

**SCHOOL OF INTERNATIONAL SERVICE  
THE AMERICAN UNIVERSITY  
Spring Term 2009**

**HNRS 302.007 COMPARATIVE DEVELOPMENT: ASIA, AFRICA, THE AMERICAS**

**Professor Deborah Bräutigam** Office: Hurst 201a  
Tel: 885-1696 (or call the IDP office at 885-1657)  
Email: [dbrauti@american.edu](mailto:dbrauti@american.edu) (best way to reach me)

**TA:** Ritodhi Chakraborty [rc2034a@american.edu](mailto:rc2034a@american.edu)

Please contact Ritodhi for all matters connected with Blackboard.

**Office Hours:** Tuesdays 4 to 5pm, 8 to 9pm; Wednesday 1 to 2pm; 5 to 7pm.  
There will be a sign up sheet in the IDP office in Hurst Hall 214, or you can contact Crystal at: [IDPSIS@american.edu](mailto:IDPSIS@american.edu) or 202-885-1657.

**Course Objectives:** Why are some countries rich and some poor? Why is there so much diversity in development strategies for countries at similar levels of development? This course explores the many factors that affect the way states and their societies construct development strategies. It considers the impact particular development strategies have on development outcomes: social development, environmental sustainability, growth, income distribution, human rights, etc.. Our cases will illustrate the interaction between structure and agency: how do *structural* conditions (such as being a natural resource-based economy, or having a particular geography or history of colonialism) affect the *agency* of government and societal choices, and vice versa? We will be looking at three basic areas of development strategy: agriculture and rural development; industrialization; and social policy. We will also be exploring the role of institutions, social capital, globalization, and other important issues in comparative development. While a basic course in economics is not a prerequisite for this class, students without any economics background at all will find much of the material challenging

**Learning Objectives:**

At the end of this course, students should be able to (1) understand and define in their own terms what a “successful” development strategy is, and (2) explain and differentiate among some of the theories about why some countries succeed and some do not (including geography, colonial origins, leadership, natural resource base, institutions, neighborhood, policies). They should be able to (3) write a professional policy memo, and (4) know the difference between a good and a problematic research design, and (5) understand how to set up a good research design for a research paper on comparative development.

**ACADEMIC INTEGRITY:** By registering for courses at American University you have agreed to abide by the American University Academic Integrity Code:

"Members of the academic community are expected to conduct themselves with integrity as a matter of course. Academic violations include (but are not limited to) the following:

*Plagiarism:* To plagiarize is to use the work, ideas, or words of someone else without attribution. Plagiarism may involve using someone else's wording without using quotation marks--a distinctive name, a phrase, a sentence, or an entire passage or essay. It may also involve misrepresenting the sources that were used."

**This means in particular that all material used in any papers for this course must have proper citations. You must put all material that you did not write yourself in quotation marks, whether it is a full sentence, part of a sentence, a paragraph, or even a distinctive phrase.** You must credit other sources for any ideas you use. You may use an extra page for endnote citations for any assignment, including reflection papers.

Violations of the academic integrity code will receive an F for that assignment, will automatically be reported to the Dean of SIS or the appropriate unit, and may result in a permanent record and even expulsion from the university.

#### **Course Requirements: Instructions for all assignments will be posted on Blackboard**

- (1) **One policy memo:** the Centropico Case (20%)
- (2) **Three one-page class reading research design review papers** due in the first 10 weeks of class (5% each for 15% total). You can do more than three and I will record the three best grades.
- (3) **One individual original research design paper** (45%) about 15 pages.
- (4) **Two reaction/discussion papers** (10% each for 20% total). You can do more than two, and I will record the two best grades.
- (5) **Active participation** in class discussions will also be considered in your grade. This course will be run as a seminar, and students are expected to be prepared for class discussions.

Books Ordered for the Course. Most should be available at the Campus Bookstore:

1. Jared Diamond, *Guns Germs and Steel*
2. Paul Collier. *The Bottom Billion*
3. Ha Joon Chang. *Kicking Away the Ladder*
4. Judith Tendler. *Good Government in the Tropics*
5. Bräutigam, Fjeldstad, Moore, eds. *Taxation and State-Building in Developing Countries*

Notation for Syllabus:

#Denotes required reading from books ordered for the course  
Other readings are available on Blackboard..

Readings are best read in the order presented in the syllabus. From time to time I will add other required readings, particularly on research design.

## **WEEK 1: Introduction**

**January 14**

*Why do some countries have so much more 'cargo' than others?*

Watch this video outside of class: "Hans Rosling: Debunking third-world myths with the best stats you've ever seen": <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=RUwS1uAdUcI>

#Jared Diamond. *Guns, Germs and Steel*, Prologue and Chaps. 1-3.

## **WEEK 2: In the Beginning Was ... ?**

**January 21**

*Can we learn anything about today's development challenges and solutions by looking back 11,000 years?*

#Jared Diamond. *Guns, Germs and Steel*, Chaps. 4-10

\*modified from SIS Honors Capstone Proposal Guidelines [think about Diamond's research design]

- 1) What is the research question?
- 2) What have other scholars said about the answer to this question? "the literature"
- 3) What was wrong with the existing work -- what needed to be improved or modified? "the literature review"
- 4) *How did the author plan to answer the research question?* "the methodology"

## **WEEK 3: Comparative Colonialism**

**January 28**

Think about starting with your research design short review papers today. Chaiken, Kohli, Mahoney and Acemoglu *et al* all provide good examples.

Re-read "Collision at Cajamarca" in Jared Diamond, Chapter 3.

Walter Rodney. 1982, *How Europe Underdeveloped Africa* (Howard U. Press: Washington, D.C.).

Dinesh D'Souza. 2002. "Two Cheers For Colonialism." *Chronicle of Higher Education* May 10.

Miriam S. Chaiken. 1998. "Primary Health Care Initiatives in Colonial Kenya," *World Development* v. 26, n. 9: 1701-1717.

Atul Kohli, "Where Do High Growth Political Economies Come From? The Japanese Lineage of Korea's 'Developmental State,'" in Merideth Woo-Cummings, *The Developmental State*.

Read one of the two following articles:

James Mahoney. 2003. "Long Run Development and the Legacy of Colonialism in Spanish America" in *American Journal of Sociology* v. 109 (1): 50-106.

Daron Acemoglu, Simon Johnson, and James A. Robinson, "The Colonial Origins of Comparative Development: An Empirical Investigation," *American Economic Review*, 91(5), December 2001, 1369-1401. You don't have to read the econometrics for this paper.

**WEEK 4: Development Theory in a Nutshell****February 4**

Adrian Leftwich. *States of Development*, Chaps. 1-3.  
#Jared Diamond, *Guns, Germs and Steel*, Chaps. 11-13.  
#Ha Joon Chang. *Kicking Away the Ladder*, Chap. 1

**WEEK 5: Geography; Natural Resource Curse****February 11**

#Jared Diamond. *Guns, Germs and Steel*. Chaps 18 and 19.  
Ricardo Hausmann. 2001. "Prisoners of Geography," *Foreign Policy* January/February 2001, 45-53.  
Gallup, J. and J. Sachs. 1998. "Geography and Economic Development," Annual World Bank Conference on Development Economics.  
Passell, Peter. 1995. "The Curse of Natural Resources," *The New York Times*, September 21.  
#Paul Collier, *The Bottom Billion*, preface and Chap. 1-4  
Vanessa Herringshaw. "Natural Resources – Curse or Blessing?," *New Economy*, vol. 11, Issue 3 (September 2004): 174-77.  
Thomas Palley. 2003. "Lifting the Natural Resource Curse," 80, *Foreign Service Journal* (Dec. 2003): 54-61

Recommended:

Michael L. Ross. 1999. "The Political Economy of the Resource Curse," *World Politics*, vol. 51, no. 2 (January 1999): 297-322.

**WEEK 6: Institutions****February 18**

Alice H. Amsden. 1979. "Taiwan's Economic History: A Case of Etatism and a Challenge to Dependency Theory," *Modern China* 5, n. 3 (July 1979).  
Jackson, Robert and Carl Rosberg, "Why Africa's Weak States Persist: The Empirical And the Juridical in Statehood," *World Politics*, 1982: 1-24.  
Karen L. Remmer. "Theoretical Decay and Theoretical Development: The Resurgence of Institutional Analysis," *World Politics* 50 (October 1997): 34-61.  
Stephan Haggard. 2004. "Institutions and Growth in East Asia." *Studies in Comparative International Development* (Winter) 38 (4): 53-81.  
Dani Rodrik and Arvind Subramanian. 2003. "The Primacy of Institutions (and what this does and does not mean). *Finance & Development* (June): 31-34.

Recommended:

Rodrik, Dani, Arvind Subramanian, and Francesco Trevisi, "Institutions Rule: The Primacy of Institutions over Geography and Integration in Economic Development" August 2002.  
Rodrik, Dani. 2000 "Institutions for High-Quality Growth: What They are and How to Acquire Them", NBER Working Paper No. W7540. Available at <http://papers.nber.org/papers/W7540.pdf>.

**WEEK 7: State-Building****February 25**

- #Jared Diamond. *Guns, Germs and Steel*, ch. 14
- #Ha Joon Chang, *Kicking Away the Ladder*, ch. 3
- #Deborah Brautigam, "Introduction: Taxation and State-Building in Developing Countries," in Brautigam, Fjeldstad, and Moore, *Taxation and State-Building in Developing Countries*.
- Bratton, Michael, and Eric C. C. Chang, "State Building and Democratization in Sub-Saharan Africa: Forwards, Backwards, or Together?" *Comparative Political Studies*, 39, 9, 1059-1083, 2006.
- Stein Eriksen, "The Congo war and the prospects for state formation: Rwanda and Uganda compared," *Third World Quarterly* 26:7 (October 2005).
- #Paul Collier, *The Bottom Billion*, ch. 5.
- Adeed Dawisha and Karen Dawisha, "How to Build a Democratic Iraq," *Foreign Affairs*, May/June 2003

**Recommended:**

- Francis Fukuyama, F. (2004). "The Imperatives of State-Building," *Journal of Democracy*, 15(4): 17-31.
- Stuart Eisenstadt et al, "Rebuilding Weak States," *Foreign Affairs*, January/February 2005

**WEEK 8: Agriculture and Land Reform****March 3**

2 page memo on Centropico Case Due in Class! No late memos accepted. Andrew Stone, "Rural Reform in Centropico," (case is on Blackboard). No discussion/reaction papers accepted today. For some useful thoughts on how to approach policy writing, see Michael O'Hare's memo to his students in the Spring 2004 issue of the *Journal of Policy Analysis and Management*.

- John Orme, "Growth With Equity: Megapolicies in Taiwan," in John D. Montgomery and Dennis A. Rondinelli, eds. *Great policies: strategic innovations in Asia and the Pacific Basin* Westport, CT: Praeger Publishers, 1995, pp. 41-51.
- Deininger, Klaus. "Enhancing Land Access Through Land Reform," *Land Policies for Growth and Poverty Reduction*, Washington, DC: World Bank, 2003: 143-156.
- Benton, Jane. "Agrarian reform in Latin America," *Agrarian Reform in Theory and Practice*, Brookfield, VT: Ashgate, 1999: 1-14.
- Clive Bell. 1990. "Reforming Property Rights in Land and Tenancy," *World Bank Research Observer* 5, 2 (July).
- Reread land reform sections in:* Alice H. Amsden. 1979. "Taiwan's Economic History: A Case of Etatism and a Challenge to Dependency Theory," *Modern China* 5, n. 3 (July 1979).
- Puchala, Donald. 1979. "The Political Economy of Taiwanese Agricultural Development," in R. Hopkins, D. Puchala, and R. Talbot, eds. Food, Politics and Agricultural Development: Case Studies in the Public Policy of Rural Modernization, Westview: 107-131

Recommended:

Krishna B. Ghimire, ed. 2001. *Land Reform and Peasant Livelihood: The Social Dynamics of Rural Poverty and Agrarian Reforms in Developing Countries*

(**Note:** Spring Break is March 8-14). Speaking of breaks, FYI, a new travel fellowship is available for grads and undergrads between 18-25 offered by State Dept: <http://www.state.gov/p/io/unesco/103476.htm>

**WEEK 9: East Asia and Industrialization**

**March 17**

Robert Wade, "East Asia's Economic Success: Conflicting Perspectives, Partial Insights, Shaky Evidence," *World Politics* 44 (April 1992): pp. 270-320.

David Kang, "Bad Loans to Good Friends: Money Politics and the Developmental State in Korea," *International Organization* vol. 56, no.1 (Winter 2002): pp. 177-207

Cal Clark and Changhoon Jung. 2004. "The Resurrection of East Asian Dynamism," *Asian Affairs* vol. 31 (3): 131-151.

#Ha Joon Chang. *Kicking Away the Ladder* Chs. 2, 4

Anthony Elson. 2006. 'What Happened? Why East Asia surged ahead of Latin America and some lessons for economic policy.' *Finance & Development* (June 2006), [Volume 43, Number 2. \[http://www.imf.org/external/pubs/ft/fandd/2006/06/index.htm\]](http://www.imf.org/external/pubs/ft/fandd/2006/06/index.htm)

Recommended:

Deborah Brautigam. 1994. "What Can Africa Learn from Taiwan? Political Economy, Industrial Policy, and Adjustment," *Journal of Modern African Studies*, v. 32, n. 1 (Cambridge University Press) (March 1994), pp. 111-138. [on Blackboard]

Cal Clark and Steve Chan. 1998. "Market, State, and Society in Asian Development," in Steve Chan, Cal Clark, and Danny Lam, eds. 1998. *Beyond the Developmental State: East Asia's Political Economies Reconsidered* London: Macmillan: 25-37.

**WEEK 10: The Case of China**

**March 24**

Jared Diamond, *Guns, Germs and Steel*, Ch. 16: "How China Became Chinese"

Justin Yifu Lin, "The Needham Puzzle: Why the Industrial Revolution Did Not Originate in China" Working Paper No.650, Dept. of Economics, UCLA (March 1992), 38 pages

#Julia Strauss, "Rethinking Institutional Capacity and Tax Regimes: the Case of the Sino-Foreign Salt Inspectorate in Republican China," in Brautigam, Fjeldstad and Moore, *Taxation and State-Building*.

Yingyi Qian, "How Reform Worked in China," in Dani Rodrik, *In Search of Prosperity*, pp. 297-333.

Mary E. Gallagher, "Reform and Openness: Why China's Economic Reforms Have Delayed Democracy," *World Politics* 54 (April 2002) 338-72.

#Thomas Bernstein and Xiaobo Lu, "Taxation and Coercion in Rural China," in Brautigam,

Fjeldstad and Moore, eds. *Taxation and State-Building*

**WEEK 11:                   Taxation and Comparative Development                   March 30**

#Deborah Brautigam, Odd-Helge Fjeldstad, and Mick Moore. *Taxation and State-Building in Developing Countries*. Chapters 2, 5, 8, 10.

**WEEK 12:                   Good Government in Brazil                   April 7**

#Judith Tandler, *Good Government in the Tropics* Chapters 1-3, 5-6.

**WEEK 13:   RESEARCH DESIGN PRESENTATIONS                   April 14**

**WEEK 14:   RESEARCH DESIGN PRESENTATIONS                   April 21**

Research Design Papers are due at 5:00 on the Tuesday following the presentation. There is no final exam for this class.