

INTA 3303. POLITICAL ECONOMY OF DEVELOPMENT

FALL 2023

Instructor: Dr. Alberto Fuentes (alberto.fuentes@inta.gatech.edu)

MW 12:30-1:45p

Habersham G-17

Description

This course introduces students to the field of political economy of development. The course begins with a discussion of the main understandings of development. Some of these hew closer to an emphasis on material progress, while others favor a broader lifestyle focus. Then, the course takes a sectoral approach to the main correlates of development, examining arguments addressing geography, natural resources and primary production; manufacturing and industrialization; and the shift toward services and the knowledge economy. The last part of the course addresses sundry debates related to political and economic questions of development. Students will examine these topics through a combination of academic documents and analyses, and illustrations from real-world cases.

Course Goals and Learning Outcomes

Upon successful completion of the course, you should be able to:

- describe the key economic, social and political factors that shape the socio-economic wellbeing of citizens
- use your knowledge of international affairs to address issues of immediate international concern (Problem-Solving in International Affairs):
- become more aware of the diversity of cultural and ethical systems in the world (Cultural and Ethical awareness)
- express arguments clearly; and work in small groups in a way that demonstrates respect for your colleagues and efficient collaboration towards joint goals. (Professional Development.)

Course Requirements and Grading

Assignment	Due Dates	Share of Overall Grade
Worksheets x 5	--	15%
Labs x 3	September 6 September 27 October 23	15%
Midterm exams x 2	September 13 October 4	40%
Final presentation	November 27-December 4	30%

Description of Graded Components

- **Worksheets.** Throughout the course, students will complete 5 worksheets during class time. Those worksheets will address material covered in the readings, lectures and discussions. Each worksheet will account for 3% of the final course grade.
- **Labs.** Each of the three parts of the course will include one Lab. Labs will take an entire class and will allow students to explore the material through the production of a deliverable. Each Lab will account for 5% of the final grade.
- **Exams.** The course is divided into three parts. The two exams will take place after the first and second parts of the course, respectively. They will address the material covered in each part. Each exam will account for 20% of the final course grade.
- **Final Presentation.** Final presentations will take place during the last three days of the semester. More details will be provided on November 8. The presentation will account for 30% of the final course grade.

Grading Scale

Your final grade will be assigned as a letter grade according to the following scale:

A	90-100%
B	80-89%
C	70-79%
D	65-69%
F	0-64%

Policy for Late Assignments

Late assignments are strongly discouraged, except in the event of an illness or emergency (documentation will be requested). Any major scheduling conflicts – including those that arise due to participation in “approved Institute activities” – should be discussed with the professor at least two weeks before the assignment due date. The penalty for assignments turned in less than 24 hours late is a 20% grade reduction. No assignments turned in over 24 hours late will be accepted.

Course Materials

- **Course Readings.** Copies of all assigned book chapters and articles will be made available electronically on Canvas.
- **Course Website.** I will be using the Course’s Canvas Page quite extensively throughout the semester. On the Canvas page, you should be able to access important information about the course including but not limited to the most updated version of the syllabus, course announcements, and all required material. I will also use the Canvas page to record grades. Please make sure to check the Canvas system regularly so you do not miss important course information.

Feedback and contact with the faculty

- **Virtual Office Hours.** I am available to meet with you during virtual office hours to answer any questions you may have or to discuss any aspect of the course. If you would like to meet, please send me an email and I will make the necessary arrangements.

Academic Integrity

Academic dishonesty in the form of cheating or plagiarism will not be tolerated. According to the Georgia Tech Student Affairs Policy, “Plagiarism” is the act of appropriating the literary composition of another, or parts of passages of their writings, and passing them off as your own products. It involves the deliberate use of any outside source without proper acknowledgment. For information on Georgia Tech's Academic Honor Code, please visit:

<http://www.catalog.gatech.edu/policies/honor-code/>

<http://www.catalog.gatech.edu/rules/18/>

Any student suspected of cheating or plagiarizing on a quiz, exam, or assignment will be reported to the Office of Student Integrity.

Accommodations for Individuals with Disabilities.

If you are a student with learning needs that require special accommodation, contact the Office of Disability Services (often referred to as ADAPTS) to discuss your special needs and obtain an accommodations letter. If you would like to discuss your learning needs, please email me as soon as possible to set up a time to do so.

Student-Faculty Expectations

At Georgia Tech we believe that faculty and the student body must continually strive for an atmosphere of mutual respect, acknowledgement, and responsibility. I encourage you to remain committed to the ideals of Georgia Tech.

PART 1. THE CONCEPT OF DEVELOPMENT

1. *INTRO (August 21)*

2. *Economic growth (August 21)*

- Easterly, W. *Elusive Quest for Growth: Economists' Adventures and Misadventures in the Tropics*, MIT Press, 2001. (Read Chapter 1)
- Coyle, D. "GDP's days are numbered," December 20, 2021.

3. *MI Trap (August 28)*

- Gill, Indermit S., and Homi Kharas. "The middle-income trap turns ten." *World Bank Policy Research Working Paper* 7403 (2015).

4. *Beyond growth – poverty, inequality and human development (August 30)*

- Sen, Amartya. *Development as Freedom*. OUP Oxford, 2001 (read Chapters 1 and 2).

5. *Sustainability and the SDGs (LAB 1) (September 6)*

- "Central American drought creates climate change refugees." (https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=MZ0fzwt0f_c)
- "Georgia Tech Introduces Long-Term Initiative to Advance the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals" (<https://news.gatech.edu/news/2020/08/25/georgia-tech-introduces-long-term-initiative-advance-united-nations-sustainable>)

6. *Human rights (September 11)*

- Scott, James C. *Seeing Like a State : How Certain Schemes to Improve the Human Condition Have Failed*. New Haven, US: Yale University Press, 2008. Read Chapter 7.

7. *Midterm Exam #1 (September 13)*

PART 2. SECTORAL CORRELATES OF ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

1. *Sources of economic development: Geography and Natural Resources (September 18)*

- Sachs, Jeffrey D. 2001. "Tropical Underdevelopment." NBER Working Paper No. 8119.

2. *Paradox of Plenty (September 20)*

- Beattie, A. "The superpower that never was." *Financial Times*, May 22, 2009.

3. *Sources of economic development: Industrialization (September 25)*

- Amsden, A. H., & Chu, W.-W. *Beyond Late Development: Taiwan's Upgrading Policies*. MIT Press, 2003. (Read Chapter 1)

4. *Premature Deindustrialization (LAB 2) (September 27)*

- Gallagher, K. and Lyuba Zarsky. *The Enclave Economy: Foreign Investment and Sustainable Development in Mexico's Silicon Valley*. MIT Press, 2007 (read chapters 5 and 6)

5. **Sources of economic development: Services and the knowledge economy (October 2)**
 - Cruz, J. "Exporting the Knowledge Economy."

6. **Midterm Exam #2 (October 4)**

PART 3. POLITICAL-ECONOMY DEBATES

1. **The State and Industrial Policy (October 11)**

- Evans, P. *Embedded autonomy: states and industrial transformation*. Princeton University Press, 2012. (Read Chapter 1)

2. **The market (October 16)**

- Robert H. Bates. (2014). *Markets and States in Tropical Africa*. University of California Press. (Read Chapter 1)

3. **The role of foreign aid (October 18)**

- Easterly, W. *Reinventing Foreign Aid* MIT Press, 2008. (Read Introduction)

4. **Multinational Corporations (LAB 3) (October 23)**

- "Stealing Africa," *Why Poverty?* PBS
(<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=WNYemuiAOfU>)

5. **Global Value Chains (October 25)**

- Gereffi, Gary. "International trade and industrial upgrading in the apparel commodity chain." *Journal of international economics* 48.1 (1999): 37-70.

6. **Institutions (October 30)**

- Robinson, James A., and Daron Acemoglu. *Why nations fail: The origins of power, prosperity and poverty*. London: Profile, 2012. (Read Chapters 1 and 3)

7. **Democracy, Authoritarianism and Development (November 1)**

- Robinson, James A. "Economic development and democracy." *Annu. Rev. Polit. Sci.* 9 (2006): 503-527.

8. **NO CLASS (November 6)**

9. **Final presentation overview and preparation (November 8)**

10. **Subnational politics, cities and participatory planning (November 13)**

- Angotti, Tomas. "Ciudad Guayana: From Growth Pole to Metropolis, Central Planning to Participation." *Journal of Planning Education and Research* (2001).

11. **Rule of law, Corruption and Clientelism (November 18)**

- The Intercept (3-part series)

- “How and Why The Intercept is Reporting on a Vast Trove of Materials About Brazil’s Operation Car Wash and Justice Minister Sergio Moro.” June 9, 2019.
- “Hidden Plot.” June 9, 2019.
- “Breach of Ethics.” June 9, 2019.

12. Student presentations (November 27)

13. Student presentations (November 29)

14. Student presentations (December 4)