**International Economic Development**

Fall 2016

Course #56:834:616

Thursdays 6:00pm-8:50pm

Rutgers University-Camden

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**Overview:**

In this course we will review key determinants of economic development. We will start by defining economic development, considering the factors of economic growth, poverty, and inequality in our definition. We then review the main theories of economic development, which attempt to explain why some countries are rich and others are poor (or somewhere in between). We also consider the role of political institutions, human capital (health and education), and the tradeoffs between urban and rural development in generating economic development. In addition, we assess the role of international trade, foreign aid, globalization and international institutions. Throughout the course we will use case studies as evidence for what works and doesn’t work in development. We will assess the recent history and prospects for economic development in Latin America, Asia, and the African continent.

**Required Readings:**

1. *Development and Underdevelopment: The Political Economy of Global Inequality*, 5th Edition, Mitchell Seligson and John Passe-Smith, Lynne Rienner Publishers.

2. *Poor Economics: A Radical Rethinking of the Way to Fight Global Poverty*, Abhijit Banerjee and Esther Duflo, Public Affairs Press.

3. Alexander, Jessica. 2013. *Chasing Chaos: My Decade in and Out of Humanitarian Aid*. Broadway Books.

Articles are posted on Sakai or are available online.

**Department Student Learning Policy**: This course is designed to contribute to the implementation of the Department’s Student Learning Policy. Among the MPA program’s competencies, in this course students will learn to:

1. Conduct research relevant to public policy and administration.
2. Write clearly and persuasively on public policy and management issues.
3. Present information and ideas effectively orally.
4. Show experience in working on public policy and administration.
5. Apply knowledge and skills in a rewarding position.
6. Identify fundamental values guiding public management policies and practices, and use examples to illustrate value trade-offs.
7. Participate in and contribute to the policy process.
8. Analyze, synthesize, think critically, solve problems, and make decisions.
9. Articulate and apply a public service perspective.
10. Communicate and interact productively with a diverse and changing workforce and citizenry.

The full policy is available on the Department of Public Policy and Administration website.

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

**Attendance Policy**: Attendance in this course is mandatory. If you must miss class, you should contact me ahead of time.

**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>

**Course Requirements and Grade Apportionment**

1. Reading all assigned materials

2. Research and Writing Project 1: Theory ………………………………………………… 10%

3. Research and Writing Project 2: Argumentation.…………………………………….. 10%

4. Active contributions to class discussions………………………………………………… 15%

5. Presentation of research theory………………………………………………………………. 5%

6. Presentation of research arguments and findings……………………………………... 5%

7. Discussion facilitation……………………………………………………………………………. 15%

8. Final Research and Writing Project: Analysis and Synthesis……….40%

**Research and Writing Project:**

For this project you will be asked to assess the economic successes or failures of a country of your choice. For the first part of the assignment you will search the literature on economic development for relevant theories to explain the successes or failures in your chosen country. You will submit Part 1 of the paper by **October 13th at 6pm through the assignments tab on Sakai**. In the second part of the paper, you will argue for the primacy of one or a few theories to explain the experience of your country. This section of the paper will be presented to the class on **November 22nd and submitted through Sakai by 6pm**. The final paper will contain the previous sections as well as your analysis to support your argument and synthesize the results in a conclusion. This final paper, **due by December 20 at 1pm**, should incorporate revisions to the previous sections to present one cohesive paper. We will discuss further details of the project throughout the semester.

**Participation and Discussion Facilitation:**

Though I may present short lectures in each class, the majority of the course will be conducted as a seminar. Your participation grade depends on your active contribution and preparation for class discussions. In addition, in the first week of class you will sign-up to facilitate one class discussion. In this role you will be asked to summarize the week’s reading, including the main arguments and conclusions, before providing your assessment of the readings and posing questions for the class to consider.

**Schedule and Reading Assignments:**

**Week 1 - September 8 -** Introductions

How can we define economic development?

What are the goals of economic development?

***Readings:*** Radelet, “Prosperity Rising” (Sakai)

**Week 2 - September 15** – The Gap between Rich and Poor Countries

***Readings:*** Preface and Part 1 in Seligson and Passe-Smith (pg. 1-94)

**Week 3 - September 22 –**Explaining the Gap between Rich and Poor Countries: Historical Origins, Convergence, and Dependency

***Readings:*** Parts 2, 4 and 6 in Seligson and Passe-Smith (pg. 95-142, 203-238, and 283-322)

**Week 4 - September 29:** Explaining the Gap between Rich and Poor Countries: Culture and Institutions

**Readings:** Parts 5 and 7 in Seligson and Passe Smith (Pg. 239-282 and 323-384)

**Week 5 – October 6:** Explaining the Gap between Rich and Poor: Inequality, Human Capital, and Globalization

***Readings***: Part 3 in Seligson and Passe-Smith (pg. 143-202), and Chapter 32 (pg. 402-408)

Collier, Chapter 10 from The Bottom Billion (Sakai)

Stiglitz, “Social Justice and Global Trade” (Sakai)

**Week 6 - October 13: FIRST PAPER DUE, PRESENTATIONS IN CLASS**

**Week 7 - October 20: ONLINE –** Overcoming the Poverty Trap: Individuals and Human Capital

***Readings:*** Part I, “Private Lives,” Banerjee and Duflo

**Week 8 - October 27:** Overcoming the Poverty Trap: Institutions

***Readings:*** Part II, “Institutions” in Banerjee and Duflo

**Week 9 – November 3:** Will Latin America always be the region of the future?

***Readings:*** Paus, “Latin America’s Middle Income Trap” (Sakai)

Samford, “From Tradition to Trade” (Sakai)

Wise and Tuynman, “NAFTA at 20: A Bittersweet Celebration” (Sakai)

Salazar-Xirinachs, “Generation N1/N1: Latin America’s Lost Youth” (Sakai)

**Week 10 - November 10:** Asia – Is India a modern success story?

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

Das, “The India Model” (Sakai)

Sachs, *Poverty*, Chapters 8 and 9

**Week 11 - November 17:** Africa – What are the prospects for African development?

***Readings:*** Sachs, *Poverty*, Chapter 10 (Sakai)

Radelet, “Success Stories from Emerging Africa” (Sakai)

French, Howard W. 2010. “The Next Empire.” (Sakai)

**Week 12 - November 22:** SECOND PAPER DUE, PRESENTATIONS IN CLASS

**Week 13 – December 1:** Tradeoffs in Development?

***Readings:*** Part 8 in Seligson and Passe-Smith, Chapters 31 and 33

Blog post – “Affordable Climate Protection”: <http://www.cgdev.org/blog/affordable-climate-protection-saving-amazon-forest-cost-brazil-far-less-rio-olympics>

Shalizi, “Energy and Emissions: Local and Global Effects of the Giants’ Rise,” Chapter 5 in Dancing with the Giants: China, India, and the Global Economy. (Sakai)

**Week 14 - December 8:** Careers in Development

***Readings:*** Alexander, *Chasing Chaos: My Decade in and Out of Humanitarian Aid*

Respond to the following blog post – Cindy Huang, “A Call for Development Ideas to Address US Challenges,” <http://www.cgdev.org/blog/open-letter-call-development-ideas-address-us-challenges?utm_source=160823&utm_medium=cgd_email&utm_campaign=cgd_weekly&utm_&&&>

**December 20 – Final Paper due by 1pm**. Submit through Sakai