

Government 365N  
Professor Elkins  
Fall 2010

## **Issues in Third World Development**

### **Course Description and Objectives**

This course surveys important topics in the politics of developing countries. The course begins conceptually with a closer look at the idea of “development” and the classification of cases along such lines. We then examine the historical foundations of political systems in the developing world. We briefly explore the constraints of geography before turning to aspects of colonialism, the rise of nationalism, the movements for independence, and transitions to and from democratic rule. The second part of the course then investigates particular demographic challenges to (and policy solutions for) governance in the developing world, including the problem of population, urban migration, and agrarian reform. In the third part, we turn to sources of political change and upheaval in these societies, including globalization, ethnic violence, and the role of women in politics.

### **Professor**

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### **Teaching Assistant**

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### **Required Materials**

The following materials are available for purchase at the UT. You will also find them online.

1. Handelman, Howard. *The Challenge of Third World Development*, 6th Edition. Upper Saddle River, NJ: Prentice Hall.
2. I-clicker remote.

All other readings are available on the course website.

### **Online Materials**

Information for this course will be posted on the class Blackboard site. There you will find updates to this syllabus, electronic copies of selected readings, instructions for uploading assignments, and regular announcements.

If you have any problems with your password or accessing Blackboard, contact ITS. If you can access Blackboard, but cannot access any material from this course, please contact the T.A., Mathew Rhodes-Purdy, by email.

### **Requirements and Grading**

The assignments in this course are designed to assess your understanding of the readings on a regular basis. The expectation is that you complete the reading before each lecture. Your grade will be based on the following components.

- (1) *Geography Tests (15%)*. To help contextualize the topics, you will be responsible for learning the location of the various countries in Africa, Asia, and Latin America, as well as their capital cities and several major geographical features. There will be three geography tests, one for each region. More details are posted on the course website.
- (2) *Three Exams (75%)*. These will be in-class, non-cumulative exams with three components: multiple choice, concept identification, and essay. The multiple choice questions are designed to test your understanding of the readings and lectures. You should expect at least two questions based on each reading or lecture. The essay questions and concept identifications, which will be distributed prior to the exams, test your command of major concepts, themes, and arguments.
- (3) *Participation (10%)*. This is simply the number of lectures that you attend, as a percentage of all lectures minus two [i.e., lectures attended/(all lectures - 2)]. So, you can miss two lectures (or forget your i-clicker) and still receive a perfect score. You can also score over 100% on this component.

**Grading Scale.** Grades will be assigned on a (+/-) basis according to the following scale: 97-100 = A+; 94-96 = A; 90-93 = A-; 87-89 = B+; 84-86 = B; etc.

### **I-Clicker**

This semester we will be using the I-clicker system. This is a remote that allows in-class polling. Analysis shows that it increases the clarity of the lecture and allows for anonymous student-instructor interaction, which can be interesting and helpful. I will use it primarily to clarify difficult concepts and to poll the class regarding policy issues that we discuss. You must bring your i-clicker to class every day. A few notes about the use of the i-clicker follow below.

*Registration.* Once you have purchased your clicker, you must register your device so that we can connect you with your clicker. Please go to the “Tools” folder of our Blackboard site and click the link, “Register your iclicker remote.” Simply enter the serial number of your iclicker and you will be registered.

*What to do if you lose your i-clicker?* Purchase a new clicker at the UT Coop or online from Amazon or other vendors. Then register your new device, as described above.

### **Policy for Missed Exams and Tests**

The assignments in this course are intended to monitor your progress on a regular basis and missing exams or tests will put you behind. Of course, if you have a valid reason to miss an exam or test, we will accommodate you. However, in order to earn full credit on any of the

makeup exams you *must* produce a letter verifying your excuse from the emergency dean (<http://deanofstudents.utexas.edu/emergency/>) and make arrangements to retake the exam within two weeks of its administration. *No exceptions will be made.* Moreover, following University rules, we reserve the right to deny requests for makeup exams even with a letter from the emergency dean if we determine that the excuse is not valid.

*Procedure for missed exams and tests.*

- (1) If you miss an exam or test and have a valid excuse, you should visit the emergency dean in order to obtain a letter as soon as you are able. Then, contact your T.A. and make arrangements to retake the exam or test. You must take the exam within two weeks of the missed assignment. Be sure to bring your letter from the emergency dean when you arrive to retake the exam or test.
- (2) If you miss the exam or test, but do not have a valid excuse (e.g., you overslept), you may retake it but your grade will be deducted 25%. Like the above, you have only two weeks after the date of the missed assignment in which to take the makeup.

### **How to Prepare for Class**

In order to prepare for this course, I recommend that you read all assigned material prior to each lecture, attend all lectures and screenings, and contact the professors or TA with any questions you have concerning the same. Preparing for examinations in small study groups is often useful, as this allows you to pool your knowledge.

### **Appealing Grades**

Should you find an error in the grading of your exam or test, please bring it to the attention of your TA as soon as possible. If you believe that the TA has erred in his or her *interpretation* of your response, you may request that the TA reevaluate the exam or test. In such a case, however, the TA will review the entire exam and may adjust the grade up or down accordingly. The result of this second review is your final grade. Should you have any concerns about this process or feel that you have not been treated fairly, you should contact Professor Elkins.

### **Accommodations**

*Disabilities.* Students with disabilities may request appropriate academic accommodations from the Division of Diversity and Community Engagement, Services for Students with Disabilities, 471-6259, <http://www.utexas.edu/diversity/ddce/ssd/>

*Religious Observance.* By UT Austin policy, you must notify me of your pending absence at least fourteen days prior to the date of observance of a religious holy day. If you must miss a class, an examination, a work assignment, or a project in order to observe a religious holy day, you will be given an opportunity to complete the missed work within a reasonable time after the absence.

### **Academic Integrity**

Students who violate University regulations on academic honesty will receive a failing grade for the course, in addition to University penalties, *which can include expulsion from the University.*

## Schedule of Topics and Readings

**August 26 Introduction**

**August 31 Where is the “Developing World?”**

Amartya Sen. 2000. *Development as Freedom*. Anchor Books, pp. 3-34  
Handelman, pp. 1-15.

**September 2 TBA**

**September 7 Is Geography Destiny?**

Sachs, Jeffrey, Andrew Mellinger, and John Gallup. 2001. “The Geography of Power and Wealth.” *Scientific American* 284 (3).

**September 9 Colonialism and its Legacy**

Clapham, Christopher. 1986. *Third World Politics*. Madison, WI: University of Wisconsin Press. 12-25

**September 14 Colonialism and its Legacy**

Isbister, John. 2001. *Promises Not Kept*. Bloomfield, CT: Kumarian Press. Pp. 66-86.

[Geography Test 1 (Latin America)]

**September 16 Independence and Nationalism**

Clapham, 25-38

**September 21 Independence and Nationalism**

Webster, J.B. and A.A. Boahen. 1980. "The Independence Movement," in *The Revolutionary Years: West Africa since 1800*. NY: Longman, pp. 275-83.

[Geography Test 2 (Africa)]

**September 23 Democracy and Democratization**

Handelman, Chapter 2

**September 28 Democracy and Democratization**

Huntington, Samuel P. 1991. "Democracy's Third Wave." *Journal of Democracy*, Vol. 2, No. 2

[Geography Test 3 (Asia)]

**September 30 Democracy and Democratization**

Lewis, Bernard. 1996. “Islam and Liberal Democracy: An Historical Overview.” 1996. *Journal of Democracy* 7: 2. 52-63

**October 5            Authoritarianism**

Handelman, Chapter 9

**October 7            Authoritarianism (cont'd)/Review**

Chivers, C.J. “Intrigue Follows Death of a President for Life.” *New York Times*, December 22, 2006.

Gourevitch, Peter. “The Madness of Kim Jong-II.” *The Guardian*. November 2, 2003.

**October 12          Exam I**

**October 14          Overpopulation?**

Kluger, J. 2003. “The Big Crunch.” *Annual Edition: Global Issues 2003-04*, Connecticut: McGraw Hill, pp. 28-30.

Eberstadt, N. 2003. “The Population Implosion.” *Annual Edition: The Developing World 2003-04*, Connecticut: McGraw Hill, pp. 152-161.

**October 19          Migration**

Gilbert, Alan and Josef Gugler. 1992. *Cities, Poverty, and Development: Urbanization in the Third World*. Oxford: Oxford University Press. Chapter 3.

**October 21          Urban Politics**

Handelman, Chapter 7

**October 26          Urban Politics**

Gilbert and Gugler, Chapter 5.

**October 28          Rural Politics**

Handelman, Chapter 6

**November 2          Rural Politics**

Banerjee, Abhijit. 1999. “Land Reforms: Prospects and Strategies.” MIT Working Paper Series.

**November 4          Review and Discussion**

**November 9          Exam II**

**November 11        Theories of Underdevelopment**

Handelman, p. 15-27.

Lerner, Daniel. 1958. “The Grocer and the Chief.” In *The Passing of Traditional Society: Modernizing the Middle East*. New York: Free Press. Pp. 19-42.

**November 16 Globalization**

Handelman, Chapter 10

Keohane, Robert and Joseph Nye. 2000. "Globalization: What's New? What's Not? (and so what?)." *Foreign Policy* (118): 104-119.

Rodrik, Dani. 2001. "Trading in Illusions." *Foreign Policy* (123): 54-62

**November 18 Ethnicity and Ethnic Conflict**

Handelman, Chapter 4

**November 23 Ethnicity and Ethnic Conflict**

Samantha Power. 2001. "Bystanders to Genocide: Why the United States let the Rwandan Tragedy Happen." *Atlantic Monthly* (September), pp. 84-108

**November 25 Thanksgiving**

**November 30 Women and Politics**

Handelman, Chapter 5

**December 2 Women and Politics**

Norris, Pippa and Ronald Inglehart. 2001. "Cultural Obstacles to Equal Representation," *Journal of Democracy*, 12 (3).

Buvinic, Mayra. 1998. "Women in Poverty: A New Global Underclass," *Foreign Policy*, 108.

**December 11 Exam III**

2:00 PM