

# POLITICS OF ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

## POLS 4930/ POLS 5550

Spring 2020  
Wednesday: 7:15 pm – 10:00 pm  
McGannon Hall #144

Professor- J.D. Bowen  
Office- McGannon #140  
Email- [james.bowen@slu.edu](mailto:james.bowen@slu.edu)  
Phone- 314.977.4239

Office hours- Wednesday, 10:00am-12:00pm, or by appointment

### Course Description and Objectives:

This course is intended to introduce students to the advanced study of political and economic development. The key question the course addresses is how states interact with markets, civil society, and other actors in the international system to produce particular economic outcomes. We will study some of the different strategies governments use (or have used in the past) to promote economic development and try to understand why some strategies work better than others in particular contexts.

We will focus on the development of the state as the dominant form of political organization and the role that the state plays in economic development. We will study the state “from above” (from an international perspective where the state has become a- if not *the*- dominant player in international politics), “from below” (from the perspective of different social groups that exist within states), and “from within” (from the perspective of the various institutions that make up the state). In the process, we will examine how these different approaches to studying the state and economic development intersect with each other in complex ways.

Welcome!

### Required texts:

All required and optional texts are available for purchase at the Saint Louis University Bookstore in the Busch Student Center.

Readings that are NOT in the required books are available through the library’s online e-journals website (go to [libraries.slu.edu](http://libraries.slu.edu) and click on “research” then on “e-journals portal” and follow the instructions for searching for journal articles), or will be sent to you via email as PDF files.

The **required** books for the course are:

Beck, Erin. 2017. *How Development Projects Persist: Everyday Negotiations with Guatemalan NGOs*. Durham: Duke University Press.

Corrales, Javier and Michael Penfold. 2015. *Dragon in the Tropics: Venezuela and the Legacy of Hugo Chávez, 2<sup>nd</sup> edition*. Washington, DC: The Brookings Institution.

Cowie, Jefferson. 2016. *The Great Exception: The New Deal and the Limits of American Politics*. Princeton: Princeton University Press.

Kohli, Atul. 2004. *State-Directed Development: Political Power and Industrialization in the Global Periphery*. New York: Cambridge University Press.

Kurlantzick, Joshua. 2016. *State Capitalism: How the Return of Statism is Transforming the World*. New York: Oxford University Press.

Maçães, Bruno. 2018. *Belt and Road: A Chinese World Order*. London: Hurst & Company.

Mazzucato, Mariana. 2018. *The Value of Everything: Making and Taking in the Global Economy*. New York: PublicAffairs

Rodrik, Dani. 2007. *One Economics, Many Recipes: Globalization, Institutions, and Economic Growth*. Princeton: Princeton University Press

### **Course requirements and grading:**

*1-page papers: 10% of final grade (5 papers @ 2% each)*

Each week all students will submit a short paper analyzing the week's readings. These papers should be *no more than one page* (single or double-spaced) and are due by 11:59 pm the day *before* class. These papers should be brief, critical reflections on the readings. They should not be summaries of the readings. The purpose of this assignment is twofold: (1) it forces you to read and think critically about the readings before coming to class, and (2) it gives me the chance to see what issues were of particular interest or concern to you and tailor our class discussions around those issues. For this reason it is absolutely crucial that these papers be submitted to me via email ([james.bowen@slu.edu](mailto:james.bowen@slu.edu)) and on time (by 11:59 pm the day before class).

**\*\*\*UNDER NO CIRCUMSTANCES WILL LATE PAPERS BE ACCEPTED FOR CREDIT.**

*Research proposal: 10% of final grade*

You will submit a 1-2 page research proposal which outlines your research question, relevant literature, and methodology for your final research paper. The paper is due to me via email by noon on Monday, April 6<sup>th</sup>. Each student will present their proposal to the class during regular class time on April 7<sup>th</sup>.

*Exam: 30% of final grade*

The exam will be essay in nature. It will be a take-home exam. It will be sent to you via email at noon on Monday, April 14<sup>th</sup> and will be due on Tuesday, April 15<sup>th</sup> by 10:00 pm.

*Research presentation: 10 % of final grade*

All students will present their research findings to the class. The exact format of these presentations will be determined in advance. These presentations will be on April 21<sup>st</sup> and 28<sup>th</sup>.

*Research paper: 30% of final grade*

Research papers should be approximately 20 pages (30 pages for students enrolled in POLS 5550). Please turn in a hard copy of your paper. Do not email it to me.

Due: Thursday, May<sup>th</sup> by 7:00 pm.

*Class participation: 10% of final grade*

Your attendance and active participation are vital to the success of this course. Different students participate in different ways. At a minimum, students should come to class on time having read and thought about the assigned readings for that class. I expect that all students will make a contribution to class discussions through comments, questions, criticisms, and analysis of the assigned readings. In assigning grades, quality of participation will take precedence over quantity of participation (hence, students who participate frequently but without giving much thought to their comments/questions are not at an advantage compared to the student who offers occasional but insightful analysis and questions).

Final letter grades will be assigned that correspond to the following numeric scale:

A	93-100	B+	87-89	C+	77-79	D	60-70
A-	90-92	B	83-86	C	73-76	F	below 60
		B-	80-82	C-	70-72		

**Attendance and participation:**

I do not consider class time to be a time simply to review the assigned readings. We will cover materials during class that are not in the readings (and we will not cover every single point from the readings in class). Class attendance is, therefore, imperative. If you must miss class for an approved reason (e.g.; illness, death or medical emergency in the immediate family, University-sponsored activities), please let me know via email as soon as possible. You are responsible for all materials covered in class, whether you are physically present or not. Make-up exams will be given only under the most extraordinary of circumstances. Late papers will be penalized 10 points per day.

**Classroom courtesy:**

Out of respect for all of those in class, all cell phones, pagers, and any other noisemaking devices must be turned OFF during the entire class period and during exams. Laptop computers may be used in class provided they do not make noise that disturbs those around you. I reserve the right to ask you to turn off and put away your computer if it is creating a disruption.

### **Students with disabilities:**

Students with disabilities that may impact their classroom performance should contact the Disabilities Coordinator, 977-8885, DuBourg, Room 36. I am happy to make accommodations for students with disabilities, consistent with all laws and University policies.

### **Academic integrity:**

I expect all students to be honest in their academic work. The University reserves the right to penalize any student whose academic conduct at any time is, in its judgment, detrimental to the University. Such conduct shall include cases of plagiarism, collusion, cheating, giving or receiving or offering or soliciting information in examinations, or the use of previously prepared material in examinations or quizzes. Violations will be reported and will be investigated and adjudicated according to the Policy on Academic Honesty of the College of Arts & Sciences. If the charges are found to be true, the student may be liable for academic or disciplinary probation, suspension, or expulsion from the University. I encourage you to view official University policy on matters of academic integrity at: <http://www.slu.edu/x12657.xml>

### **Additional resources:**

In addition to the required readings, there is a wealth of additional material that you may wish to consult throughout the semester or in the future. Below is a partial list of resources that you may find useful. Most (if not all) of these can be accessed through the library's e-journals website.

News magazines such as *The Economist* and respected dailies such as the *New York Times* and *Washington Post* (in the US) generally provide good coverage of contemporary world events.

General journals in Comparative Politics that often cover topics relevant to our course:

*Comparative Political Studies*  
*Comparative Politics*  
*Current History*  
*Foreign Affairs*  
*Foreign Policy*  
*Journal of Democracy*  
*Studies in Comparative International Development*  
*Third World Quarterly*  
*World Development*  
*World Politics*

In addition, there are excellent English-language journals dealing with other regions of the world. Here are a few of the better ones.

\*For Latin America:

*Bulletin of Latin American Research*  
*Journal of Latin American Studies*  
*Latin American Politics and Society*  
*Latin American Research Review*  
*Journal of Politics in Latin America*  
*NACLA Report on the Americas*

\*For Eastern Europe and the former Soviet Union:

*Post-Soviet Politics*  
*Europe-Asia Studies*  
*Slavic Review*  
*Demokratizatsiya*

\*For Africa:

*Journal of Modern African Studies*  
*Journal of Asian and African Politics*  
*Journal of African Economics*  
*Africa Today*  
*Africa Confidential*

\*For the Middle East:

*Middle East Journal*  
*Middle East Policy*  
*British Journal of Middle Eastern Studies*  
*International Journal of Middle Eastern Studies*  
*Harvard Middle Eastern and Islamic Review*

\*For Asia:

*Asian Survey*  
*Journal of Asian Studies*  
*Pacific Affairs*  
*China Quarterly*

\*For Western Europe:

*West European Politics*  
*Comparative European Politics*  
*European Journal of Political Research*  
*Journal of Contemporary European Studies*  
*European Political Science Review*

## Course schedule:

January 14: Introduction and syllabus

January 21: Introduction to Global Political Economy

\* Mazzucato, Mariana. 2018. *The Value of Everything: Making and Taking in the Global Economy*. New York: PublicAffairs

January 28: States and markets

\*Huntington, Samuel. 1965. "Political Development and Political Decay," *World Politics*, Vol. 17, No. 3, pp. 386-430.

\*Hirschman, Albert. 1971. *A Bias for Hope: Essays on Development in Latin America*. New Haven: Yale University Press (excerpt)

\*Escobar, Arturo. 1995. *Encountering Development: The Making and Unmaking of the Third World*. Princeton: Princeton University Press (excerpt)

\*Rodrik, Dani. 2006. "Goodbye Washington Consensus, Hello Washington Confusion?" *Journal of Economic Literature*, Vol. 44, No. 4, pp. 973-987.

February 4: The state as an agent of development

\* Kohli, Atul. 2004. *State-Directed Development: Political Power and Industrialization in the Global Periphery*. New York: Cambridge University Press.

February 11: The neoliberal revolution

\*Williamson, John. 1993. "Democracy and the 'Washington Consensus'," *World Development*, Vol. 21, No. 8, pp. 1329-1336.

\*Rodrik, Dani. 2007. *One Economics, Many Recipes: Globalization, Institutions, and Economic Growth*. Princeton: Princeton University Press (pp. 1-95).

February 18: Domestic institutions and the global economy

\*Rodrik, Dani. 2007. *One Economics, Many Recipes: Globalization, Institutions, and Economic Growth*. Princeton: Princeton University Press (pp. 99-242).

\*Helmke, Gretchen and Steven Levitsky. 2004. "Informal Institutions and Comparative Politics: A Research Agenda," *Perspectives on Politics*, Vol. 2, No. 4, pp. 725-740.

February 25: Contemporary state capitalism

\* Kurlantzick, Joshua. 2016. *State Capitalism: How the Return of Statism is Transforming the World*. New York: Oxford University Press.

March 3: The political limits of economic reform in the United States

\*Cowie, Jefferson. 2016. *The Great Exception: The New Deal and the Limits of American Politics*. Princeton: Princeton University Press.

March 17: The politics of development assistance

\*Beck, Erin. 2017. *How Development Projects Persist: Everyday Negotiation with Guatemalan NGOs*. Durham: Duke University Press.

March 24: The politics of economic destruction: Venezuela

\*Corrales, Javier and Michael Penfold. 2015. *Dragon in the Tropics: Venezuela and the Legacy of Hugo Chávez, 2<sup>nd</sup> edition*. Washington, DC: The Brookings Institution.

March 31: A Chinese World Order?

\*Maçães, Bruno. 2018. *Belt and Road: A Chinese World Order*. London: Hurst & Company.

April 7: Research proposals

\*Send 1-2 page proposal by March 6<sup>th</sup> @ noon.

April 14: Exam

\*Exam will be sent via email at noon on April 13<sup>th</sup> and is due on April 14<sup>th</sup> by 10pm.

April 21 and 28: Research presentations

May 7: Final papers due