

PSCI 252
POLITICS OF DEVELOPMENT
FALL 2021

Instructor: Dr. Seyma Akyol

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Office & Office Hours Holland Hall 422- Mondays 2pm-5pm or by appointment

COURSE OVERVIEW

While formerly developing countries have achieved wealth, well-being, and democratic stability, many countries throughout the world continue to suffer from the consequences of underdevelopment. This course explores these disparities by focusing on three major indicators: economic development, human development, and political development. In the first part of the course, we highlight the significance of international factors of underdevelopment. We explore to what extent issues such as colonialism and globalization hinder (or promote) development. Furthermore, within international factors, we examine what the role of international financial institutions and foreign aid are for developing nations. In the second part of the course, we highlight the significance of domestic factors. We explore to what extent different development models, domestic political institutions, regime type, and culture and identity play a role in whether a country achieves economic, political and human development.

STUDENT RESPONSIBILITIES AND EVALUATION

To facilitate successful completion of the course, students are expected to:

- Attend and participate in class
- Complete reading assignments on time
- Complete the assignments, as well as the in-class quizzes and examinations as scheduled.

As a courtesy to your fellow students (and the instructor), plan to arrive on time, mute cell phones and other electronic devices, and remain in the classroom for the duration of the class.

You are expected attend class regularly. Lectures and class discussion will sometimes dovetail the text but will also provide information that is *not* in your text and for which you will be responsible on the exam.

If you cannot meet a deadline or cannot be present for an exam, you should contact the instructor *prior* to the date the work is due, or the exam is to take place. E-mail is the preferred option for contacting me. Unless you have reached *prior* agreement with the instructor, the following rules apply: *No* late assignments will be accepted. *No* make-up examinations will be given. Exceptions can only be made for serious illness and other issues that have been reported.

The course grade will be determined on basis of the following, with the various assignments weighted as indicated:

- Quizzes: 10% (2 of them %5 each)

- Development Organization Briefing (5%) & Letter (5%): Total 10%
- Midterm: 20%
- Research Paper: 25%
 - 1-page (max) proposal (**due October 25**): 5%
 - Annotated bibliography (5-10 scholarly sources, **due November 15**): 5%
 - Paper (due **December 10**): 15%
- Discussion Questions: 10%
- Final: 25%

GRADING

I follow the College’s official grading benchmark. You can access them in the Academic catalog section on “grades.”

93 and above: A	90-92: A-	87-89: B+	83-86: B
80-82: B-	77-79: C+	73-76: C	70-72: C-
67-69: D+	64-66: D	61-63: D-	60 and below: F

COURSE MATERIALS

Baker, Andy. 2021. *Shaping the Developing World: The West, the South, and the Natural World*. 2nd Edition. CQ Press, Washington, DC.

Besides the textbook, selected book chapters will be assigned and these chapter will be available on Moodle. Additional readings from scholarly journals are available through the library.

ASSIGNMENTS AND LEARNING

The assignments for the course will together add up to your grade for the course. However, they are also targeted to achieve specific learning outcomes. Here’s what each type of assignment is designed to do:

- Quizzes are designed to encourage reading the assigned chapters, and adopt the habit of learning the material regularly, as opposed to studying for the exams at the last minute.
- Midterm and final examinations encourage you to attain command of the material presented in the course beyond memorization. The examinations will be a mixture of multiple choice and essay questions which will test your knowledge to apply and/or critically evaluate theories and concepts we cover in class.
- Discussion questions are designed to encourage reading the assigned readings and provide students the ability to lead class discussions. Preparing discussion questions means students are actively reading the assigned chapters which support critical thinking.
- With the briefing & letter assignment, I expect students to research one agency that work on development projects in underdeveloped countries (usually non-governmental organizations-NGOs- do that). Students are expected to share their research with the classmates by providing a 5-minute presentation (followed by a Q&A session of another 5 minutes). Make sure that you do not cover an organization that is already covered by

another classmate, because the purpose of this assignment is to learn as many development-related organizations as possible. This is a good way of understanding how the theoretical frameworks we cover are applied in real life cases. The second portion of this assignment is to write a letter to the organization of your choice that provides your insight (as a student of politics and development) on how their work can be improved. It is up to you to send the letter to the organization; your grade will not be affected by whether you send it or not.

- A research paper on a subject of your choosing in the field of development. The paper should be around 8-10 pages (font 12, double-spaced, followed by a reference page). Your paper is to identify an issue regarding development/underdevelopment, analyze the causes and consequences. There are three due dates for this assignment: You are expected to submit your proposal on October 25th; annotated bibliography on November 15th; and the research on December 10th. You may not use a paper you have written for another class- this is self-plagiarism.

ACADEMIC HONESTY

I expect you to be diligent about avoiding plagiarism or cheating in any form. I am committed to treating Honor System violations seriously and urge all students to become familiar with its terms set out at <https://wp.stolaf.edu/thebook/academic/integrity/>.

COMMUNICATION

While I am always happy to communicate via e-mail for quick clarification questions, e-mails are not the best way to discuss substantive questions concerning course material. I encourage you to come to office hours or schedule meetings with me if you would like me to clarify concepts or discuss issues in depth.

TECHNOLOGY

You may use of laptops/tablets during lectures only for educational purposes (e-book and taking notes- although existing research proves that taking notes by hand improves learning outcomes). Any other use of your laptops/tablets will lower your participation grade. Please make sure not to use your phones during class time and silence all of your devices.

DISABILITY AND ACCESS ACCOMMODATIONS

I am committed to supporting the learning of all students in my class. Students seeking accommodations, please contact Disability and Access staff at 507-786-3288 or by visiting wp.stolaf.edu/asc/dac.

PREFERRED GENDER PRONOUN

This course affirms people of all gender expressions and gender identities. If you prefer to be called a different name than what is on the class roster, please let me know. Feel free to correct me on your preferred gender pronoun. If you have any questions or concerns, please do not hesitate to contact me.

COURSE SCHEDULE

September 10: Introduction & Syllabus Overview

September 13-15-17: Understanding Development

- Baker Chapter 1 and 2

International Factors

September 20-22-24: Colonialism & Geographic Location

- Baker Chapter 4 & Chapter 13 (pages 338-350)

September 27-29- October 1: Dependency Theory & Development Models

- Baker Chapter 7
- Frank, Andre Gunder. 1966. "The Development of Underdevelopment". (*on Moodle*)
- Kim, Hayam and Uk Heo. 2017. "Comparative Analysis of Economic Development in South Korea and Taiwan: Lessons for Other Developing Countries." *Asian Perspective* 41: 17-41.
- **October 1: Quiz #1**

October 4-6-8: Economic Globalization & Trade Liberalization

- Baker Chapter 5
- Frieden Jeffrey A., David A. Lake, and Kenneth A. Schultz. 2018. "Chapter 7: International Trade" in *World Politics: Interests, Interactions, Institutions*. (*on Moodle*)

October 11-13-15: Bretton Woods Institutions & Foreign Aid

- Baker Chapter 6
- Frieden Jeffrey A., David A. Lake, and Kenneth A. Schultz. 2018. "Chapter 8: International Financial Institutions" in *World Politics: Interests, Interactions, Institutions*. (*on Moodle*)
- Sachs, Jeffrey. 2014. "The Case for Aid". *Foreign Policy*, January 21.
- Watch:
https://www.ted.com/talks/esther_duflo_social_experiments_to_fight_poverty?language=en

October 18: Fall Break-No Class

October 20: **Midterm Examination**

Domestic Factors

October 22-25-27: Institutions, Governments, and Resource Curse

- Baker Chapter 9 & 13 (pages 350-360)

- Huntington, Samuel. 1965. "Political Development and Political Decay." *World Politics* 17(3): 386-430.
- Ross, M. L. 2001. "Does Oil Hinder Democracy?" *World Politics*. 53: 352–361.
- **October 25: Paper proposal**

October 29-November 1-3: Culture and Identity

- Baker Chapter 10
- Inglehart, Ronald and Christian Welzel. 2005. *Modernization, Cultural Change, and Democracy*. Cambridge University Press. Chapter 1 and 5. (on Moodle)

November 5-8-10: Violence and State Failure

- Baker Chapter 12
- Thyne, Clayton L. 2016. "The Legacies of Civil War: Health, Education and Economic Development." in *What Do We Know About Civil Wars?* edited by T. David Mason and Sara M. Mitchell. Lanham, MD: Rowman & Littlefield. (on Moodle)
- **November 10: Quiz #2**

November 12-15-17: Civil War and Post-Conflict Development

- Kang, Seonjou. 2006. "Post-Conflict Economic Development and Sustaining the Peace." in *Conflict Prevention and Peacebuilding in Post-War Societies: Sustaining the Peace* edited by T. David Mason and James D. Meernik. Routledge: New York, NY. (on Moodle)
- Elliott, Constance, and Lani Elliott. 2006. "The Economics of Sustaining the Peace." in *Conflict Prevention and Peacebuilding in Post-War Societies: Sustaining the Peace* edited by T. David Mason and James D. Meernik. Routledge: New York, NY. (on Moodle)
- **November 15: Annotated Bibliography**

November 19-22: Gender Inequality

- Baker Chapter 11
- Read: <https://www.opendemocracy.net/en/can-europe-make-it/why-turkeys-withdrawal-from-the-istanbul-convention-is-a-global-problem/>
- Watch: Rising Girl (online access available at St. Olaf library)

November 24 through November 28: Happy Thanksgiving!

November 29: Gender Inequality continued

December 1-3-6: Corruption and Development

- Handelman Howard and Rex Brynen. 2019. Challenges of the Developing World. "Chapter 4: Corruption as an Obstacle to Development." (on Moodle)
- Watch: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=2NG-w-l4fqI>
- UN Convention against Corruption (read foreword and preamble- skim over the document- focus on articles of your interest) (on Moodle)

December 8-10: Research Days

- *Research Paper Due on December 10, 11:59 pm*

December 13: Review for the Final Exam

December 17, 2:00-4:00 pm: Final Exam