The Politics of Globalization and Development

Course Description:

This course examines the causes and consequences of globalization in developing countries. Throughout the course, we assess the ability of different theories, drawn from economics, sociology, and political science, to explain foreign economic policymaking in developing countries. The course begins by examining why most developing countries closed their markets off from the global economy in the first decades following World War II. The second part of the course focuses on developing countries’ embrace of economic globalization over the past thirty years. We examine why developing countries have liberalized foreign trade, removed barriers to foreign investment, and reduced the state’s role in the domestic economy since the 1980s. The remainder of the course explores how globalization has impacted developing countries, and considers how developing countries have dealt with the new challenges that have emerged in this era of economic globalization. The course is intended for upper-level undergraduates who have taken previous courses in international relations, comparative politics, or political economy.

Course Objectives:

This course has three main objectives for students:
1. To become knowledgeable about the history of economic policy in developing countries since World War II.
2. To gain familiarity with the main theoretical perspectives that scholars use to understand the causes and effects of economic globalization.
3. To be able to critically evaluate the strengths and weaknesses of social science research.

Course Information:

Instructor & GTF Contact Information:
Email: steinbe2@uoregon.edu
Office: PLC 923
Office Hours: 3:30-5:00, Tuesday & Thursday
GTF: Sena Choi (senac@uoregon.edu)
**Readings:**
All readings will be made available on the course Blackboard site ([https://blackboard.uoregon.edu](https://blackboard.uoregon.edu)). All readings listed in the course schedule section of the syllabus are required (i.e. you will be tested on them).

Students, particularly those with less background in economics or political science, may find it useful to consult additional works. Paul Krugman and Maurice Obstfeld’s *International Economics* textbook, Michael Todaro and Stephen Smith’s *Economic Development* textbook, and Mark Brawley’s introductory international relations textbook, *Power, Money and Wealth*, are all recommended.

**Grading & Assignments:**
1. *Small Papers.* Students will write three short (maximum 5 pages) papers. These will be due at the start of class on Oct. 18, Nov. 6, and Nov. 20. These papers will involve critically evaluating the readings. More detailed instructions will be distributed one week prior to each deadline. Each small paper is 20% of the final grade.
2. *Final Exam.* A final exam, worth 40% of your final grade, will take place during exam week.

**Policy on Late Papers & Extensions:**
Late papers will be penalized one letter grade per day (24-hour period). Extensions will only be granted if students provide official documentation (e.g. doctor’s note) that explains the necessity of an extension.

**Academic Honesty & Plagiarism:**
By enrolling in this course, you agree to abide by the University’s Student Conduct Code. Plagiarism and cheating will not be tolerated. Any student that violates these policies will receive an F grade in the course and will be reported to the University authorities. Please ask the instructor if you have any questions about what constitutes plagiarism or cheating.

**Students with Disabilities:**
The University of Oregon is working to create inclusive learning environments. If there are aspects of the instruction or design of this course that result in disability-related barriers to your participation, please notify the instructor as soon as possible. You may also wish to contact the Accessible Education Center in 164 Oregon Hall, by telephone at 346-1155 or by email at uoaec@uoregon.edu.

**Graduate Students:**
Graduate students are assigned additional required readings and assignments. Graduate students must contact the instructor in the first week of class to obtain this information.
Course Schedule:

Part I: Introduction & Background

Sep. 25: Course Introduction
No readings.

Sep. 27: The Politics of Development


Oct. 2: The Politics of Globalization


Oct. 4: The History of Globalization & Development


Part II: The Rejection of Globalization (1944-1985)


Oct. 11: Import-Substitution Industrialization Policies in Africa & Latin America


Oct. 16: The Shift Towards Export-Oriented Industrialization in East Asia


Oct. 18: From Boom to Bust: the 1970s’ Borrowing Binges & 1980s’ Debt Crises


Oct. 23: The Liberalization of International Trade


Oct. 25: The Liberalization of Foreign Direct Investment


Oct. 30: Capital Market Liberalization


Nov. 1: Privatization, Deregulation & the Liberalization of Domestic Markets


Part IV: Dealing with Globalization (1995-Present)

Nov. 6: The Race to the Bottom?


Layna Mosley and Saika Uno. 2007. “Racing to the Bottom or Climbing to the Top?” *Comparative Political Studies* 40 (8): 923-948.

Nov. 8: The Causes & Prevention of Financial Crisis


Nov. 15: From Debtors to Creditors: The Emergence of Global Imbalances

Nov. 20: The Global Financial Crisis of 2007-09

Nov. 27: The Past & Future of the International Political Economy

Nov. 29: Exam Review
No readings.

Dec. 3-7: Final Exam