

Class Meetings: Monday & Wednesday 3:55pm – 5:15pm

Location: 300 Journalism Bldg

Instructor: Ted Sammons — sammons.25@osu.edu

Office Hours: Mondays 2pm-3pm

Required Texts:

- Sheppard, et al. *A World of Difference: Encountering & Contesting Development* 2nd ed
- Mann, Geoff. *Disassembly Required: A Field Guide to Actually Existing Capitalism*.
- Additional reading materials to be available online

Course Description:

Widespread poverty persists even though humanity's sum total of wealth has grown dramatically over the past five centuries. More recently, even as human beings have shown the ability to accumulate and distribute the resources needed for the subsistence of the whole species, the fraction of the world population forced to struggle for adequate nourishment has grown. What work have people done to investigate these contradictory trends? What facts have shed light on their coexistence and interrelationship? Through a survey of critical essays and case studies exploring the distribution of scarcity and abundance over space and time, this course introduces a prominent current of the effort to understand what drives that contradiction and to address the likely outcomes of reproducing it in the future.

Course Goals:

Students who enroll in this course should finish the term prepared to interpret and evaluate new findings regarding the distribution of scarcity and abundance with reference to trends and debates in the discipline of geography. Achieving this goal will mean finishing the course 1) with a working familiarity with major trends in the production of human difference and inequality, 2) in possession of empirically verified facts pertaining to the production of difference at specific geographic scales, and 3) having gained experience working across general and particular perspectives to articulate a coherent position regarding an actually existing framework or initiative for generating the greatest good for the greatest number over the greatest stretch of time.

Course Objectives:

In pursuit of the above goals, students enrolled in this course will have the opportunity to:

- review the origins and evolution of the capitalist mode of production
- engage high points in the intersection of scholarship in geography and political economy
- sample human development data as produced, gathered, and interpreted produced by geographers
- explore case studies of development programs across a variety of geographic contexts
- compose a work of original scholarship that articulates a lucid and evidence-supported position regarding specific development issue as it manifests in a particular country or economic region

Absence/Tardiness:

No penalty will be assessed simply on account of incomplete attendance, but any in-class work missed due to unexcused tardiness or absence may not be made up. Excuse of absences must be sought in advance, and in all cases excused absences are subject to the discretion of the instructor.

Any students who feel that they may be academically disadvantaged due to the impact of a documented disability should contact the instructor and the Office of Disability Services in 150 Pomerene Hall (292-3307) to arrange accommodations.

Coursework

Exams:

Midterm Exam: 25% of the final course grade

This exam will address all material covered in class lectures and reading assignments up through Feb. 29th.

Final Exam: 25% of the final course grade

This exam will address all material covered in class lectures and reading assignments over the whole semester.

Assignments:

Midterm Assignment: 15% of the final course grade

Compose and submit a paper abstract and an annotated bibliography of materials gathered in the interest of composing a final position paper that will be due at the end of the term. Below is an overview; a more detailed rubric will be distributed in class.

- The abstract must:
 - o run between 400 and 500 words
 - o lay out the terms of a 12-15 page position paper addressing development in a country or economic region of the student's choosing
- The annotated bibliography must:
 - o identify a minimum of fifteen sources published either by scholars in peer-reviewed academic journals or in texts published by state and non-governmental development agencies
 - o for each: outline citation information, provide a summary of content, and provide detailed remarks regarding how the text may be useful for your position paper

Final Assignment: 35% of the final course grade

Composing and submit a work of original research concerning a) a particular development issue and b) a particular country or economic region. This paper might, for example, consider the relationship between development and gender relations in Trinidad, or between development and foreign aid in Greece.

Ultimately, the paper must articulate a position regarding how to address the chosen issue in such a way that brings about economic development in the chosen country or region, and it must support that position with facts specific to the historical and present character of local conditions. The goal is not to convince the reader to adopt the writer's position but rather to make the reader completely and clearly understand the issue, the relevant stakes, the author's position on how to address the issue so as to generate economic development, and his or her rationale for taking that position. Below is an overview; a more detailed rubric will follow.

- The final paper must:
 - o run between 3000 and 4000 words (including title and bibliography)
 - o address the following four areas:
 1. facts about the present state of economic development in the country/region you choose
 2. themes and theories in the published literature that are key to the topic you choose
 3. critical analysis of conditions obtaining at the crossroads of your topic and country/region
 4. a clearly articulated position regarding how to address the topic in such a way that brings about economic development in your chosen country/region

Plagiarism:

Quality scholarship relies on the work of many, but passing off someone else's efforts as one's own is dishonest and lazy. It is also grounds for immediate failure in this course.

Course Schedule

1/11 Introductions

Section I: Historical Foundations and Key Issues

1/13 Session topic: *Development, inequality, and geographical differences—1*
Reading assignment: Sheppard *World of Difference* ch. 2 & 3

1/18 **NO CLASS**

1/20 *Development, inequality, and geographical differences—2*
Sheppard *World of Difference* ch. 13 & 14

1/25 *Afterlives of slavery and colonialism*
Sheppard *World of Difference* ch. 15 & 16

1/27 *Gender and development*
Eleanor Leacock (1978) “Women’s Status in Egalitarian Society.” (pp. 247-255)
Kristin Mammen & Christina Paxson (2000) “Women’s Work and Economic Development” (pp. 141-164)
Andrea Cornwall & Sarah C. White (2000) “Men, Masculinities and Development: Politics, Policies and Practice.” (pp. 1-6)

2/1 *Introduction to critical political economy—1*
Mann *Disassembly Required* (pp. 1-45)

2/3 *Introduction to critical political economy—2*
Mann *Disassembly Required* (pp. 47-76)

2/8 *Introduction to critical political economy—3*
Mann *Disassembly Required* (pp. 77-110)

2/10 *Development theory—The critical political economy tradition*
Sheppard *World of Difference* ch. 4 & 5

2/15 *Development theory—De Janvry’s synthesis—1*
Alain De Janvry (1981) *The Agrarian Question and Reformism in Latin America* (pp. 1-26)

2/17 *Development theory—De Janvry’s synthesis—2*
De Janvry (pp. 26-60)

2/22 *Political economy of food, agriculture, and hunger—1*
Amartya Sen (2000) *Development as Freedom* (pp. 160-188)

2/24 *Political economy of food, agriculture, and hunger—2*
Fred Magdoff & Brian Tokar (2010) *Agriculture and Food in Crisis* (pp. 9-67)

2/29 *Migration and urbanization*
Sheppard *World of Difference* ch.19

DUE IN CLASS 3/2: MIDTERM ASSIGNMENT—PAPER ABSTRACT AND ANNOTATED BIBLIOGRAPHY

3/2 **MIDTERM EXAM**

Section II: Case Studies in the Geography of Development

- 3/7 *Decolonization and the developmentalist state: Jamaica—1*
Michaeline Crichlow (2005) *Negotiating Caribbean Freedom: Peasants and the State in Development* (pp. 61-104)
- 3/9 *Decolonization and the developmentalist state: Jamaica—2*
Kari Polanyi Levitt (2005) “Democratic Socialism in Jamaica: Manley’s Defeat—Whose Responsibility?” (pp. 239-256)
Don Robotham (2009) “The Third Crisis: Jamaica in the Neoliberal Era” (pp. 223-240)
- 3/14 **SPRING BREAK**
- 3/16 **SPRING BREAK**
- 3/21 *Trade and industrialization in the periphery: South Korea—1*
Sheppard *World of Difference* ch.17
- 3/23 *Trade and industrialization in the periphery: South Korea—2*
Robert H. Wade (2005) “Bringing the State Back In: Lessons from East Asia’s Development Experience” (pp. 98-115)
- 3/28 *The Bretton Woods institutions and development strategy—1*
Sheppard *World of Difference* ch. 20
Eric Toussaint & Damien Millet (2010) *Debt, the IMF, and the World Bank* (pp. 49-69)
- 3/30 *The Bretton Woods institutions and development strategy—2*
Sheppard *World of Difference* ch. 22
Toussaint & Millet (pp. 95-124)
- 4/4 *The Bretton Woods institutions and development strategy—3*
Sheppard *World of Difference* ch. 23
Walden Bello, et al (1982) “Colonization without an Occupation Force” (pp. 13-40)
- 4/6 *China, global political economy, and development—1*
Minqi Li (2009) *The Rise of China and the Demise of the Capitalist World Economy* (pp. 67-92)
- 4/11 *China, global political economy, and development—2*
Tamara Jacka (2013) “Chinese discourses on rurality, gender & development” (pp. 983-1007)
- 4/13 *The ‘dual’ crisis and development—1*
Sheppard *World of Difference* ch. 9
Mann *Disassembly Required* (pp. 113-150)
- 4/18 *The ‘dual’ crisis and development—2*
Sheppard *World of Difference* ch. 11
Mann *Disassembly Required* (pp. 151-198)
- 4/20 *Looking forward*
Mann *Disassembly Required* (pp. 199-248)
- 4/25 **REVIEW SESSION**
- DUE IN CLASS 4/25: FINAL ASSIGNMENT—GEOGRAPHY OF DEVELOPMENT POSITION PAPER
- 5/2 **FINAL EXAM**