these three ways will be used to “bump-up” any borderline final grades. For example, if you end up with an 89% in the class, but have made a conscious effort to participate in the above ways, your grade will be bumped-up to an “A-”. Please try to come to office hours at least once (preferably more!) to discuss your research projects, course readings, films, lectures, development related current events, etc. Although this is a large class, we will do our very best to facilitate and encourage discussion on readings and lecture topics. The most recent academic literature on teaching and learning has documented a strong causal relationship between active participation and discussion of course content and student learning. For this reason, we will experiment with different pedagogical approaches throughout the quarter to encourage small and large group discussions. We look forward to getting to know and learning from each of you!

Late Assignment Policy:
Because of the size of the class, and the importance of maintaining standards of fairness for all students, we cannot accept late assignments. If you tend to cut deadlines close, please set an earlier deadline for yourself (at least 3 days or more…), so that you do not miss a deadline. This policy will be strictly enforced. We expect that you will save copies of your research as you work, so if an emergency arises (health, technology related, etc.), you can submit the latest saved draft of your work for credit. Please also note that e-mailed versions of assignments cannot be accepted under any circumstances. If an emergency should arise, please document this as best you can and staple this to the hard copy of your assignment. (This should include a written explanation as well as all supporting documentation you can provide.) I will review these and contact you if I have questions. Assignments turned in late due to undocumented emergencies cannot be considered.
**E-mail Policy:** Please remember to use the TED board for all general questions about the course regarding exams, research assignments, etc. On the course discussion board (below weekly discussion postings), you will find a “forum” designated to each of the course’s assignments. Please post your questions here as this will allow all students of have access to any information exchanged between students and the TAs or instructor on these topics. Given the size of the course, this will be the most efficient way for us to communicate about course topics and assignments. Feel free to also help each other out on your assignments and exam prep using these forums. This, also, will count as class participation.

**Academic Integrity Policy:**
Students are expected to do their own work, as outlined in the UCSD Policy on Academic Integrity and published in the UCSD General Catalog. Although you are encouraged to work together in preparing for class discussions and on your research projects, each student is expected to do their own work on all written assignments. Violations will be subject to the disciplinary measures as outlined by the University. If you have any questions regarding this policy (http://students.ucsd.edu/academics/academic-integrity/policy.html), please consult me.

**Course Texts:**
Four texts are available for purchase at the UCSD bookstore. Please also feel free to purchase these texts independently on-line or elsewhere. In addition, multiple copies of all texts have been placed on reserve at Geisel Library. If you choose not to purchase the texts below and experience any problems obtaining a reserve copy, please let me know.

**Course Texts:**

All additional course readings (articles, etc.) are available via electronic reserves from Geisel Library. To access reserves, go to the library’s homepage: [http://libraries.ucsd.edu](http://libraries.ucsd.edu). Click on the “Reserves” drop down menu on the top of the page and select “Get Your Course Reserves.” If you encounter any problems, call or email network operations at 858.534.1857, or userserv@ucsd.edu, and/or contact me. In addition, for those of you who might prefer a course reader, these are available from UCSD soft reserves: [http://softreserves.ucsd.edu/](http://softreserves.ucsd.edu/)

Additional texts that might be of interest to you, but that are not required. (We will read excerpts from these texts, all of which are available through e-reserves at Geisel. All of these books are also available via Geisel print reserves.):


**Course Schedule:**
**Week 1:** What Do We Mean by “Development”? How Do We Measure It?
- **Tuesday, 10 January:** Course Introduction
- **Readings:** None.
Thursday, 12 January: What is “development”? What is poverty? What is inequality? How are these measured?

Lecture 1
Readings:

Further Reading:
8. YouTube clip: GDP vs. GNP: http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=mZ-4eKreH3I

Week 2: The Development of Development Studies and Early Theories: Modernization and Dependency

Tuesday, 17 January: Development Studies and Modernization Theory

Lecture 2
Readings:

Further Reading:
1. Sen, Chapter 4, “Poverty as Capability Deprivation,” (23 pp.)

Thursday, 19 January: Development Studies and Dependency Theory

I will keep office hours from 3 – 5 pm on Friday to discuss projects with you.

Lecture 3
Readings:
Week 3: Development and Underdevelopment in Latin America

Tuesday, 24 January: Development and Underdevelopment in Latin America

Lecture 4

• Research proposal is due to turnitin.com on TED by 11:59 p.m. on Monday, 23 Jan.
• A hard copy of your proposal is due at the beginning of class on Tues., 24 Jan.

Readings:


Thursday, 26 January: Development in Latin America: Contemporary and Future Challenges

Lecture 5

Midterm review sheet will be posted on Friday, 27 Jan. by midnight. You’re encouraged to form study groups and use the TED board for questions. (Please no exam related questions via e-mail as a matter of fairness for all students.) I’ll also keep office hours on Monday, 12:30 – 2:30 p.m.

Readings:


Week 4: Midterm Exam and Introduction to Sub-Saharan Africa

Tuesday, 31 January: Midterm Exam

Readings:

None.

Thursday, 2 February: Colonialism and Underdevelopment in Africa

Lecture 6 –Africa I.

Readings:


Week 5: Development and Underdevelopment in Sub-Saharan Africa

Tuesday, 7 February: Neo-Liberal Solutions to Development Challenges in Ghana?

Lecture 7 –Africa II

Readings:


Further Reading

Thursday, 9 February: Sources of Development and Underdevelopment: Africa

Lecture 8 – Africa III

Readings:

Further Reading:

Week 6: Dual Transitions in Sub-Saharan Africa and Introduction to East Asia

Tuesday, 14 February: Dual Transitions in Sub-Saharan Africa

Lecture 9
• One paragraph project summary and annotated bibliography of five academic sources is due to turnitin.com by 11:59 p.m. on Monday, 14 Feb. (See instructions on TED.)
• Hard copy is due at the beginning of class.

Readings:

Thursday, 16 February: Pathways from the Periphery? East Asia

Guest Lecturer: Kai Ostwald, Southeast Asia expert. Topic TBA
(I will need to be in Washington D.C. for a conference this day.)

Readings:
Week 7: The Asia Economic Crisis of 1997 and the Millennium Challenge

Lecture 10
Tuesday, 21 February: Asia Economic Crisis of 1997: Implications for Theories of Development and the Millennium Challenge
Excerpts from PBS Film: “The Crash”
Readings:

Thursday, 23 February: Asia Economic Crisis of 1997: Implications for Theories of Development and the Millennium Challenge
Lecture 11
Readings:

Further Reading:
1. Joseph E. Stiglitz, “The Asia Crisis Ten Years After,” July 2007: [www.project-syndicate.org/commentary/stiglitz89/English](http://www.project-syndicate.org/commentary/stiglitz89/English)

Week 8: Globalization and Development

Tuesday, 28 February: Globalization: Is “Free” Trade “Fair” Trade?
Lecture 12
Rough draft of your research/policy paper (6 – 8 pgs.) due to turnitin.com before 11:59 p.m. on Tuesday, 2/28.
Comments to your research partners are due to PeerMark (on TED’s course content page) no later than this Friday, 2 March at 11:59 p.m. I will also keep office hours on Sat., 3 March, 2 – 4 p.m. to consult with you on your drafts.
Readings:

Further Reading:

Thursday, 1 March: Globalization and Multinational Corporations
Lecture 13
Comments to your research partner due to PeerMark no later than Friday (tomorrow), 11:59 p.m.
Readings:
2. Case study materials on Alta Gracia:
   - 2-page Word doc. on TED (course content): “AGBackgroundorgfinal.doc”.

**Week 9: Globalization: Environment and Natural Resource Curse**

**Lecture 14**

Tuesday, 6 March: Globalization and the Environment

**Final draft of your research/policy paper is due to turnitin.com no later than 11:59 p.m. on Monday, 5 March.**

**Hard copies of research projects are due at the beginning of class on Tues., 6 March.**

**Readings:**


**Thursday, 8 March: Globalization and the Resource Curse**

**Lecture 15**

**Readings:**

2. Jerry Useem, “Exxon’s Africa Adventure: how to Build a $3.5 Billion Pipeline --with the ‘Help’ of NGOs, the World Bank, and Yes, Chicken Sacrifices,” *Fortune*, v. 145, no. 8, April 15, 2002; pp. 102 – 106 (5 pp.).

**Further Reading:**


**Week 10: The Ends and Means of Development: Future Possibilities, Future Challenges**

**Tuesday, 13 March: Development and Democracy**

**Lecture 16**

**Readings:**


**Further Reading:**

Thursday, 15 March: Where Do/Should We Go From Here?

Lecture 17

Readings:

Further Reading:

Final Exam:  
*Tuesday, 20 March, 3 - 6 p.m.* (The final exam will be in our usual classroom.)