

INAF U6164

Political Economy of Development

School of International and Public Affairs

Columbia University

Spring 2014

Instructor:

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Important times

Lecture: 11:00am-12:50pm in 403 IAB

Recitation sections: To be determined

Course Overview:

This class tackles a number of “big questions” in development:

- Why are some countries poor, repressive, and violent?
- Why have some seen growing incomes, stability and freedoms while others stagnate or decline?
- What is at the root of state capacity, political participation, and other aspects of “political development”?
- What role has the West played in both failure and success, and what role (if any) should it play in future?

My goal is to get students to think critically about development theory and practice. A slight majority of examples and readings will be drawn from sub-Saharan Africa, in part give the course some focus, and in part because it is my area of expertise. But in I will also bring in a considerable amount of material on Latin America, the early development of the US and Europe, and to a lesser extent Asia—an order determined largely by my knowledge or ignorance.

The course is political in two senses. First, we explore the politics of economic development—the role of leaders, political systems, and institutions in promoting or retarding economic growth. Second, we look at political development as an end in itself—the forces that drive systems of representation versus repression, and property rights versus expropriation.

We also interrogate the effects of Western intervention in the developing world, from slavery and colonialism to modern-day geopolitics, foreign policy, aid, trade, peacekeeping, and democratization.

Unfortunately there is a lot of important material we do not cover, especially the political economy of policy reform, and the development of specific political institutions and organizations such as political parties, legislatures, and so forth. I encourage you to pursue these topics in other courses if they interest you.

As a core course in the Economics and Political Development concentration, this course is more theoretical and more reading and writing intensive than most. It is designed to give you a broad theoretical architecture for thinking about the big questions above. I also want you to improve your critical reading and writing of academic work. I want to bring you up to the present on some of the important intellectual work being done, and equip you to understand and critically evaluate new intellectual work relevant to your future policy careers.

Grading:

Lecture and section attendance (10%)

Attendance sheets will be circulated during classes and sections by the TAs. You are responsible for ensuring you sign your name. Your grade will be proportional to the lectures and sections you attend. You may not sign on another's behalf; violators risk penalties at minimum and potentially failure of the course. You will not be penalized for missing the occasional lecture or section.

Assignments (25%)

You will need to hand in five written assignments throughout the semester. The first takes the form of a problem set. The final four are written assignments. Each is worth 5% of the grade.

- Each assignment will receive a grade of 0 to 10.
- The four written assignments will require you to use, analyze, critique, or synthesize the readings and lecture material. They are designed to give you an incentive both to read and think critically about the lectures and readings, and an opportunity to internalize some of the lessons for core themes in the course. The ability to synthesize and critique large amounts of complex material in two to four pages is one of the most important skills you can learn. You will use these skills in your professional life more often than you think: writing policy or business memos, e-mails, letters, and articles. These assignments are designed to foster this skill. Specific guidelines are as follows:
 - Answer the assigned question using the reading materials as well as your own thoughts and opinions—so long as they are rooted in theory or evidence. Focus on argument and not excessive summarization of course material.
 - If use additional materials to answer the question (permitted but not required) you must properly reference these sources. Your assignments should concentrate on using the readings, however.
 - Each essay should be less than four pages in length (double-spaced, 1 inch margins, 12 point font).

- You should bring a printed copy of the assignment to class to give to your TA. You should also provide an electronic copy so that we can check for originality/validity of the work as needed. Your TA will specify whether they prefer this through Courseworks or email.
- To receive a strong grade, comments should display knowledge from multiple readings. How you organize your essay is up to you, but the best strategy is probably to have three to five clear, persuasive points or ideas, backed up with argument or evidence. Comments should also be written in concise prose—that is, sentences rather than phrases or bullets. You should avoid simply repeating material from the readings, and avoid obvious criticisms if possible.

Midterm (30%)

The midterm is in class, and will be 110 minutes long. I will distribute a list of 5 to 7 essay questions in advance of the midterm. Your final will include three of these essay questions, and you will be required to answer two. You will be allowed to bring in a single “cheat sheet” of 8.5 x 11 paper with as much or as little as you want to put on it. The more you research and prepare your answers in advance, the better and more organized your essays will be on the final.

Final exam (35%)

The final exam will be held during the exam slot designated by the University registrar. I will distribute a list of 7 to 9 essay questions in advance of the final. Your final will include four or five of these essay questions, and you will be asked to answer three. The more you research and prepare your answers in advance, the better and more organized your essays will be on the final.

Calculating total grades

In general I follow a few guidelines:

- There are five assignments and five essay questions in total for the final and midterm—ten in all. These will make up 90% of your grade. Take them seriously.
- I will drop your lowest grade of the ten essays (across midterm, exam, and assignments).
- We will reward originality and creativity. While you may choose to study in groups, you should not divide and conquer readings and essay questions with classmates, but research and study them as independently as you can.
- University guidelines suggest the median grade will be a B+, and I aim for this. Thus you are graded relative to your peers.
- A majority of your grading will be done by TAs under my supervision, and I will ensure balance across TAs so that there is no “hard” or “soft” TA.

Academic Integrity Statement

The School of International & Public Affairs does not tolerate cheating and/or plagiarism in any form. Those students who violate the Code of Academic & Professional Conduct will be subject to the Dean’s Disciplinary Procedures. Cut and paste the following link into your browser to view the Code of Academic & Professional Conduct online.

http://sipa.columbia.edu/resources_services/student_affairs/academic_policies/deans_discipline_policy.html

Please familiarize yourself with the proper methods of citation and attribution. The School provides some useful resources online; we strongly encourage you to familiarize yourself with these various styles before

conducting your research:

http://sipa.columbia.edu/resources_services/student_affairs/academic_policies/code_of_conduct.html

Violations of the Code of Academic & Professional Conduct should be reported to the Associate Dean for Student Affairs.

Weekly readings

All readings are articles or chapters or books available online through Columbia's library. For the most part these will be downloadable online. Chapters that are not online should be available in a Courseworks folder, either through a direct html link or a scanned reading.

“Required” readings are, well, required—you’ll need to show that you’ve read and understand all of them for your exams and weekly assignments, and everything in them is testable. Seriously.

“Recommended” readings are optional but quite core to the discussion. I will usually highlight insights and findings from these papers in lecture. They are also potential sources of material for your assignments.

“Further reading” are designed to give you a sense of the books or articles I think are most important for you to read in future.

Part I: Introduction to Development: Patterns and Theories

1. Patterns and measures of world development (Jan 27)

Required readings

- Amartya Sen (1998). “[The Concept of Development](#),” Handbook of Development Economics, Volume 1, Edited by H. Chenery and T.N. Srinivasan, Elsevier Science Publishers.
- Marshall, Monty G, and Benjamin R Cole. 2011. “[Global Report 2011: Conflict, Governance, and State Fragility](#).” Polity IV Project. Vienna, VA: Center for Systemic Peace.
- Binyavanga Wainaina (2005). [How to Write About Africa](#). *Granta* 92.
- Rodrik, Dani. “[The Past, Present, and Future of Economic Growth](#).” *Global Citizen Foundation Working Paper* 1 (2013). **(Skip technical bits in sections 6-8)**

Recommended readings

- **Chapters 1 and 3** of Maddison, Angus. 2001. “The World Economy: A Millennial Perspective” OECD. (*Courseworks*)
- Ishiyama, Chapter 1, especially p 1-7 ([Available free online through Columbia Library](#))
- Wainaina talks about why he wrote *How to Write About Africa* in these YouTube videos: [Part 1](#), [Part 2](#), and [Part 3](#)

Further reading

- Amartya Sen. 1999. *Development as Freedom*. Oxford: Oxford University Press.

- Abhijit Banerjee and Esther Duflo (2006). "[The Economic Lives of the Poor](#)," Journal of Economic Perspectives, 21(1), 141-167
- Marshall, Monty G., Ted Robert Gurr, and Keith Jagers. 2012. "[Polity IV Project: Political Regime Characteristics and Transitions, 1800-2012](#)". Center for Systemic Peace.
- Maxim Pinkovskiy and Xavier Sala-i-Martin (2010) [African Poverty is Falling...Much Faster than You Think!](#)
- Pritchett, Lant. 1997. "[Divergence, Big Time](#)" The Journal of Economic Perspectives 11 (3): 3-17.
- Thomas O'Toole (2007). "The Historical Context." Chapter 3 in *Understanding Contemporary Africa*. Edited by A. A. Gordon and D. L. Gordon. London, Lynne Rienner Publishers (p. 23-56). ([see Courseworks](#))

2. Overview of development theories (Feb 3)

**Recitation starts this week with a review of growth and development theories from class*

Required readings

- Chapters 3 (**mainly p109-115, 122-132 and 142-149**) and 4 of Michael Todaro and Stephen Smith (2009). *Economic Development*. 10 ed. ([see Courseworks](#))
- **Chapter 1** of Banerjee, Abhijit, and Esther Duflo. 2011. [Poor economics: a radical rethinking of the way to fight global poverty](#). Public Affairs. (Free online through Columbia library)
- **Chapter 3** of John Ishiyama (2012). *Comparative Politics: Principles of Democracy and Democratization*. Wiley Blackwell ([Available free online through Columbia Library](#))
- Hidalgo, Cesar A., and Ricardo Hausmann. 2008. "[A Network View of Economic Development](#)." *Developing Alternatives* 5: 5–10.

Recommended readings

- William Easterly (2009) "[Can the West Save Africa?](#)" *Journal of Economic Literature* 47(2).
- **p117-135** in Chapter 4 of Perkins, D. H., S. Radelet, et al. (2006). *Economics of development*. New York, W. W. Norton & Company. ([see Courseworks](#))
- **Chapters 2 to 5** of Banerjee, Abhijit, and Esther Duflo. 2011. [Poor economics: a radical rethinking of the way to fight global poverty](#). Public Affairs.

Further reading

- Hoff, Karla, and Joseph Stiglitz. "[Modern economic theory and development](#)." *Frontiers of development economics* (2001): 389-459.
- Hausmann, Ricardo, and Dani Rodrik. 2003. "[Economic Development as Self-Discovery](#)." *Journal of Development Economics* 72 (2): 603–33.
- Krugman, Paul. "[The fall and rise of development economics](#)." *Rethinking the Development Experience: Essays Provoked by the Work of Albert O. Hirschman* (1994): 39-58.
- Bleakley, Hoyt, and Joseph P Ferrie. 2013. "[Up from Poverty? The 1832 Cherokee Land Lottery and the Long-Run Distribution of Wealth](#)." *National Bureau of Economic Research Working Paper* 19175.

- Banerjee, Abhijit V., and Esther Duflo. "[Growth theory through the lens of development economics.](#)" *Handbook of Economic Growth* 1 (2005): 473-552.
- Explore chapters in the [Handbooks to Development Economics](#), free online
- Uma Kothari and Martin Minogue, eds. (2001). *Development Theory and Practice: Critical Perspectives*. Palgrave.
- Albert O. Hirschman (1958), *The Strategy of Economic Development*. New York: WW Norton & Company.
- Colin Leys (2009). *The Rise and Fall of Development Theory*. Indiana University Press.
- *For an advanced economic growth text:* Aghion, Philippe, and Peter Howitt. "[The economics of growth.](#)" (2009). (Free online through Columbia Library)

Part II: Forces of Development in the Long Run

3. “Institutions” (Feb 10)

Required readings

- Daron Acemoglu, Simon Johnson, and James Robinson. (2005). "[Institutions as a fundamental cause of long-run growth.](#)" *Handbook of Economic Growth* 1: 385-472.
- Mahoney, James. 2001. "[Path-Dependent Explanations of Regime Change: Central America in Comparative Perspective.](#)" *Studies in Comparative International Development* 36 (1): 111–41.
- Engerman, Stanley L, and Kenneth L Sokoloff. 2005. "[Institutional and Non-Institutional Explanations of Economic Differences.](#)" In *Handbook of New Institutional Economics*, edited by C Menard and M.M. Shirley, 639–65. Amsterdam: Springer.
- Skim the introductions to the following journal articles (only 3-5 pages each):
 - Glaeser, Edward L., et al. "[Do institutions cause growth?](#)" *Journal of Economic Growth* 9.3 (2004): 271-303.
 - Leonard Wantchekon, Natalija Novta, and Marko Klasnja (2012). "[Education and Human Capital Externalities: Evidence from Colonial Benin.](#)" Working Paper.

Recommended readings

- Abhijit Banerjee and Lakshmi Iyer, "[History, Institutions and Economic Performance: the Legacy of Colonial Land Tenure Systems in India.](#)" *American Economic Review* 95, no. 4 (September 2005): 1190-1213.
- Paige, Jeffery M. 1998. *Coffee and Power: Revolution and the Rise of Democracy in Central America*. Harvard University Press.
- **Chapter 4** of Daron Acemoglu and James Robinson (2012). [Why Nations Fail: The Origins of Power, Prosperity and Poverty.](#)

Further reading

- López de Silanes, Florencio. "[Economic consequences of legal origins.](#)" *Journal of economic*

literature (2008).

- Rohini Pande and Christopher Udry. [Institutions and Development: A View from Below](#), in the *Proceedings of the 9th World Congress of the Econometric Society*, edited by R. Blundell, W. Newey, and T. Persson, Cambridge University Press, 2005.
- Pierson, Paul. "[Increasing returns, path dependence, and the study of politics](#)." *American Political Science Review* (2000): 251-267.
- North, D. C., J. J. Wallis, and Barry Weingast. (2006). [A conceptual framework for interpreting recorded human history](#), National Bureau of Economic Research. 12795.
- Timothy Besley and Maitreesh Ghatak, "[Property Rights and Economic Development](#)." In Dani Rodrik and Mark Rosenzweig, editors: *Handbook of Development Economics*, Vol. 5, The Netherlands: North-Holland, 2010, pp. 4525-4595.
- Landes, D. S. (2006). "[Why Europe and the West? Why Not China?](#)" *Journal of Economic Perspectives* 20(2): 3-22.
- Acemoglu, Daron (2011). [Political Economy of Development Lecture Notes](#), pages 5-64.
- Acemoglu, Daron, Simon Johnson, and James Robinson. (2003). "[Disease and Development in Historical Perspective](#)." *Journal of the European Economic Association* 1(2-3): 397-405.
- Moore, Barrington. *Social origins of dictatorship and democracy: Lord and peasant in the making of the modern world*. Vol. 268. Beacon Press, 1993.
- Acemoglu, D. and J. Robinson (2012). *Why Nations Fail: The Origins of Power, Prosperity, and Poverty*, Crown Publishing Group (NY).
- Besley, T. J. and T. Persson (2011). *Pillars of Prosperity: The Political Economics of Development Clusters*. Princeton, Princeton University Press.
- North, D. C., J. J. Wallis, et al. (2009). *Violence and social orders*, Cambridge University Press.
- North, D. C. (1990). *Institutions, institutional change, and economic performance*. Cambridge, Cambridge University Press.

4. Endowments and Geography (Feb 17)

***Assignment 1 due February 17 before class begins**

Required readings

- Mellinger, Andrew D., Jeffrey D. Sachs, and John L. Gallup (1999). "[Climate, Water Navigability, and Economic Development](#)," unpublished working paper.
- **Chapters 1 and 5** in Jeffrey Herbst (2000). *States and Power in Africa: Comparative Lessons in Authority and Control*. Princeton: Princeton University Press. ([see Courseworks](#))
- **Chapter 4** of Jared Diamond (1997). *Guns, Germs, and Steel*. New York: W.W. Norton & Co. ([see Courseworks](#))
- Skim the introductions to the following journal articles (only 3-5 pages each):
 - Alesina, Alberto, William Easterly, and Janina Matuszeski. 2011. "[Artificial States](#)." *Journal of the European Economic Association* 9 (2): 246–77.
 - Marcella Alsan (2012). "[The Effect of the Tse Tse Fly on African Development](#)," unpublished

working paper.

- Nunn, Nathan, and Diego Puga. 2010. "[Ruggedness: The Blessing of Bad Geography in Africa](#)." *Review of Economics and Statistics* 94 (1): 20–36.

Recommended readings

- Sokoloff, Kenneth L., and Stanley L. Engerman. 2000. "[History Lessons: Institutions, Factors Endowments, and Paths of Development in the New World](#)." *The Journal of Economic Perspectives* 14 (3): 217–32.
- **Chapters 1 and 2** of David Landes (1999). *The Wealth and Poverty of Nations: Why Some Are So Rich and Some So Poor*. (*see Courseworks*)
- W. Easterly and R. Levine (2003). "[Tropics, germs, and crops: the role of endowments in economic development](#)" *Journal of Monetary Economics*, 50:1.
- Wright, Gavin. 1987. "[The Economic Revolution in the American South](#)." *The Journal of Economic Perspectives* 1 (1): 161–78.

Further reading

- McCord, Gordon C., and Jeffrey D. Sachs. 2013. "[Development, Structure, and Transformation: Some Evidence on Comparative Economic Growth](#)." *National Bureau of Economic Research Working Paper* 19512.
- Sachs, Jeffrey, and Pia Malaney. "[The economic and social burden of malaria](#)." *Nature* 415.6872 (2002): 680-685.
- David Landes (1999). *The Wealth and Poverty of Nations: Why Some Are So Rich and Some So Poor*.
- Paul Collier (2007). *The Bottom Billion*. Oxford, Oxford University Press. (Chapter 3, "The Natural Resource Trap")

5. Legacies of slavery and colonialism (Feb 24)

***Assignment 2 due February 24 before class begins**

Required readings

- **Chapter 2** of Mahmood Mamdani (1996). "Citizen and Subject: Contemporary Africa and the Legacy of Late Colonialism," Princeton: Princeton University Press. (*see Courseworks*)
- Jomo Kenyatta, *Facing Mount Kenya*, p. 305-6 only (*see Courseworks*)
- Skim the introductions to the following journal articles (only 3-5 pages each):
 - Hariri, Jacob G. "[The Autocratic Legacy of Early Statehood](#)." *American Political Science Review* 106.3 (2012).
 - Huillery, Elise. "[History matters: The long-term impact of colonial public investments in French West Africa](#)." *American Economic Journal: Applied Economics* 1.2 (2009): 176-215.
 - Nathan Nunn and Leonard Wantchekon, "[The Slave Trade and the Origins of Mistrust in Africa](#)" *American Economic Review* 101 (December 2011): 3221–3252
 - Nathan Nunn. "[The long-term effects of Africa's slave trades](#)". *Quarterly Journal of Economics*,

123(1): 139-176, 2008.

Recommended readings

- **Chapters 1 and 3** of Mahmood Mamdani (1996). "Citizen and Subject: Contemporary Africa and the Legacy of Late Colonialism," Princeton: Princeton University Press.
- Huillery, Elise. "[The Impact of European Settlement within French West Africa: Did pre-colonial prosperous areas fall behind?](#)" *Journal of African Economies* 20.2 (2011): 263-311.
- Heldring, Leander, and James A. Robinson. [Colonialism and Economic Development in Africa](#). No. w18566. National Bureau of Economic Research, 2012.
- **Chapter 9** of Daron Acemoglu and James Robinson (2012). [Why Nations Fail: The Origins of Power, Prosperity and Poverty](#)

Further reading

- Nunn, Nathan, and Nancy Qian. 2010. "[The Columbian Exchange: A History of Disease, Food, and Ideas](#)." *The Journal of Economic Perspectives* 24 (2): 163–88.
- Migdal, Joel S. 1988. *Strong societies and weak states: State-society relations and state capabilities in the Third World*. Princeton: Princeton University Press.
- Mahmood Mamdani (1996). "Citizen and Subject: Contemporary Africa and the Legacy of Late Colonialism," Princeton: Princeton University Press.
- Franz Fanon (2004). *The Wretched of the Earth*, Grove Press.
- Jeffrey Herbst (2000). *States and Power in Africa: Comparative Lessons in Authority and Control*. Princeton: Princeton University Press.

Part III: Development in the late 20th century

6. Patrimonial rule and corruption (Mar 3)

Required readings

- **Chapter 3** of Van de Walle, Nicolas. 2001. *African Economies and the Politics of Permanent Crisis, 1979-1999*. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press. (*see Courseworks*)
- Speech excerpts from Nyerere and Nkrumah. Sections 6.3 and 6.4 in *The Africans: A Reader*, ed. A. A. Mazrui et al. New York: Praeger Publishers. pp. 178-88. (*see Courseworks*)
- Bates, Robert H., John H. Coatsworth, and Jeffrey G. Williamson. 2007. "[Lost Decades: Post-independence Performance in Latin America and Africa](#)." *The Journal of Economic History*.
- Olken, Benjamin A., and Rohini Pande. 2012. "[Corruption in Developing Countries](#)." *Annual Review of Economics* 4 (1): 479–509.

Recommended readings

- Michalopoulos, Stelios, and Elias Papaioannou. 2013. "[Pre-Colonial Ethnic Institutions and Contemporary African Development](#)." *Econometrica* 81 (1): 113–52.

- Crawford Young (2004). "[The end of the post-colonial state in Africa? Reflections on changing African political dynamics.](#)" *African Affairs* 103(410).
- Fred Hayward. 1986. "In Search of Stability: Independence and Experimentation." Chapter 6 in *The Africans: A Reader*, ed. A. A. Mazrui et al. New York: Praeger Publishers. ([Chapter 6, including readings 6.1 to 6.4, especially those by Nyerere and Nkrumah](#))

Further reading

- Catherine Boone (2003). "Political Topographies of the African State," Cambridge University Press.
- George Ayittey (2005). *Africa Unchained*, Palgrave Macmillan. (Chapters 5 and 6)
- Robert H. Jackson and Carl G. Rosberg (1982). "Personal Rule in Black Africa: Prince, Autocrat, Prophet, Tyrant". University of California Press.

7. The politics of foreign aid and humanitarianism (Mar 10)

***Assignment 3 due March 10 before class begins**

Required readings

- UN Millennium Project, Jeffrey D. Sachs, [Investing in Development: A Practical Plan to Achieve the Millennium Development Goals](#), January 2005 (Chapters 1 and 2)
- **Chapter 5** of Van de Walle, Nicolas. 2001. *African Economies and the Politics of Permanent Crisis, 1979-1999*. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press. ([see Courseworks](#))
- William Easterly (2009) "[Can the West Save Africa?](#)" *Journal of Economic Literature* 47(2).
- Moss, Todd, Gunilla Pettersson, and Nicolas Van de Walle (2006). "[An aid-institutions paradox? A review essay on aid dependency and state building in sub-Saharan Africa.](#)" *Center for Global Development working paper* 74.
- Video: Lant Pritchett (2010) [The best of aid.](#)

Recommended readings

- Michael Clemens and Todd Moss (2005). [What's Wrong with the Millennium Development Goals?](#) CGD Brief.
- Eric Werker and Faisal Z. Ahmed (2008). "[What Do Nongovernmental Organizations Do?](#)" *Journal of Economic Perspectives* 22:2.
- Nunn, Nathan, and Nancy Qian. "[U.S. Food Aid and Civil Conflict.](#)" *American Economic Review* (forthcoming).
- Nancy Birdsall (2004). [Seven Deadly Sins: Reflections on Donor Failings](#), CGD Working Paper 50.
- William Easterly and Tobias Pfitze, [Where Does the Money Go? Best and Worst Practices in Foreign Aid](#)" *Journal of Economic Perspectives*, Vol. 22, No.2, Spring 2008.
- Alesina, A. and D. Dollar (2000). "[Who Gives Foreign Aid to Whom and Why?](#)" *Journal of Economic Growth*, 5, 33-64.

Further reading

- Steven Radelet (2006). [A Primer on Foreign Aid](#), CGD Working Paper 92.

- Michael Barnett and Thomas G. Weiss (2008). “Humanitarianism: A Brief History of the Present,” in *Humanitarianism in Question: Politics, Power and Ethics*. Barnett and Weiss, eds. Cornell University Press. (*see Courseworks*)
- Podcast with Binyavanga Wainaina: “[The Ethics of Aid: One Kenyan’s Perspective](#)” (or see [transcript](#))
- Andrew Mwenda, [Africa and the Curse of Foreign Aid](#) (Video)
- Ahmed, Faisal Z. "[The Perils of Unearned Foreign Income: Aid, Remittances, and Government Survival.](#)" *American Political Science Review* 106.1 (2012): 146-165.
- De Mesquita, Bruce Bueno, and Alastair Smith. "[A political economy of aid.](#)" *International Organization* 63.02 (2009): 309-340.
- Sachs, Jeffrey. *The end of poverty: economic possibilities for our time*. Penguin Group USA, 2006.
- Ostrom, Elinor, Clark Gibson, Sujai Shivakumar, and Krister Andersson. 2002. "[Aid, Incentives, and Sustainability: An Institutional Analysis of Development Cooperation \(Summary Report\).](#)" Sida Studies in Evaluation 02/01:1.
- William Easterly (2001). *The Elusive Quest for Economic Growth: Economists’ Adventures and Misadventures in the Tropics*. Cambridge, MIT Press.
- William Easterly (2006). “The White Man’s Burden: Why the West’s Efforts to Aid the Rest Have Done So Much Ill, and So Little Good.” New York, Penguin Press.
- Dambisa Moyo (2009). *Dead Aid*.
- Alex de Waal (1997). “Famine crimes: Politics & the disaster relief industry in Africa.” London: African Rights & the International African Institute.

8. Crisis, reform and collapse (Mar 24)

Required readings

- Van de Walle, Nicolas. "Economic Reform: Patterns and Constraints." *Democratic Reform in Africa. The Quality of Progress* (2004): 29-63. (*Courseworks*)
- **Chapters 2 and 7** in Robert H. Bates (2008). *When Things Fell Apart: State Failure in Late-Century Africa*. Cambridge, Cambridge University Press. (*see Courseworks*)
- **Read up to p453** of Amos Sawyer (2004). "[Violent conflicts and governance challenges in West Africa: the case of the Mano River basin area.](#)" *The Journal of Modern African Studies* 42(03).
- Crawford Young (2002). "[Deciphering Disorder in Africa: Is Identity the Key?](#)" *World Politics* 54(4).

Recommended readings

- Goldstone, Jack A., Robert H. Bates, David L. Epstein, Ted Robert Gurr, Michael Lustik, Monty G. Marshall, Jay Ulfelder, and Mark Woodward. "[A Global Forecasting Model of Political Instability.](#)" *American Journal of Political Science* 54, no. 1 (2010): 190–208.
- Jonathan Di John (2008). "[Conceptualising the Causes and Consequences of Failed States: A Critical Review of the Literature](#)".
- Ravi Kanbur (2008). "[The Co-Evolution of the Washington Consensus and the Economic Development Discourse](#)".

Further reading

- Joseph E. Stiglitz (2003). *Globalization and Its Discontents*.
- Widner, Jennifer A., ed. *Economic change and political liberalization in Sub-Saharan Africa*. Baltimore: Johns Hopkins University Press, 1994.
- Uma Kothari and Martin Minogue, eds. (2001). *Development Theory and Practice: Critical Perspectives*. Palgrave.
- Donald Gordon (2007). "African Politics." Chapter 4 in *Understanding Contemporary Africa*. A. A. Gordon and D. L. Gordon. London, Lynne Rienner Publishers.
- John K. Walton and David Seddon (1994). "Free Markets and Food Riots: The Politics of Global Adjustment". Wiley-Blackwell.

9. Midterm (Mar 31)

10. Conflict (Apr 7)

Required readings

- James Fearon (1995). "[Rationalist Explanations for War](#)," *International Organization* 49(3), p379-414.
- **Chapter 1** of Wood, Elisabeth J. 2003. *Insurgent Collective Action and Civil War in El Salvador*. New York: Cambridge University Press. (Courseworks)
- Posen, Barry R. 1993. "[The Security Dilemma and Ethnic Conflict](#)." *Survival* 35 (1): 27–47.
- Fearon, James D., and David D. Laitin. "[Violence and the Social Construction of Ethnic Identity](#)." *International Organization* 54, no. 4 (2000): 845–877.

Recommended readings

- Blattman, Christopher and Jeannie Annan. 2014. "Employment, Lawlessness and Rebellion: Experimental evidence from an agricultural intervention in a fragile state" Working paper.
- Blattman, Christopher, and Edward Miguel. "[Civil War](#)." *Journal of Economic Literature* 48.1 (2010): 3-57.
- Fehr, Ernst, and Simon Gächter. 2000. "[Fairness and Retaliation: The Economics of Reciprocity](#)." *The Journal of Economic Perspectives* 14 (3): 159–81.
- Dube, Oeindrila, and Juan F. Vargas. 2014. "Commodity Price Shocks and Civil Conflict: Evidence From Colombia." *Review of Economic Studies*.
- John Merriman's lecture on the popular protest (#10), why no revolution (#11), and radicals (#14) and nationalism (#13) on [YouTube](#) or [iTunes University](#)

Further reading

- Brubaker, Rogers, and David D. Laitin. "[Ethnic and Nationalist Violence](#)." *Annual Review of Sociology* 24 (1998): 423–452.
- Human Security Report 2009/2010, [Chapters 1 and 2](#)

- Horowitz, D. L. *The Deadly Ethnic Riot*. University of California Press, 2003.
- Goldstone, J. A. (2008). "[Pathways to State Failure](#)." *Conflict Management and Peace Science* 25(4): 285 - 296.
- Laitin, David D. *Nations, States, and Violence*. Oxford University Press, 2007.
- Scott, James C. 1976. *Moral Economy of the Peasant: Rebellion and Subsistence in South East Asia*. New Haven: Yale University Press.
- Fearon, James D. 2004. "Why Do Some Civil Wars Last So Much Longer than Others?" *Journal of Peace Research* 41: 275–301.
- Collier, Paul, and Anke Hoeffler. "[Greed and grievance in civil war](#)." *Oxford economic papers* 56.4 (2004): 563-595.
- Robert H. Bates (2008). *When Things Fell Apart: State Failure in Late-Century Africa*. Cambridge, Cambridge University Press.
- William Reno (1999). "Warlord Politics and African States". Lynne Rienner.
- William Reno (2011). "Warfare in Independent Africa". Cambridge University Press.
- Cramer, Christopher. *Violence in developing countries: War, memory, progress*. Indiana University Press, 2007.

Part IV: Political development

11. State and institution building (Apr 14)

***Assignment 4 due April 14 before class begins**

Required readings

- Tilly, Charles. "Coercion, Capital, and European States [1990]." *Contemporary Sociological Theory* (2012): 251-265. ([see Courseworks](#))
- Fearon, James D, and David D Laitin. 2004. "[Neotrusteeship and the Problem of Weak States](#)." *International Security* 28 (4): 5–43.
- **Chapter 8** of Collier, Paul. 2007. *The Bottom Billion*. Oxford: Oxford University Press. ([see Courseworks](#))
- **Read from 253** of Amos Sawyer (2004). "[Violent conflicts and governance challenges in West Africa: the case of the Mano River basin area](#)." *The Journal of Modern African Studies* 42(03).
- Weinstein, Jeremy M. 2005. "[Autonomous Recovery and International Intervention in Comparative Perspective](#)." *Center for Global Development Working Paper* 57.

Recommended readings

- Fortna, Virginia Page. "[Does Peacekeeping Keep Peace? International Intervention and the Duration of Peace After Civil War](#)." *International Studies Quarterly* 48 (2004): 269–292.
- Sambanis, Nicholas. "[Short- and Long-Term Effects of United Nations Peace Operations](#)." *The World Bank Economic Review* 22, no. 1 (January 1, 2008): 9–32.

- Easterly, William. "[Foreign Aid Goes Military!](#)" *New York Review of Books*, 2008.
- Shringarpure, Bhakti. "[In Conversation with Mahmood Mamdani.](#)" *Warscapes*, July 15, 2013.
- Lant Pritchett, Michael Woolcock and Matt Andrews. 2010. "[Capability Traps: The Mechanisms of Persistent Implementation Failure](#)," Background paper for the 2011 World Development Report on Development, Conflict and Fragile States.
- James A. Robinson (2002). "[States and Power in Africa by Jeffrey I. Herbst: A Review Essay.](#)" *Journal of Economic Literature* 40(2): 510-519.
- **Chapter 7** of Daron Acemoglu and James Robinson (2012). [Why Nations Fail: The Origins of Power, Prosperity and Poverty](#)
- John Merriman's lecture on the European enlightenment (#5), Robespierre (#6) and nationalism (#13) on [YouTube](#) or [iTunes University](#)

Further reading

- North, D. C., J. J. Wallis, and Barry Weingast. (2006). [A conceptual framework for interpreting recorded human history](#), National Bureau of Economic Research. 12795.
- Thelen, Kathleen. "[Historical institutionalism in comparative politics.](#)" *Annual review of political science* 2.1 (1999): 369-404.
- Levitsky, Steven, and María Victoria Murillo. "[Variation in Institutional Strength.](#)" *Annual Review of Political Science* 12 (2009): 115-133.
- DFID. 2010. [Societies, States and Citizens. A policymaker's guide to the research.](#)
- Besley, Tim and Persson, Torsten. [The Origins of State Capacity: Property Rights, Taxation and Politics](#), *American Economic Review*, 99(4), 1218-44, 2009.
- Acemoglu, Daron, and James A. Robinson. *Economic origins of dictatorship and democracy*. Cambridge University Press, 2005.
- Besley, Timothy, and Torsten Persson. *Pillars of Prosperity: The Political Economics of Development Clusters*. Princeton University Press, 2011.
- Greif, Avner. *Institutions and the path to the modern economy: Lessons from medieval trade*. Cambridge University Press, 2006.
- Tilly, C. (1992). *Coercion, Capital, and European States, AD 990–1992*. Cambridge, MA, Blackwell.
- Herbst, J. (1996). "Responding to State Failure in Africa." *International Security* 21(3).

12. Democratization (Apr 21)

Required readings

- **Chapters 2 and 6** of John Ishiyama (2012). *Comparative Politics: Principles of Democracy and Democratization*. Wiley Blackwell ([Available free online through Columbia Library](#))
- **p. 75-92** of Claude Ake (2000). *The Feasibility of Democracy in Africa*. Council for the Development of Social Science Research in Africa. ([see Courseworks](#))
- **Chapter 3** of Acemoglu, Daron, and James A. Robinson. *Economic origins of dictatorship and democracy*. Cambridge University Press, 2005. ([see Courseworks](#))

- van de Walle, Chapter 6

Recommended readings

- Monica Martinez-Bravo, Gerard Padró-i-Miquel, Nancy Qian and Yang Yao (2013) "[Political Reform in China: Elections, Public Goods and Income Distribution](#)" Working paper.
- Monica Martinez-Bravo, Gerard Padró-i-Miquel, Nancy Qian and Yang Yao (2011) "[Do Local Elections in Non-Democracies Increase Accountability? Evidence from Rural China](#)," NBER Working Paper # 16948
- Robinson, James A. 2006. "[Economic Development and Democracy](#)," Annual Review of Political Science 9: 503-527.
- Fearon, James D. "[Self-enforcing democracy](#)." *The Quarterly Journal of Economics* 126.4 (2011): 1661-1708.
- Acemoglu, Daron, Simon Johnson, James Robinson, and Pierre Yared. (2008). "[Income and Democracy](#)", American Economic Review, 98(3), 808- 842.
- Boix, Carles. "[Democracy, development, and the international system](#)." American Political Science Review 105.4 (2011): 809-28.
- Olson, Mancur. "Dictatorship, democracy, and development." *American Political Science Review* (1993): 567-576.

Further reading

- **Chapters 5, 7-9** of John Ishiyama (2012). Comparative Politics: Principles of Democracy and Democratization. Wiley Blackwell ([Available free online through Columbia Library](#))
- Michael Bratton and Eric C. C. Chang (2006). "[State Building and Democratization in Sub-Saharan Africa: Forwards, Backwards, or Together?](#)" *Comparative Political Studies* 39, p.1059
- Bates Robert H., et al. [The New Institutionalism and Africa](#). The Journal of African Economies. Forthcoming.
- Michael Bratton and Nicolas Van de Walle (1997). *Democratic Experiments in Africa*, Cambridge: Cambridge University Press.
- Ake, Claude. *Democracy and development in Africa*. Brookings Institution Press, 1996.
- Claude Ake (2000). *The Feasibility of Democracy in Africa*. Council for the Development of Social Science Research in Africa.
- Przeworski, Adam, et al. *Democracy and development: political institutions and well-being in the world, 1950-1990*. Vol. 3. Cambridge University Press, 2000.

13. Democracy or Autocracy? (Apr 28)

***Assignment 5 due April 28 before class begins**

Required readings

- William Easterly (2011). "[Benevolent Autocrats](#)." unpublished working paper.
- Gandhi, Jennifer. *Political Institutions under Dictatorship*. Cambridge University Press New York, 2008. ([Introduction](#))

- William Easterly. [Planners vs. Searchers in Foreign Aid](#), Asian Development Review, 23, no. 2, (2006): 1-35.
- Ferguson, J. with L. Lohmann (1994). "[The anti-politics machine: 'development' and bureaucratic power in Lesotho](#)." *The Ecologist* 24(5).

Recommended readings

- Jones, Benjamin F., and Benjamin A. Olken. "[Do Leaders Matter? National Leadership and Growth Since World War II](#)." *Quarterly Journal of Economics* 120 (2005): 835–864.
- Haber, Stephen (2008). "[Authoritarian government](#)." *The Oxford Handbook of Political Economy*: 693-707.
- Gandhi, Jennifer, and Ellen Lust-Okar. "[Elections Under Authoritarianism](#)." *Annual Review of Political Science* 12, no. 1 (2009): 403–422.
- Besley, Timothy and Masayuki Kudamatsu (2007). "[Making Autocracy Work](#)." Unpublished working paper.
- Revisit (from above): UN Millennium Project, Jeffrey D. Sachs, [Investing in Development: A Practical Plan to Achieve the Millennium Development Goals](#), January 2005 (Chapters 1 and 2)
- William Easterly. [The Big Push Déjà Vu: A Review of Jeffrey Sachs's The End of Poverty: Economic Possibilities for Our Time](#), *Journal of Economic Literature*, 44, no. 1 (March 2006): Further reading
- Myerson, Roger B. "[The autocrat's credibility problem and foundations of the constitutional state](#)." *American Political Science Review* 102.01 (2008): 125-139.
- Ferguson, J. (1990). *The anti-politics machine: "development," depoliticization, and bureaucratic power in Lesotho*, Cambridge Univ Press.
- Scott, J. C. (1998). *Seeing Like a State: How Certain Schemes to Improve the Human Condition Have Failed*, Yale University Press.
- Scott, J. C. (2009). *The art of not being governed: An anarchist history of upland Southeast Asia*, Yale University Press.
- Easterly, W. (2006). *The white man's burden: why the West's efforts to aid the rest have done so much ill and so little good*, Penguin Group USA.

14. Reflections from the center (May 5)

Required readings

- **Introduction (p.1-8) and 10 (Conclusions)** in James C. Scott. (1998). *Seeing Like a State: How Certain Schemes to Improve the Human Condition Have Failed*. ([see Courseworks](#))
- **Preface (p. ix-xxvi)** in James C. Scott. (2012). *Two Cheers for Anarchism*. ([see Courseworks](#))
- Paul Seabright. 1999. "[The Aestheticising Vice](#)," *London Review of Books* 21(11), p.26-27
- **Chapter 10 and Conclusion** of Banerjee, Abhijit, and Esther Duflo. 2011. . [Poor economics: A radical rethinking of the way to fight global poverty](#). Public Affairs. (Free online through Columbia library)

Recommended readings

- Revisit from first week: Rodrik, Dani. “[The Past, Present, and Future of Economic Growth.](#)” *Global Citizen Foundation Working Paper 1* (2013). (Skip technical bits in sections 6-8)
- J. Bradford DeLong. 1999. “[Forests, Trees, and Intellectual Roots...: A review of James Scott’s Seeing Like a State.](#)”
- **Chapter 15** in Daron Acemoglu and James Robinson (2012). *Why Nations Fail*, New York: Crown Publishers. (*see Courseworks*)
- **Chapter 10** of John Ishiyama (2012). *Comparative Politics: Principles of Democracy and Democratization*. Wiley Blackwell ([Available free online through Columbia Library](#))
- Dani Rodrik (2006). “[Goodbye Washington Consensus, Hello Washington Confusion? A Review of the World Bank’s Economic Growth in the 1990s: Learning from a Decade of Reform](#)”. *Journal of Economic Literature*.
- Valerie Bockstette, Areendam Chanda, and Louis Putterman (2002). [States and Markets: the Advantage of an Early Start](#), *Journal of Economic Growth*, 7, 347-369
- John Merriman’s lecture on radicals (#14) on [YouTube](#) or [iTunes University](#)

15. Final Exam: TBA by registrar during regular exam period