

INSTITUTIONS, GROWTH, AND DEVELOPMENT

COURSE NUMBER	Political Science 292
COURSE INSTRUCTOR	John Doces
CLASS MEETING	T/Th 2:30-3:52 ACWS 112
EMAIL	john.doces@bucknell.edu
OFFICE HOURS	T 4-5:30, Th 11-12, or by apt in ACWS 233

DESCRIPTION

Why are some countries rich yet so many poor? Why does extreme poverty persist in some places, but not in others? Why have some poor countries grown fast while others stagnated and fallen behind? Eventually, will China overtake the U.S. to become the world's largest economy? Is, moreover, China's authoritarian model of development the way forward for countries in Africa? These questions, and other similar ones, provide the motivation and foundation for this course. In particular, we will focus on how institutions affect long-run growth and development, yet we also examine other fundamental determinants of growth and development like geography. I assume you have no knowledge of economics or political economy, only a desire to learn more about this exciting area of scholarly inquiry.

COURSE OBJECTIVES

At the end of this course you will have a better understanding of the following:

- key facts about growth and development
- what growth and development mean and how they are different and similar
- extreme poverty and inequality and how they are defined and measured
- history of growth and development including long-run trends
- formal theories of growth
- how to differentiate between immediate, intermediate, and deep determinants of growth
- role of institutions in the growth process
- geographical and other non-institutional factors associated with growth
- randomness and how it relates to growth, football, and blackjack

DEPARTMENT OBJECTIVES

The Political Science department has several learning objectives which are as follows:

- understand basic political processes and any related economic, social, and cultural processes
- think systematically about political and economic interactions in local, national, and international contexts
- think systematically about the ethical dimensions of politics
- argue effectively both in writing and orally
- synthesize, analyze, and evaluate arguments; assess sources; apply findings to new situations
- make connections across literatures
- become engaged in public affairs

- gain intellectual skills

COLLEGE CORE CURRICULUM (CCC) OBJECTIVES

This course also meets several of the CCC objectives:

- Students will appropriate tools of inquiry to understand the interdependent nature of the global system and the consequences this interdependence has for political, economic, and social problems (Global Connection)
- Students will analyze, evaluate, and synthesize complex interrelationships between humans and the natural world (Environmental Connection)
- Students will demonstrate college-level knowledge of a body of mathematical and/or statistical techniques suitable for modeling and analyzing real world questions/situations, and will gain some experience in such modeling, including experiencing in building, describing, testing, analyzing, and making predictions from such models (Quantitative Reasoning)
- Students will use the tools of social and/or behavioral analysis drawn from various analytical frameworks to analyze behavior and/or critically interpret social issues (Disciplinary Perspective)

TEXTS

The following texts are required for this course, and they are available for purchase at Bucknell's bookstore. All other readings will be made available on our Blackboard website.

- *Development Economics* by Roland (also on-reserve)
- *African Development* by Moss (also on-reserve)

ASSIGNMENTS

- Quizzes (5 percent). Periodic quizzes covering the assigned reading will be given over the semester. They will be pass/fail.
- Homework (5 percent each, 10 percent total). Two homework assignments each of which will call on you to apply the concepts and ideas that we are covering in class.
- Midterm (20 percent). A take-home midterm will be handed out on October 21st.
- Final (30 percent). A comprehensive final will be given on the day of our scheduled final.
- Critical Literature Review (25 percent). For this assignment you will pick a development-related issue that you are particularly interested in, say colonialism and development, and then read five to six academic papers on this topic. After reading the articles you will then write a critical literature review that will proceed in several stages: first, you will write the literature review, second a critique of the literature, and finally a complete paper including an introduction and conclusion as well as integration and development of the first two parts. Note that the first two parts will be assigned over the course of the semester and then you will use these sections as the basis for your 6 to 7 page final paper (double-spaced with one inch margins). I will provide more information about specific expectations as the semester progresses.
 - Literature review (5 percent)
 - Argument/Critique (5 percent)
 - Final Paper (15 percent)

- Participation (10 percent). You must come to class prepared and ready to participate. You will be graded on general class participation, and the degree to which you discuss assigned readings and make noteworthy contributions.
- Summary of course requirements:
 - Quizzes=5%
 - Homework=10%
 - Midterm=20%
 - Final=30%
 - Paper=25%
 - Class Participation=10%

GRADING

94+=A, 93-90=A-, 89-87=B+, 86-84=B, 83-80=B-, 79-77=C+, 76-74=C, 73-70=C-, 69-67=D+, 66-64=D, 63-60=D-, <59=F.

ATTENDANCE

You must attend all classes. The only excused absences are for serious emergencies and all other absences are counted as unexcused. Two or more unexcused absences will result in a 5-point reduction in your final grade (i.e. if your total is 93 points and you miss one class then your grade will be an 88). I will take attendance at every class so do not miss class. I want you here and I want to work with you, but I cannot do so unless you show up to class.

CLASS EXPECTATIONS

Class meetings will utilize a variety of formats including traditional collaborative lectures, power-point presentations, and group discussion. No computers, cell phones, or other electronic devices are permitted at any time during class. If you text, surf the web, or annoy the class in general then you will karaoke a current hit (e.g., Ice Ice Baby), breakdance in front of the class, and/or perform some combination of the two.

Class Introduction			
Date	Topic	Required Reading	Recommended Reading
8/28	Course Overview	-Review syllabus -Roland "Introduction"	
Understanding Growth and Development			
9/2	The Development Gap	-Roland Ch. 1 -Moss Ch. 1 -The Economist (2014), "A Century of Decline."	-Doces, John. "Dogs and Development."
9/4	Poverty	-Roland 27-38 -The Economist, (2013). "Not always with us." -The Economist, (2013). "A hopeful continent."	-Jerven, Morten. 2010. "African Growth Recurring: An Economic History Perspective on African Growth Episodes, 1690-2010." <i>Economic History of Developing Regions</i> 25(2):127-154.
9/9	Inequality	-Roland pp.38-54 -Clark, Gregory. "Your Fate? Thank Your Ancestors." <i>NY Times</i> 2/21/04.	Acemoglu, Daron and James A. Robinson. "The Rise and Fall of General Laws of Capitalism." <i>Unpublished manuscript.</i>
9/11	Population	-Roland pp.55-63 -The Economist (2014). "Age Invaders." <i>April 26</i> pp. 23-25. -The Economist (2014). "Can it survive such speedy growth?" <i>August 23</i> pp. 40-41. -Film: The People Paradox (we will watch this video in class)	
9/16	Population continued	-Roland pp.63-81 -Rosenthal, Elisabeth. 2012. "Nigeria Tested by Rapid Rise in Population." <i>New York Times</i> . (And short editorial responses.) -The Economist, (2012). "China's Achilles heel."	

Institutions and Growth

9/18	Growth Essentials	-Roland pp. 82-88 -Moss Ch.6	-Spolaore, Enrico and Romain Wacziarg. 2013. "How Deep Are the Roots of Economic Development?" <i>Journal of Economic Literature</i> 51(2): 325-369.
9/23	Solow Model & Endogenous Growth	-Roland pp. 88-103 -Szirmai, Adam. "Explaining Success and Failure in Development."	
9/25	Institutions and Growth	-Roland pp. 105-111 -Moss Ch. 2 -Acemoglu, Daron & James A. Robinson. 2012. "Why Nations Fail" Chapter 1.	-Feyrer, James and Bruce Sacerdote. 2009. "Colonialism and Modern Income: Islands as Natural Experiments." <i>Review of Economic and Statistics</i> 91(2): 245-262. -Acemoglu, Daron & James A. Robinson. 2010. "Why is Africa Poor?" <i>Economic History of Developing Regions</i> 25(1):21-50.
9/30	Geography	-Roland pp. 104-105 -Acemoglu, Daron & James A. Robinson. 2012. "Why Nations Fail" Chapter 2 pages 45-56. -The Economist, (2013). "The wealth beneath." -Sachs, Jeffrey and Andrew Mellinger. 2001. "The Geography of Poverty and Wealth." <i>Scientific American</i> 284 (3): 70-75. -Blas, Javier. "Equatorial Guinea: Squandered riches." <i>Financial Times</i> 2/4/2014.	
10/2	Agriculture, Industry, and Development Strategies: A	-Roland ch. 5 -Moss Ch. 8	

	Big Push?		
10/7	International Trade	-Roland pp. 145-160 -Moss Ch.12	
10/9	Globalization and Prosperity	-Roland pp. 161-173 -Moss Ch. 13	
Institutions and Development			
10/16	Institutions	-Roland Ch. 7	
10/21	Markets	-Roland Ch. 8 -The Economist, (2013). "Doing it my way." -Midterm assigned.	
10/23	Political Regimes	-Roland pp.233-244 -Moss Ch.2	
10/28	Political Regimes cont.	-Roland pp. 244-263 -Moss Ch. 3	-Przeworski, Adam and Fernando Limongi. 1993. "Political Regimes and Economic Growth." <i>Journal of Economic Perspectives</i> 7 (3): 51-69.
10/30	Culture	-Roland Ch. 11	-Barro and McCleary "Religion and Economic Growth across Countries." <i>American Sociological Review</i> 68(5): 760-781.
11/4	Legal and Fiscal Institutions	-Roland Ch. 10	
11/6	Property Rights	-Roland Ch. 13 -Gould, David and William Gruben. "The Role of Intellectual Property Rights in Economic Growth." <i>Federal Reserve Bank of Dallas</i> .	
11/11	Credit/Financial Institutions	-Roland Ch. 15	
11/13	Developing Markets	-Roland Ch. 14	
11/18	Human Capital: Health	-Roland Ch. 16	

		-The Economist, (January 25 th , 2014). “Cure All.” pp.66-67	
11/20	Human Capital: Education	-Roland Ch. 17	
11/25	Infrastructure	-Roland Ch. 18 -The Economist, (January 25 th , 2014). “Driving to an early grave.” pp.50-51	
Institutional Failures			
12/2	Corruption	-Roland Ch. 19 -The Economist, (2013). “Bye-bye Big Men.”	
12/4	Conflict	-Roland Ch. 20 -Moss Ch. 4 -Fielding-Smith, Abigail. “Profiteers become another obstacle to peace in Syria” <i>Financial Times</i> 12/1/2013.	
Conclusions			
12/9	Recap and Review	-Moss Ch. 14	

