DS100/Geography 112: DEVELOPMENT IN THEORY AND HISTORY

Time: T-Th: 2-3:30
Room: 2060 VLSB
Office Hours: Tuesday 4:30-6; Wednesday 2-4.
551 McCone

Course Description
Is Development dead, as neoliberal and postmodernist critics proclaim? Neoliberals assert the superiority of market forces over planned intervention. The ‘post-Development’ critique that arose in the mid-1990s condemns post-World War II efforts to impose a Western model of progress on the Third World and demands an end to Development. Instead they call for indigenous knowledge, organizing outside the state, and defence of ‘the local’ against ‘the global.’ More recently, we have seen the emergence of revisionist forms of (neo)liberalism that emphasize institutional reforms, civil society and social development, and are similarly focused on ‘the local.’

This course argues that the convergence between the ‘new Right’ and the ‘new Left’ fails to come to grips with the central challenge of contemporary development studies: How to understand the multiple, nonlinear, interconnected paths of socio-spatial change in Africa, Asia, Latin America, and the Middle East taking place in the context of intensified global integration and capitalist development – and what these mean in terms of the possibilities for social change, especially in the context of the global economic crisis and rapidly changing relations within and between the global South and the North.

The course is organized in three parts. Part I distinguishes between ‘Development’ as a post-war international project that emerged in the context of decolonization, and capitalist development as a dynamic and highly uneven historical process of creation and destruction. The second part of the course traces the history of Development as an international project. We examine how Development emerged from the process of decolonization in the 1940s, and the ways in which theories and practices of Development have shifted over time. Part III focuses on the so-called ‘era of globalization’ and the need to move beyond local/global dichotomies in thinking about possibilities for progressive social change. Topics include land, labor and livelihood struggles; race, gender, power; and social movements; and civil society and the future of the state.

Course Requirements
There are three sets of requirements for the course: (1) Three research essays on a country of the student’s choice (55% of the grade). The essays will be geared to the topics covered in lectures, and will build on one another. (2) Section participation (15% of the grade). (3) A final exam (30% of the grade).

Reader
The reader for the course is available at University Copy, 2425 Channing.

Graduate Student Instructors
Ilaria Giglioli, Sarah Knuth, Miri Lavi-Neeman, Rebecca Tarlau.
DS100: DEVELOPMENT IN THEOREY AND HISTORY

Course Assignments

The assignments for the course are three essays (which together count for 55% of the grade), section participation (15% of the grade) and a final exam (30% of the grade). The essays are designed to enable you to consider how the theories and debates that we discuss in class have played out in a particular country.

The first step is to identify a country in Africa, Asia, Latin America, or the Middle East in which you have a particular interest. The three essays will entail your doing background research and reading on that country, and will be geared to the historical period and theoretical debates we are discussing in class.

The essays (and grades) will be distributed as follows:

**Essay # 1:**
- Handed out: 1/24 (Tues)
- Due: 2/17 (Fri)
- Length: 7-8 pages (double spaced, 12 point type)
- 15% of total grade

**Essay # 2:**
- Handed out: 2/21 (Tues)
- Due: 3/16 (Fri)
- Length: 7-8 pages (double spaced, 12 point type)
- 20% of total grade

**Essay # 3:**
- Handed out: 3/20 (Tues)
- Due: 4/13 (Fri)
- Length: 7-8 pages (double spaced, 12 point type)
- 20% of total grade

Essay questions will be handed out in class. We will give instructions about where to turn them in. Late essays will not be accepted, and the grade will be forfeited.
DS100/Geography 112: Course Outline

The Crisis of ‘Development’: Neoliberal and Post-Development Critiques

I. THE THEORIES OF DEVELOPMENT OF CAPITALISM

Classical Theories of Capitalist Development: Smith & Marx

Imperialism: Hobson & Lenin

State, Market, Civil Society: Gramsci & Polanyi

Decolonization and the Post-War International Order

II. DEVELOPMENT AS A POST-WAR INTERNATIONAL PROJECT: A HISTORY OF THEORIES AND PRACTICES

Modernization vs. Dependency: Early Development Debates

The 1950s & 1960s: Development Economics, Structuralism and Import Substitution Industrialization (ISI)

The 1970s: Basic Needs

The 1980s: The Neoliberal Counterrevolution and Structural Adjustment

The 1990s & Beyond: The Rise and Decline of the Washington Consensus

III. BEYOND LOCAL/GLOBAL DICHOTOMIES: SPACE, PLACE, POWER, & DIFFERENCE

Contesting Geographies of Globalization & D/development

Reworking “The Local”

Challenges of the Present Conjuncture
DS100/Geography 112: Reading List

*Available online.
**Posted on bSpace
§ In Supplementary Reader on reserve in Earth Sciences Library
All other readings are in the reader for DS100/Geography 112

1/17: Introduction

Background References:
* ____ (2009) Reshaping Economic Geography
* ____ (2010) Development and Climate Change
* ____ (2012) Gender Equality and Development

1/19 - 1/24: Neoliberal and Post-Development Critiques


Related Readings:


PART I:
Theories of the Development of Capitalism

1/26 – 1/31:  Classical Theories of Capitalist Development: Smith and Marx


Karl Marx & Frederick Engels, The Communist Manifesto (1848).

Related Readings:

§Additional reading from The Wealth of Nations


2/2 - 2/7:  Imperialism: Hobson & Lenin


Related Readings:

§Additional readings from Hobson & Lenin.
2/9 - 2/16: State, Market, Civil Society: Gramsci & Polanyi


*Sections from the website of the International Gramsci Society
[http://www.marxists.org/archive/gramsci/index.htm].

A. Gramsci ‘Revolution against ‘Capital’ (1917) plus selected pages from Gramsci’s Prison Notebooks (1971: orig. 1935)).

*Selections from the website of the Karl Polanyi institute of Political Economy
[www.artsandscience.concordia.ca/polanyi/].


Related Readings:


2/21 – 2/23: Decolonization and the Post-War International Order


Frantz Fanon, “First Truths on the Colonial Problem,” in Toward the African Revolution [orig. Pour la revolution Africaine, Maspero 1964].

Related Readings
§Robert Wood, From Marshall Plan to Debt Crisis: Foreign Aid and Development
**PART II**

**Development as a Post-War International Project:**

**A History of Changing Theories and Practices**


J. Palma, ‘Structuralism,’ in Eatwell (ed) *Economic Development*

**Related Readings:**


Background Readings:


3/6: The Dependency Critique


Related Readings:


3/8: 

The 1970s: Basic Needs


Robert McNamara, ‘Paupers of the World and How to Develop Them,’ (Excerpts from the Address to the Board of Governors, World Bank, Nairobi 1973).


Related Readings:


Background Readings:


3/13 - 3/15: 

The 1980s: The Neoliberal Counterrevolution & Structural Adjustment


Thomas Biersteker, ‘Reducing the Role of the State in the Economy: A Conceptual

**Related Readings:**


3/20 – 4/3:

**The 1990s & Beyond: The Rise and Decline of the Washington Consensus**


**Related Readings:**


Part III
Beyond Local/Global Dichotomies:
Space, Place, Power, & Difference

4/5-4/10: Contesting Geographies of Globalization & D/development


4/12-4/17: Reworking “The Local”


4/19-4/24: Challenges of the Present Conjuncture (to be revised)


4/26: Course Review