

Political Science 340
Fall 2015
M/W 9:30 – 10:50 a.m.
219 David Kinley Hall

Prof. Matthew S. Winters
mwinters@illinois.edu
Office: 315 David Kinley Hall
Office Hours: Wednesday 11:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.
or by appointment

Politics in International Development

Course Description

Since the conclusion of World War II, the world has been concerned with the idea of “development,” and in the past 30 years, discussions of development have increasingly entered into the public sphere. Celebrities have taken up the mantle of development, calling for debt relief and increased foreign aid and personally involving themselves in particular development projects. Public intellectuals like William Easterly and Jeffrey Sachs have debated in the popular media the usefulness of foreign aid and specific modalities of assistance.

This class is concerned with the ways in which the wealthy countries of the world, international organizations and non-governmental organizations have tried to catalyze or facilitate economic and human development in the poorer countries of the world. We begin by exploring definitions and theories of development. Then we consider the motives of and trends in foreign aid before defining a set of major actors in the sphere of international development. After spending several weeks looking at broad trends in development aid and thinking, we conclude the course by looking at a set of case studies from developing countries, trying to figure out what development interventions have worked where and why.

Course Goals

Through the readings, lectures and assignments, students should achieve the following goals by the end of the semester:

- Have a general awareness of the broad trends in thinking about development, the patterns of development assistance, and the relevant actors in development
- Be able to think in a strategic fashion about what motivates different development actors and how their preferences lead to the particular outcomes that we see in terms of aid allocation, project design, aid coordination, etc.
- Be aware of debates surrounding the relationship between democracy and development and more generally about the preconditions for economic development
- Be able to state opinions with regard to the successes and failures of international development and how foreign aid and development should be organized in the future
- Have an improved capacity for reading graphs and understanding presentations of data
- Have developed a basic understanding of regression analysis and how it is used in political science and economics
- Have an improved capacity for producing original research using primary documents and/or data and an improved capacity for presenting this research in term paper format

Course Materials

There are two required books for the class. They should be available at the campus bookstore for purchase. They also are all easily found for purchase online.

William Easterly. 2013. *The Tyranny of Experts: Economists, Dictators, and the Forgotten Rights of the Poor*. New York: Basic Books.

Carol Lancaster. 2007. *Foreign Aid: Diplomacy, Development, Domestic Politics*. Chicago: University of Chicago Press.

Each of these books is also available on reserve at Undergraduate Reserves.

In addition, there are selected articles and book chapters that are required readings; these materials have been placed on E-Reserves.

Course Requirements and Grading

A key aim of this class is to improve student capacity for undertaking original research. To this end, there are a series of assignments over the course of the semester that will culminate in an original research paper due on the last day of class.

The research paper should be **13-15 double-spaced pages** and 20 pages maximum. It will cover a topic of the student's choosing. Student should begin thinking about a topic and doing preliminary research *early* in the semester. Students are encouraged to come to the professor's office hours to discuss their topics *early* in the semester. In early October, students will submit a **research paper exercise** to the instructor, summarizing the argument that they hope to make in the paper and some of the available literature on the topic. Students will receive feedback about the feasibility and direction of their topic from the instructor at this time. In late October, students will submit a **two-to-three-page outline** of their paper, clearly documenting how they intend to make the argument of the paper and demonstrating that they have done sufficient research on their topic to enable them to write the paper. The outline will include a bibliography of sources consulted so far. In mid-November, students will make **in-class presentations** about their research. A **first draft** of the paper is due before the beginning of fall break. The **final paper** is due on the last day of class. Late papers will be penalized one full letter grade per day.

There will be a **final examination** at the time scheduled by the university registrar. *The final examination will cover material from the entire semester* and will consist of 15 short-answer identifications (choice out of 20) and five short-answer questions (choice out of eight). A study sheet will be distributed on the last day of class.

Finally, this class will raise important questions and engage with current debates. Student **participation** in classroom conversation is expected and therefore will be a component of the final grade. Participation can take the form of engaging in full-classroom and/or small-group discussions and asking questions on the course material. The instructor will provide feedback during the semester on levels of class participation.

The relative weighting of each of these assignments for the final course grade is as follows:

Research Paper Exercise	10 percent
Research Paper Outline	10
Research Paper Presentation	10
Research Paper First Draft	15
Research Paper Final Draft	20
Final Exam	25
Class Participation	10

Late Assignments: Students are expected to complete assignments by the dates specified on the syllabus. If a student anticipates being unable to complete an assignment on time, the student should contact the instructor *in advance of the assignment due date*. If students experience a personal emergency that prevents them from handing in an assignment on time, students may consult with the Student Assistance Center (<http://www.odos.uiuc.edu/studentAssistance/index.asp>) about obtaining a letter explaining their absence from campus. Part 5 of Article 1 of the Student Code of Conduct (http://www.odos.uiuc.edu/studentAssistance/absence/revised_code.asp) details the specific circumstances under which seeking a letter of absence is appropriate.

Academic Honesty: The work that you submit in this class should be your own. When you make use of external sources, you are required to cite them. When in doubt about whether a citation is necessary or not, provide a citation. As described in the University of Illinois Student Code, consequences for plagiarism or other forms of academic dishonesty can include zero points on an assignment, failure for the course, or dismissal from the university.

Students with Disabilities: The instructor will endeavor to make appropriate accommodations for students with disabilities. As described in the University of Illinois Student Code, these accommodations can be coordinated through the Division of Disability Resources and Educational Services (DRES). The DRES Student Services Office is reachable at 217-333-4603 or disability@illinois.edu.

Responses to Emergency Situations on Campus: Students are encouraged to review the Office of Campus Emergency Planning's recommendations for how to handle a campus emergency: <http://police.illinois.edu/emergency/response/runhidefight.pdf>

Course Schedule

Monday 24 August - Introduction

PART I: The Concept of Development

Wednesday 26 August - What is Development?

- Lancaster – Chapter 2 (“Aid’s Purposes: A Brief History”) – pp. 25-61

Monday 31 August - Theories of Economic Growth and Development

- William Easterly. 2006. *The White Man's Burden: Why the West's Efforts to Aid the Rest Have Done So Much Ill and So Little Good*. New York: Penguin Press, chs. 1 ("Planners Versus Searchers") and 2 ("The Legend of the Big Push"), pp. 3-59.
- Walt W. Rostow. 1960. *The Stages of Economic Growth: A Non-Communist Manifesto*. New York: Cambridge University Press. Chapter 2, pp. 4-16.

Wednesday 2 September – American Political Science Association Meeting – NO CLASS

Monday 7 September – Labor Day – NO CLASS

Wednesday 9 September - Theories of Economic Growth and Development Continued

- Easterly – Chs. 3 ("Once Upon a Time in China"), 4 ("Race, War, and the Fate of Africa"), and 5 ("One Day in Bogotá") – pp. 43-121
- Wolfgang Sachs. 2000. "Development: The Rise and Decline of an Ideal." Wuppertal Paper No. 108. August. Wuppertal, Germany: Wuppertal Institute for Climate, Environment and Energy. 29 pp.

PART II: The Concept of Foreign Aid

Monday 14 September

Wednesday 15 September - History of Foreign Aid and Trends in Foreign Aid

- Steven Radelet. 2006. "A Primer on Foreign Aid," Center for Global Development Working Paper No. 92, July, Washington, D.C. 24 pp.
- Hans J. Morgenthau. 1962. "A Political Theory of Foreign Aid," *American Political Science Review* 56(2): 301-309.
- Lancaster – Ch. 3 ("The United States: Morgenthau's Puzzle") – pp. 62-109

PART III: Actors in International Development

Monday 21 September

Wednesday 23 September - Bilateral Aid Donors

- Lancaster – Chs. 4 ("Japan: The Rise and Decline of an 'Aid Superpower'"), 5 ("France: *Rank et Rayonnement*"), 6 ("Germany: A 'Middle of the Roder'"), and 7 ("Denmark: The Humane Internationalist") – pp. 110-211

Monday 28 September

Wednesday 30 September – *Research Week – No Class*

- Research Paper Exercise Due Friday 2 October at 5:00 p.m.

Monday 5 October

Wednesday 7 October - Bretton Woods, the World Bank, and the International Monetary Fund

- James Ferguson with Larry Lohmann. 1994. "The Anti-Politics Machine: 'Development' and Bureaucratic Power in Lesotho," *The Ecologist* 24(5): 176-81.
- Michael N. Barnett and Martha Finnemore. 2003. "The Politics, Power, and Pathologies of International Organizations," *International Organization* 53(4): 699-732.
- Easterly – Chs. 9 ("Homes or Prisons? Nations and Migrations") and 10 ("How Much Do Nations Matter?") – pp. 199-236

Monday 12 October

Wednesday 14 October - Non-Governmental Organizations and For-Profit Contractors

- Michael Edwards and David Hulme. 1996. "Too Close for Comfort? The Impact of Official Aid on Nongovernmental Organizations," *World Development* 24(6): 961-73.
- Alexander Cooley and James Ron. 2002. "The NGO Scramble: Organizational Insecurity and the Political Economy of Transnational Action," *International Security* 27(1): 5-39.

PART IV: Trends in Thinking about International Development

Monday 19 October

Wednesday 21 October - Structural Adjustment

- Easterly – Chs. 11 ("Markets: The Association of Problem Solvers"), 12 ("Technology: How to Succeed without Knowing How"), and 13 ("Leaders: How We are Seduced by Benevolent Autocrats") – pp. 237-338
- Dani Rodrik. 2006. "Goodbye Washington Consensus, Hello Washington Confusion? A Review of the World Bank's *Economic Growth in the 1990s: Learning from a Decade of Reform*," *Journal of Economic Literature* 44: 973-87.

Monday 26 October

Wednesday 28 October - Good Governance

- Easterly – Chapters 6 ("Values: The Long Struggle for Individual Rights"), 7 ("Institutions: We Oppress Them If We Can"), and 8 ("The Majority Dream") – pp. 129 – 200
- Daron Acemoglu, Simon Johnson and James A. Robinson. 2001. "The Colonial Origins of Comparative Development: An Empirical Investigation," *American Economic Review* 91(5): 1369-1401.

➤ Research Paper Outline Due Friday 30 October at 5:00 p.m.

PART V: Has Foreign Aid Worked?

Monday 2 November

Wednesday 4 November - Foreign Aid Effectiveness

- Craig Burnside and David Dollar. 2000. "Aid, Policies, and Growth," *American Economic Review* 90(4): 847-68.

Monday 9 November

Wednesday 11 November - Foreign Aid Externalities

- Nicholas Eubank. 2012. "Taxation, Political Accountability, and Foreign Aid: Lessons from Somaliland," *Journal of Development Studies* 48(4): 465-480.
- Kevin Morrison. 2012. "What Can We Learn about the 'Resource Curse' from Foreign Aid?" *World Bank Research Observer* 27(1): 52-73.

Monday 16 November

Wednesday 18 November - *IN-CLASS RESEARCH PRESENTATIONS*

- Research Paper First Draft Due Friday 20 November at 5:00 p.m.

Monday 30 November

Wednesday 2 December - New Directions in Development

- Scott Guggenheim, Tatag Wiranto, Yogana Prasta and Susan Wong. 2004. "Indonesia's Kecamatan Development Program: A Large-Scale Use of Community Development to Reduce Poverty," presented at Scaling Up Poverty Reduction: A Global Learning Process and Conference in Shanghai, May 25-27. 27 pp.
- Christopher Blattman and Paul Niehaus. 2014. "Show Them the Money: Why Giving Cash Helps Alleviate Poverty," *Foreign Affairs* 93.3 (May/June).

Monday 7 December

Wednesday 9 December - Wrapping Up

- Bauer, P.T. 1974. "Foreign Aid, Forever?" *Encounter* 42: 15-28.
- Lancaster – Chs. 1 ("Why Foreign Aid? Setting the Stage?") and 8 ("Conclusions and Conjectures") – pp. 1-24 and 212-26.
- Easterly – Chs. 1 ("Introduction"), 2 ("Two Nobel Laureates and the Debate They Never Had"), and 14 ("Conclusion") – pp. 3-46 and 339-52.

- Research Paper Final Draft Due Wednesday 9 December

Final Exam: *DATE AND TIME ACCORDING TO UNIVERSITY SCHEDULE*