

Development Studies 2000: Theory and Research in Development
Fall 2011

Patrick Heller
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Thursdays 9:00-11:50

COURSE DESCRIPTION

Understanding and promoting economic, social, and political development is one of the primary challenges for the world in the twenty-first century. Despite the tremendous efforts over the last fifty years, a large share of the world's population – in Africa, Asia, Latin America, the Middle East, and some of the Transition Economies – still lives in abject poverty. And while many countries have made the transition to democracy, pervasive inequalities, weak political institutions, and fragile civil societies pose significant challenges to the exercise of genuine democratic freedoms. Moreover, the “problem” of development has become an increasingly global challenge as issues of security, governance, economic stability, and environmental sustainability have become internationalized. Recent cases of economic collapse, political upheaval, and resurgent nationalism provide jarring reminders that we still have much to learn. Success stories that defy traditional trajectories of development – rapid and sustained growth in East Asia, cases of social development without growth, and waves of democratic transitions – call for new explanatory models. Coming to terms with these complexities requires modes of thinking, forms of knowledge, and tools of research that borrow from all the social sciences.

DEVL 2000 is the first half of a two-semester course. Both courses are required for all students participating in the Graduate Program in Development (www.watsoninstitute.org/GPD). The course explores a range of substantive debates in development by drawing on empirical and theoretical work from the disciplines of anthropology, economics, political science, and sociology. The course has four objectives: 1) to provide students with a broad understanding of current debates and research on development; 2) to evaluate both the differences and complementarities among disciplinary perspectives; 3) to develop interdisciplinary analytic skills that can be applied to concrete research questions; and 4) to foster cross-disciplinary conversation and debate.

DEVL 2010 will be offered in the spring and is designed to assist students in preparing preliminary dissertation proposals (or, in the case of Economics students, a research agenda). The course will be organized around presentations by Brown and external faculty on a range of development topics. While DS 2000 can be taken alone, both DS 2000 and 2010 are required of all students in the Graduate Program in Development. GPD sponsors the bi-weekly Colloquium on Comparative Research that all GPD participants are expected to attend.

COURSE REQUIREMENTS

- 1) Participation (30%): Includes attendance, coming prepared to participate in class discussion, and two group presentations.
- 2) Book review: (20%): A five-page review of a book on a topic of interest to you from a discipline other than yours.
- 3) Final Paper (50%): a critical literature review paper (approx. 30 pages) that explores a subfield in development. A short proposal will be due mid-semester.
- 4) Mandatory attendance at the Colloquium on Comparative Research (CCR) presentations held every other Wednesday, 5:00-6:30. For schedule see Watson Website.

COURSE READINGS

Books ordered: (* reading whole book). Books with *selected chapters* only will also be posted on MyCourses, but these are classics so think about buying them.

Ferguson, James. 1994. *The Anti-Politics Machine: "Development," Depoliticization, and Bureaucratic Power in Lesotho*. Minneapolis: University of Minnesota Press.

*Sen, Amartya. 2000. *Development as Freedom*. Anchor.

*Bardhan, P. K. 2005. *Scarcity, Conflicts, and Cooperation: Essays in the Political and Institutional Economics of Development* The MIT Press.

*Tilly, Charles. 1998. *Durable Inequality*. Berkeley, CA: UC Press.

Scheper-Hughes, Nancy. 1992. *Death Without Weeping: The Violence of Everyday Life in Brazil*. Berkeley, CA: UC Press, *selected chapters*.

Scott, James C. 1985. *Weapons of the Weak: Everyday Forms of Peasant Resistance*. Yale University Press, *selected chapters*.

All other readings are available as published articles or will be posted on My Courses.

COURSE SCHEDULE

September 8: Introduction

September 15: What is Development?

Amartya Sen, *Development as Freedom*, Anchor Press, 2000, all except chap. 7 and 9.

September 22: New Thinking on Development and Inequality

- Nussbaum, Martha C. "Poverty and Human Functioning: Capabilities as Fundamental Entitlements," in *Poverty and Inequality*. Edited by David B. Grusky and Ravi Kanbur. Stanford: Stanford University Press.
- Evans, Peter. 2002. "Collective Capabilities, Culture, and Amartya Sen's Development as Freedom." *Studies in Comparative International Development* 37: 54-60.
- Appadurai, Arjun. 2004. "The Capacity to Aspire: Culture and the Terms of Recognition," in M. Walton and V. Rao, eds., *Culture and Public Action*, Stanford Univ. Press, pp. 59-84.
- Bourdieu, Pierre. 1986. "The Forms of Capital," in *Handbook of Theory and Research for the Sociology of Education*. Edited by J. Richardson. New York: Greenwood.
- Portes, Alejandro. 2010. "The Concept of Social Class" pp. 71-129 in Alejandro Portes. *Economic Sociology: a Systematic Inquiry*. Princeton.

September 29: the State of the State

- Evans, Peter. 1992. "The State as Problem and Solution: Predation, Embedded Autonomy, and Structural Change," in Stephan Haggard and Robert R. Kaufman (eds.). *The Politics of Economic Adjustment: International Constraints, Distributive Conflicts, and the State*. Princeton, N.J.: Princeton University Press.
- Bates, Robert H. 1988. "Governments and Agricultural Markets in Africa," Pp. 331-358 in Robert H. Bates, ed. *Toward a Political Economy of Development: A Rational Choice Perspective*. Berkeley: University of California Press.
- Wade, Robert. 1995. "The Market for Public Office: Why the Indian State is Not Better at Development." *World Development* 13 (4):467-497.
- Rorthstein, Bo and Eric M. Uslaner. 2005. "All for All: Equality, Corruption and Social Trust," pp. 41-72 *World Politics* 58.
- Rodrik, Dani. 2008. "Normalizing Industrial Policy," Commission on Growth and Development Working Paper No. 3, Washington, DC, 2008.
- Hertog, Steffen. 2010. Defying the Resource Curse: Explaining Successful State-owned Enterprises in Rentier States. *World Politics* 62 (2): 261-301.

October 6: Growth, Development and Inequality

World Bank. *World Development Report 2006: Equity and Development*. "Overview and Introduction," pp. 1-23.

Ray, Debraj. Forthcoming. Uneven Growth: A Framework for Research in Development Economics. *Journal of Economic Perspectives*.

Hoff, K and J. E. Stiglitz. 2001. "Modern Economic Theory and Development," in *Frontiers of Development Economics*. G.M. Meier and J.E. Stiglitz. World Bank and Oxford University Press.

Moore, Mick et al. 2003. "Polity Qualities: How Governance Affects Poverty" Pp. 167-203 in *Changing Paths: International Development and the New Politics of Inclusion*, edited by P. Houtzager and M. Moore. University of Michigan Press.

Corbridge, Stuart. The (im)possibility of Development Studies," *Economy and Society*, 36: 2, pp. 179-211.

Farmer, Paul. 2004. An Anthropology of Structural Violence," Sidney Mintz Lecture for 2001. *Current Anthropology*, 45:3, pp. 305-325.

October 13: History and Institutions in the Making of Development

Acemoglu, Daron, Simon Johnson, and James A. Robinson, "The Colonial Origins of Comparative Development: An Empirical Investigation," *The American Economic Review* 91, 2 (2001): 1369-1401.

Stanley L. Engerman and Kenneth L. Sokoloff. 2002. "Factor Endowments, Inequality, and Paths of Development among NewWorld Economies," *Economia*: 41-109.

Matthew Lange, James Mahoney, and Matthias vom Hau. 2006. "Colonialism and Development: A Comparative Analysis of Spanish and British Colonies," *American Journal of Sociology* 111, no. 5: 1412-62.

Bardhan, Pranab. *Scarcity, Conflicts, and Cooperation*. Chapter TBA

Bayly, Christopher. 2008. "Indigenous and Colonial Origins of Comparative Economic Development," Policy Research Working Paper 4474, The World Bank.

Background: If you are not familiar with the various literatures on institutionalism, a great place to start is Hall, Peter A. and Rosemary C. R. Taylor . 1996. "Political Science and the New Institutionalisms." *Political Studies* XLIV 936-957.

October 20: Development as Power and Knowledge

James Scott, *Seeing Like a State*, Yale University Press, 1998, Chapters 1, 4, and 7.

James Ferguson, *The Anti-Politics Machine*, University of Minnesota Press, 1994. Selections.

Other readings TBA.

October 27: Democracy and Development

Bardhan, Pranab. *Scarcity, Conflicts, and Cooperation*. TBA

Boix, Carles. 2001. Democracy, Development, and the Public Sector, *American Journal of Political Science* Vol. 45, No. 1 (Jan., 2001), pp. 1-17

Rueschemeyer, Dietrich. 2004. "Addressing Inequality." *Journal of Democracy* 15 (4): 76-90.

O'Donnell, Guillermo. 1993. "On the State, Democratization and Some Conceptual Problems: A Latin American View with Glances at Some Postcommunist Countries." *World Development* 21: 1355-70.

Dagnino, Evelina . 2005. "Meanings of Citizenship in Latin America." IDS Working Paper 258, Institute of Development Studies, Brighton

November 3: The 21st Century Developmental State Visitor: Peter Evans, Professor of Sociology

Readings TBA

November 10: Development and Inequality – Micro Perspectives

Scheper-Hughes, Nancy. 1992. *Death Without Weeping: The Violence of Everyday Life in Brazil*. Berkeley, CA: UC Press, selected chapters.

Scott, James C. 1985. *Weapons of the Weak: Everyday Forms of Peasant Resistance*. Yale University Press, selected chapters.

Auyero, Javier. 1999. "From the Client's Point(s) of View": How Poor People Perceive and Evaluate Political Clientelism." *Theory and Society* 28 (2): 297-334.

November 17: A Relational Theory of Inequality

Tilly, Charles. 1998. *Durable Inequality*. Berkeley, CA: UC Press, selected chapters.

December 1: Local Politics and Development

Sanyal, Paromita . 2009. "From Credit to Collective Action: The Role of Microfinance in Promoting Women's Social Capital and Normative Influence." *American Sociological Review* 74 (4):529-550.

Veron, Rene, Stuart Corbridge, Glyn Williams, and Manoj Srivastava. 2003. "The Everyday State and Political Society in Eastern India: Structuring Access to the Employment Assurance Scheme," *Journal of Development Studies*, 39:5, pp. 1-28.

Bardhan, Pranab. *Scarcity, Conflicts, and Cooperation*. TBA

Ostrom, Elinor. 2000. "Collective Action and the Evolution of Social Norms." *The Journal of Economic Perspectives* 14 (3): 137-158.

Tsai, Lily L. 2007. "Solidary Groups, Informal Accountability, and Local Public Goods Provision in Rural China," *American Political Science Review* 101, 2 (May): 355-372.

December 8: Visitor – Vijayendra Rao, Lead Economist, Development Research Group, the World Bank

Readings TBA

December 15: The Politics of the Possible

Herring, Ronald. "The Impossibility of the Agrarian Reform Theory," in *Changing Paths: International Development and the New Politics of Inclusion*, edited by P. Houtzager and M. Moore. University of Michigan Press.

Fung, Archon, and Erik O. Wright. 2003. *Deepening Democracy: Institutional Innovations in Empowered Participatory Governance*. London: Verso, pp. 3-42.

Rao, Vijayendra, and Paromita Sanyal. 2009. "Dignity through Discourse: Poverty and Culture of Deliberation in Indian Village Democracies."

Nugent, Jeffrey and Robinson, James. "Are Endowments Fate?"