

INTL 3300 Comparative Political Analysis
Spring 2007
Student Learning Center 150
Dr. Markus M.L. Crepaz
T - R 11:00 to 12:15 p.m.
Office Hours: TBA (Candler Hall 327)

The purpose of this course is to provide students with an introduction into issues of political and economic development in Third World Countries. The emphasis in this course is on theory and analysis, rather than description. However, in specific "excursion" segments, the practical effects of various development strategies, political events, and cultural differences will be highlighted. Throughout this course, similarities and differences with Western Development will be explored thus, making this an explicitly comparative course.

This is a course which will question many of the opinions and attitudes you hold about the world. The trick is to "see with new eyes" - and not to retreat to your comfortable and familiar positions when confronted with potentially uncomfortable information. This is a time for curiosity and exploration not of certainty of opinion - remember what Dorothy said in the wizard of Oz: "We are not in Kansas anymore, Toto". On more about seeing with new eyes go to the last page of the syllabus.

Required readings: *Dependency and Development*, Ted Lewellen, "DD"
Global Issues, Annual Editions, 2006/07, "GI"
Developing World, Annual Editions, 2007/08, "DW"
Essentials of Comparative Politics (O'Neil), "EP"

Course requirements: 1: **Mid-term exam:** February 15 (one full class session) on reading materials and class lectures counting for 35 percent.

2: **Two pop-quizzes**, which are by definition unannounced, counting for 7.5 % percent of the grade each.

3: **Participation:** 10 percent. Will be measured by the frequency and quality of class contributions based on informed statements originating either from the readings or from knowledge acquired in other classes. Clarification questions, while encouraged do **not** count towards participation.

4: **Final Exam** counting for 40 % of the course grade.

Some ground rules: If you miss an exam or quiz without a valid **medical** excuse, (I will double check!) no make-up exam will be provided. Only medical excuses are accepted as valid excuses. The exams and quiz consist of a combination of multiple choice questions, identifications, and short essays. I will be more specific about the type of exam as the exam date draws near. Sometimes my lectures will not coincide with the readings - sometimes I will not make explicit mention of our readings; you will have to be

responsible for both, the readings as well as the lecture materials - not just for the overlap between lectures and readings. I will not tolerate reading of newspapers, checking of e-mail, surfing the web, or "sleeping" in my lectures – I will automatically deduct 20 points from the final course points in such an instance.

Schedule of assignments: Readings must be completed before the first day of the week for which they are assigned.

Week 1: Intro and what is "development"?

Readings: DD, chap 1
Chapter 1 in EP

Week 2: How the Third World came to be?

Readings: DD chap. 2
Chapter 9 in EP
Essays 3, 5, and 37 in GI

Week 3: The International Division of Labor

Readings: Essays 6, 14, and 40 in DW
Chapter 2 in "EP"

Week 4: Guns, Germs and Steel. A structural analysis of development

Readings: Article 2 in DW
On Th: a film entitled "Conquistadors" will be shown.

Week 5: The impact of culture on development

Readings: Chapter 3 in "EP"
Articles 29, 30, 31, 37, 41, and 42 in GI
Article 5 in DW

Week 6: How to become "modern"?

Readings: Chapter 3 in DD
Article 27, 30, 33, and 47 in DW
Articles 5, 29, and 39 in GI

Thursday, February 15, Mid-Term Exam

Week 7: Let's keep'em poor so we're doing fine: dependency theory.

Readings: Chap. 4 and 5 in DD
Chapter 4 in "EP"

Week 8: Dependency theory continued.

Readings: Chap. 6 in DD
Essays 9, 11, 13, 18, and 21 in GI
Essay 8, 1, and 9 in DW

Week 9: Are Human Rights universal?

Readings: Chap. 9 in DD
Essays 37, 38, and 40, in GI
Essay 40 in DW

SPRING BREAK (March 12-16)

Week 10: The Environment and its free-riders:

Readings: Chap. 8 in DD
Essays 1, 12, 25, 26, 27 in GI

Week 11: The Environment continued:

Readings: Articles 6, in GI
Essays 41 and 42 in DW

Week 12: The boat is full, or is it? Population and Overpopulation.

Readings: Chap. 7 in DD
Essays 7, 8, in GI

Week 13: Population issues continued.

Readings: Articles 36 and 43 in DW

Week 14: Do we live in a “Global Village” or is all this talk just “Globaloney”?

Readings: Re-read chap. 1 in DD
Chapter 10 in “EP”

Week 15: Global Village or Globaloney continued.

Readings: Essays 2, 15, 16, 17 and 18 in GI

Week 16: Review Session

FINAL EXAM: TBA