This course will provide a graduate level introduction to the comparative study of development. The course is organized around the issue of why some parts of the developing world have done better at “development” than other parts. Whereas Asia is often viewed as developing rapidly, sub-Saharan Africa has just as often been treated as a failure. Latin America is commonly perceived as a mixed case, with pockets of both success and failure. While defining what success or failure may mean, and qualifying these assessments as necessary, our collective focus will be on how best to understand such variations. The main contending explanations of developmental success and failure that we will examine generally point to the varying impact of national states, markets and globalization.

The course is divided into three parts. After a brief overview that will emphasize the interaction of states, markets and globalization as our conceptual framework, we will examine a variety of development pathways. The readings will introduce you to the experience of main regions of the developing world. I will often draw my examples from Brazil, China, India, Korea and Nigeria. The cross-regional focus will also enable us to discuss some standard issues that ought to be covered in such a course: state-led growth, growth versus distribution, managing external dependencies, structural adjustment, role of institutions, and democracy versus authoritarianism. We will finally end the course by focusing on emerging issues that cut across the regions and that are likely to be significant enough to merit our special attention. I have picked four such issues for discussion: Globalization, Democracy, Ethnic Conflict, and Distribution and Poverty.

Course Requirements:

The course is designed as a heavy reading course. Do notice that no readings are assigned for the first and the last session. If you spread out your ten weeks of concentrated readings over 12 weeks (and beyond, into the reading period), the reading load ought to be manageable. All seminar members will be expected to keep up with the readings and to participate in discussions; a grade will be assigned to the quality of participation in the precepts. There will be two take-home exams: a mid-term and a final.
I will provide further details in the class. Doctoral (and other more research-oriented) students will have the option of writing a research paper. Depending on the size of the class, the structure of the course and of the assignments may have to be modified. Two precepts (discussion groups) for MPA and MPP students are currently scheduled for one hour each on Mondays at 11:00 am and 2:00 pm respectively (these **precepts will start on Monday, September 22**; the time when these precepts meet may be modified; location of where these precepts will meet will be announced in class). If needed, a third precept for doctoral students will also be organized after consultation with students.

**Note:** There will be no precept on December 1; the last precept will be on December 8.

**Readings:**

All “required” readings are (or ought to be) on e-reserve set up by the WWS library. The books that you will read cover to cover have been ordered at the university bookstore and ought to be available; these are listed below.

**Books Ordered:**


**Weekly Course Topics and Readings**

**Week 1:** Introduction to the course; no readings are assigned for the first week.

**Note:** Do get started on readings for next week and try to stay ahead.

**Week 2:** Four major debates in comparative political economy of development:

a. States versus Markets
b. Global arena: opportunity or constraint
c. Growth versus Distribution (as ends but also as means)
d. Democracy versus Authoritarianism (as ends but also as means)


**Supplementary Readings:**


Alice Amsden, Escape from Empire: The Developing World’s Journey through Heaven and Hell, 2007.


Alice Amsden, The Rise of the “Rest”: Challenges to the West from Late-Industrializing Economies, 2001.


Muhammad Yunus, Banker to the Poor, 1999.


Samuel Huntington, Political Order in Changing Societies, 1968.


Peter Evans, et al., Bringing the State Back In, 1985.


Peter Evans, Embedded Autonomy, 1995.

**Week 3: The East Asian “Miracle”**


Atul Kohli, State-Directed Development, Chs. 2-3.


**Supplementary Readings:**

**Note:** Korea Economic Institute of America publishes an annual review of the Korean economy that provides a non-technical overview of recent developments; the opening issue of Asian Survey every year provides articles that analyze recent political and economic developments in all major Asian countries, including South Korea.

Larry Diamond and Gi-Wook Shin, eds. New Challenges for Maturing Democracies in Korea and Taiwan, 2014.


**Week 4: From Crisis to Crisis in Africa**


Atul Kohli, *State-Directed Development*, Ch. 9.


**Supplementary Readings:**


Steven Radelet, Emerging Africa: How 17 Countries are Leading the Way, 2010

Dambiso Moyo, Dead Aid: Why Aid is not working and how there is a better way for Africa, 2009.


Nicholas van de Walle, Overcoming Stagnation in Aid-Dependent Countries, 2005.


**Week 5: Dependent Development and Beyond: Latin America**

Atul Kohli, State-Directed Development, Ch. 5.


**Supplementary Readings:**

Aldo Musacchio and Sergio Lazzarini, Reinventing State Capitalism: Leviathan in Business, Brazil and Beyond (forthcoming, Harvard University Press; if interested, I have a copy of the manuscript).

Giovanni Andrea Cornia, ed. Falling Inequality in Latin America, 2014.


Albert Fishlow, Starting Over: Brazil Since 1985, 2011.


Susan Stokes, Mandates and Democracy: Neoliberalism by Surprise in Latin America (2001)


**Week 6: From Slow to High Growth: India**


**Supplementary Readings:**


**Week 7: Communism and Beyond: China**

Barry Naughton, *The Chinese Economy: Transitions and Growth*, 2007, 55-112, 209-227 (if the Chinese economy is of special interest to you, also read pp. 271-325 in this volume; these pages will not be on e-reserve for copyright reasons).


**Supplementary Readings:**


Marc Blecher, *China Against the Tide*, 2010.


Minxin Pei, *China’s Trapped Transition: The Limits of Developmental Autocracy*, 2006.


**Week 8: Globalization**


**Supplementary Readings:**

Immanuel Wallerstein et al., *Does Capitalism have a Future?* 2013.

Colin Crouch, *The Strange Non-Death of Neoliberalism*, 2011


*Studies in Comparative International Development*, December 2009 (especially articles by Fernando Henrique Cardoso and Peter Evans; I also have an essay in this volume from which I will present some materials during the class).


**Week 9: Democracy**


**Supplementary Readings:**


**Week 10: Ethnic Conflicts**


**Supplementary Readings:**


**Week 11: Poverty and Distribution**


United Nations Research Institute for Social Development, *Combating Poverty and Inequality*, 2010, Overview (1-28) and Chapter 10 (257-82.)

**Supplementary Readings:**


Bina Agarwal, A Field of One’s Own, 1994.


Amartya Sen, Poverty and Famines, 1981.

**Week 12 (last Wednesday): Conclusion:** No reading is assigned.