**Global Development**

Fall 2016

Course #50:790:357

Tuesdays and Thursdays 1:30pm-2:50pm

Armitage 221

Rutgers University-Camden

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**Overview:**

In this course we will explore the question of why some countries are rich while others have lagged behind economically. Questions we will discuss include: What accounts for economic development? How do political institutions matter? What is the connection between development and democracy? In addition, we will review a number of important issues within developing countries, including the roles of religion, ethnicity and gender. As the developing world becomes increasingly urbanized, we will also discuss the tension between rural and urban development. Throughout the course we will use case studies to illustrate broader themes. The readings combine detailed theoretical exploration with empirical data and case studies to reflect the most recent experiences of developing nations.

All students are required to attend class meetings and participate in discussions. All exams will be conducted online, unless otherwise arranged with the instructor.

**Required Readings:**

The following books are available for purchase at the University bookstore or through online booksellers:

1. Baker, Andy. (2014). *Shaping the Developing World: The West, the South, and the Natural World*. CQ Press. ISBN: 978-1-60871-855-9.

2. Katherine Boo. 2012. *Behind the Beautiful Forevers: Life, Death, and Hope in a Mumbai Undercity*. Random House 2012.

Articles required for the course will be posted on the course’s Sakai site or hyperlinked below.

**Grading and Assignments:**

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| **Requirement** | **Due date** | **Percentage of Final Grade** |
| Participation | On-going | 20% |
| In-class quizzes | 5 throughout the semester | 2% each = 10% total |
| Midterm | October 18 | 25% |
| 3 Short Writing Assignments | 1. US Presidential Candidates on Development: September 22  2. Reading Response 1: October 27  3. Reading Response 2: November 15 | 5% each = 15% total |
| Final Exam | December 22 | 30% |

**Participation**

Your participation grade will be based on your involvement in class discussions, both online and in person. Please note that there is not a written attendance policy for this course. However, clearly you cannot participate in class if you are not present. Your participation grade depends on your preparation for the class and the quality of your contribution to discussions. The following provides general guidelines for my expectations for each grade range:

A = speaks often during class meetings, asks thoughtful questions, clearly engaged, always prepared

B = occasionally contributes to in-class discussions, not clear that the student has done all of the readings, may appear attentive in class and to be following discussions online

C = rarely participates in class discussions, does not appear to be prepared, does not exhibit interest in the material

D = rarely attends class, seems not to be prepared or engaged in the material, does not ask questions or provide comments

F = never attends class or participates on-line

**Quizzes:**

We will have five short quizzes spread throughout the semester. Each of the quizzes will contain several multiple choice questions to test the students’ understanding of the readings and lectures. The quizzes will not be cumulative, but will focus on the course material directly leading up to the quiz. Quizzes will be conducted using the Socrative.com platform on a mobile phone, tablet, or laptop computer.

**Short Writing Assignments:**

Each student will submit **three** short writing assignments during the semester.

The first writing assignment will reflect on how each of the US presidential candidates might influence development in his or her administration. Students should do independent research to understand the candidates’ positions on such issues as global trade, foreign aid, and post-conflict assistance. Papers should be about 2 double-spaced pages and contain footnotes to sources. Submit papers through the assignment tab on Sakai by **September 22 at 1:30pm**.

Students should then submit 2 reading responses. Reading responses should be approximately a page or two in length (double-spaced) and contain the following elements: a brief summary, strengths and weaknesses of the reading, and questions that arise as a result of the reading. These short papers should also be submitted through the course assignment link on Sakai. **Papers are due on October 27 and November 15 and may respond to any assigned readings up to those dates**.

**Midterm and Final Exams**

There will be a midterm exam and a final exam in this course with both short answer and longer essay questions. Expectations for the exams will be discussed in a review session prior to each test. The final exam will be cumulative. Both exams will be held online through Sakai.

**Course Policies:**

**Disabilities**: Please advise me as soon as possible of any disability that may affect your performance in this course. I will make all necessary accommodations so that your learning, writing, and testing needs may be appropriately met. You are required by the University to provide documentation of the disability to the Student Life Office, Rutgers Learning Center, or Graduate School Dean.

**Late Papers**: Late papers will be marked down one grade for every day they are tardy. Extensions will be granted only in extreme cases.

**Academic Integrity:** All students of Rutgers-Camden are required to adhere to the University’s Academic Integrity Policy. Violations of the Policy include cheating, fabrication, plagiarism, denying others access to information or material, and facilitating violations of academic integrity. Should you have any questions regarding behavior that may be defined as a violation of the University’s Policy, please do not hesitate to discuss the matter with me. Please see the following link for further information: <http://academicintegrity.rutgers.edu/integrity.shtml>.

**Learning Objectives:**

For this class there are four learning objectives.

1. Students will understand social science explanations for development.
2. Students will write three short writing pieces to demonstrate critical thinking regarding ideas of development.
3. Students will acquire an understanding of the current political and economic challenges facing the world and the impact of institutional and policy design related to regional and country-specific issues.
4. Students will understand the complex nature of the relationship between the advanced industrialized countries and less developed nations.

**Schedule:**

**Week 1**

September 6 – Introduction to the Course

September 8 – Characteristics of Developing Countries

Reading: Chapter 1, Underdevelopment and Diversity in the Global South (Baker)

**Week 2**

September 13 – Measuring Human Development

Reading: Chapter 2, Human Development and Underdevelopment (Baker)

September 15 – Human Development in India

Reading: Case study section on India, Chapter 2 (Baker)

Ashutosh, “India’s Democratic Challenge” (Sakai)

*McKinsey Report on India from August 2016:* <http://www.mckinsey.com/global-themes/employment-and-growth/indias-ascent-five-opportunities-for-growth-and-transformation?cid=other-eml-alt-mip-mgi-oth-1608>

**Week 3**

September 20 – Does development have a downside?

Reading: Chapter 3, The Benefits and Costs of Economic Development (Baker)

September 22 – The Case of China, ***1ST WRITING ASSIGNMENT DUE***

Reading: Case study section on China, Chapter 3 (Baker)

“Pollution Crisis is Choking the Chinese Economy”: <http://www.cnbc.com/2016/02/11/pollution-crisis-is-choking-the-chinese-economy.html>

“How China is (Surprise!) Winning Its War on Air Pollution”: <http://www.huffingtonpost.com/entry/china-air-pollution-2014_us_568e592ce4b0a2b6fb6ecb73>

“The End of Coal-fired Growth in China” - <https://www.brookings.edu/2016/08/04/the-end-of-coal-fired-growth-in-china/>

**Week 4**

September 29 – Are rich countries to blame?

Reading: Chapter 4, Slavery and Colonialism (Baker)

September 29 – The case of Nigeria

Reading: Case study section on Nigeria, Chapter 4 (Baker)

“Reforming Nigeria” Interview with Ngozi Okonjo-Iweala, 2014 (Sakai)

**Week 5**

October 4 – What is the impact of globalization?

Reading: Chapter 5, Globalization and Neocolonialism (Baker)

October 6 – The case of Brazil

Reading: Case study section on Brazil, Chapter 5 (Baker)

Soares, “People, Productivity, and Policy: Product Growth Perspective in the Medium and Long Run in Brazil” <http://www.cgdev.org/sites/default/files/people-productivity-and-policy-product-growth-perspective-medium-and-long-run-brazil.pdf>

**Week 6**

October 11 – Can foreign assistance boost development?

Reading: Chapter 6, Foreign Aid and the Bretton Woods Institutions

“Where does foreign aid go?” <http://www.economist.com/blogs/graphicdetail/2016/08/daily-chart-8?fsrc=permar|image2>

October 13 – The case of Pakistan and MIDTERM REVIEW

Reading – Case study section on Pakistan, Chapter 6 (Baker)

Podcast: “More Money, More Problems” Listen or skim the report:

<http://www.cgdev.org/media/more-money-more-problems-us-development-pakistan-%E2%80%93-milan-vaishnav-and-danny-cutherell>

**Week 7**

October 18 – MIDTERM ONLINE

October 20 – Class Online

Reading – Chapters 2 and 4 from *Poor Economics* by Abhijit Banerjee and Esther Duflo (Sakai)

**Week 8**

October 25 – Is culture to blame for underdevelopment?

Reading: Chapter 7, Culture and Identity (Baker)

October 27 – What is the role of the state in promoting and managing development? ***2ND WRITING ASSIGNMENT DUE***

Reading: Chapter 8, States, Markets, and Development Models

“Gasoline, Guns, and Giveaways” <http://www.cgdev.org/sites/default/files/gasoline-guns-and-giveaways-end-three-quarters-global-poverty-0.pdf>

**Week 9**

November 1 – The Case of India

Reading: Part 1 in *Behind the Beautiful Forevers*

November 3 – How does the economy function in developing countries?

Reading: Chapter 9, Economic Institutions and Informality (Baker)

**Week 10**

November 8 – The Case of India continued

Reading: Parts 2 and 3 in *Behind the Beautiful Forevers*

November 10 –

Reading: Chapter 10, Political Institutions and Governance (Baker)

**Week 11**

November 15 – The case of India continued

Reading: Part 4 in *Behind the Beautiful Forevers*

November 17 – The impact of violence, ***3RD WRITING ASSIGNMENT DUE***

Reading: Chapter 11, Violence and State Failure (Baker)

**Week 12**

November 22 – Gender and Development

Reading: Chapter 12, Gender Inequality (Baker)

TBD excerpt from *Half the Sky*

November 24- Thanksgiving Holiday

**Week 13**

November 29 –Does geography determine development?

Reading: Chapter 13, Geography and Economic Prosperity (Baker)

December 1 – Case study of Mexico

Reading: Case section on Mexico, Chapter 13 (Baker)

**Week 14**

December 6 – Is there a tradeoff between the environment and development?

Reading: Chapter 14, Environmental Change and Development (Baker)

December 8 – The case of Indonesia

Reading: Case section on Indonesia, Chapter 14 (Baker)

**Week 15**

December 13 – Exam Review

**Final Exam: December 22, 11:30-2:30, online through Sakai**