



# On-Campus Course Syllabus

## POL 310 L1

### Political Economy of Development

### Spring 2021

#### Class Information

**Day and Time:** Mondays, 8-10:45am

**Room Number:** E209

#### Contact Information

**Instructor Name:** Dr. Brandon Seitzler

**Instructor Email:** bseitzler@criswell.edu

**Instructor Phone:** 214.818.1309

**Instructor Office Hours:** Tuesdays and Thursdays from 9-11am

#### Course Description and Prerequisites

This course addresses the central question of why some people live in material poverty while others seem to live in wealth. To answer this question the course focuses on two different processes of development. First, the historical process by which countries have experienced an uneven economic transformation. The second process of development teaches the goals, tools and theories of development industry practitioners from the international to local level. (Prerequisites: ECN 202, ECN 203)

#### Course Objectives

By the end of this course, students will be able to:

- Define and measure a country's level of "development."
- Explain why some countries took a very different path of development than others over the course of the 19<sup>th</sup> and 20<sup>th</sup> centuries.
- Design and propose a path forward for less-developed countries.

#### Required Textbooks

- (WNF): Daron Acemoglu and James A. Robinson. Why Nations Fail: The Origins of Power, Prosperity, and Poverty. Currency. 2012.
- (PE): Abhijit V. Banerjee and Esther Duflo. Poor Economics: A Radical Rethinking of the Way to Fight Global Poverty. PublicAffairs. 2011.

#### Recommended Reading

- The Economist
- The Washington Post
- [www.khanacademy.org](http://www.khanacademy.org)

## Course Requirements and Assignments

- 10% - Comparative Development Paper Rough Draft – See “Appendix A” for details on this assignment.
- 30% - Comparative Development Paper Assignment – See “Appendix A” for details on this assignment.
- 30% - Midterm Exam
- 30% - Final Exam

## Course/Classroom Policies and Information

- You may not have your cell phone anywhere in sight during class.
- The one exception to my cell phone rule is using your cell phone as a calculator or to look something up online as a part of class participation. Other than these two exceptions, phones belong in bags.
- You may not use your laptop during class for anything other than class-related activities.

## Class Attendance

Students are responsible for enrolling in courses for which they anticipate being able to attend every class session on the day and time appearing on course schedules, and then making every effort to do so. When unavoidable situations result in absence or tardiness, students are responsible for acquiring any information missed. Instructors are not obliged to allow students to make up missed work. Per their independent discretion, individual instructors may determine how attendance affects students’ ability to meet course learning objectives and whether attendance affects course grades.

## Grading Scale

|    |        |                                    | Grade Definitions |
|----|--------|------------------------------------|-------------------|
| A  | 93-100 | 4.0 grade points per semester hour | Exceptional       |
| A- | 90-92  | 3.7 grade points per semester hour |                   |
| B+ | 87-89  | 3.3 grade points per semester hour |                   |
| B  | 83-86  | 3.0 grade points per semester hour | Above Average     |
| B- | 80-82  | 2.7 grade points per semester hour |                   |
| C+ | 77-79  | 2.3 grade points per semester hour |                   |
| C  | 73-76  | 2.0 grade points per semester hour | Average           |
| C- | 70-72  | 1.7 grade points per semester hour |                   |
| D+ | 67-69  | 1.3 grade points per semester hour |                   |
| D  | 63-66  | 1.0 grade point per semester hour  | Below Average     |
| D- | 60-62  | 0.7 grade points per semester hour |                   |
| F  | 0-59   | 0.0 grade points per semester hour | Unacceptable      |

## Incomplete Grades

Students requesting a grade of Incomplete (I) must understand that incomplete grades may be given only upon approval of the faculty member involved. An “I” may be assigned only when a student is currently passing a

course and in situations involving extended illness, serious injury, death in the family, or employment or government reassignment, not student neglect.

Students are responsible for contacting their instructors prior to the end of the semester, plus filing the appropriate completed and approved academic request form with the Registrar's Office. The "I" must be removed (by completing the remaining course requirements) no later than 60 calendar days after the close of the term or semester in which the grade was awarded, or the "I" will become an "F."

## **Academic Honesty**

Absolute truth is an essential belief and basis of behavior for those who believe in a God who cannot lie and forbids falsehood. Academic honesty is the application of the principle of truth in the classroom setting. Academic honesty includes the basic premise that all work submitted by students must be their own and any ideas derived or copied from elsewhere must be carefully documented.

Academic dishonesty includes, but is not limited to:

- cheating of any kind,
- submitting, without proper approval, work originally prepared by the student for another course,
- plagiarism, which is the submitting of work prepared by someone else as if it were his own, and
- failing to credit sources properly in written work.

## **Institutional Assessment**

Material submitted by students in this course may be used for assessment of the college's academic programs. Since programmatic and institutional assessment is done without reference to specific students, the results of these assessments have no effect on a student's course grade or academic standing at the college. Before submitting a student's work for this type of assessment, the course instructor redacts the work to remove anything that identifies the student.

## **Institutional Email Policy**

All official college email communications to students enrolled in this course will be sent exclusively to students' institutional email accounts. Students are expected to check their student email accounts regularly and to respond in an appropriate and timely manner to all communications from faculty and administrative departments.

Students are permitted to setup automatic forwarding of emails from their student email accounts to one or more personal email accounts. The student is responsible to setup and maintain email forwarding without assistance from college staff. If a student chooses to use this forwarding option, he/she will continue to be responsible for responding appropriately to all communications from faculty and administrative departments of the college. Criswell College bears no responsibility for the use of emails that have been forwarded from student email accounts to other email accounts.

## **Disabilities**

Criswell College recognizes and supports the standards set forth in Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) of 1990, and similar state laws, which are designed to eliminate discrimination against qualified individuals with disabilities. Criswell College is committed to making reasonable

accommodations for qualifying students, faculty, and employees with disabilities as required by applicable laws. For more information, please contact the Student Services Office.

## **Intellectual Property Rights**

Unless otherwise specifically instructed in writing by the instructor, students must neither materially nor digitally reproduce materials from any course offered by Criswell College for or with the significant possibility of distribution.

## **Resources and Supports**

Canvas and SONIS: Criswell College uses Canvas as its web-based learning tool and SONIS for student data. Students needing assistance with Canvas should contact the Canvas Help Support line at (844) 358-6140. Tech support is available at this number, twenty-four hours a day. Students needing help with SONIS should contact the Campus Software Manager at [studenttechsupport@criswell.edu](mailto:studenttechsupport@criswell.edu).

Student Services: The Student Services Office exists to foster and encourage success in all areas of life—physical, intellectual, spiritual, social, and emotional. Students are encouraged to reach out for assistance by contacting the office at 214.818.1332 or [studentservices@criswell.edu](mailto:studentservices@criswell.edu). Pastoral and certified counseling services are also available to Criswell students. Appointments are scheduled through the Dean of Students, at [deanofstudents@criswell.edu](mailto:deanofstudents@criswell.edu).

Wallace Library: Students can access academic resources and obtain research assistance by contacting or visiting the Wallace Library, which is located on campus. For more information, email the Wallace Library at [library@criswell.edu](mailto:library@criswell.edu). Offsite login information is available in Canvas in the “Criswell Student Training Course” under “Library Information.”

Tutoring Center: Students are encouraged to consult with tutors to improve and enhance their skills and confidence in any subject matter taught at the college. Tutors have been recommended by the faculty to ensure that the tutor(s) are qualified to serve the student body. Every tutor brings experience and expertise in an effort to provide the proper resources for the subject matter at hand. To consult with a tutor, students can visit the Tutoring Center located on the second floor in room E203, or schedule an appointment by emailing [tutoringcenter@criswell.edu](mailto:tutoringcenter@criswell.edu) or by calling 214.818.1373.

## Course Outline/Calendar

| Date                         | Class notes                    | Readings and assignments due                                                                                                                                                                             |
|------------------------------|--------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <b>Week 1</b><br>January 18  | <u>No Class – MLK Holiday</u>  | None                                                                                                                                                                                                     |
| <b>Week 2</b><br>January 25  |                                | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• WNF Preface</li> <li>• WNF Ch. 1 So Close and Yet So Different</li> </ul>                                                                                       |
| <b>Week 3</b><br>February 1  |                                | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• WNF Ch. 2 Theories That Don't Work</li> <li>• PE Ch. 1 Think Again, Again</li> </ul>                                                                            |
| <b>Week 4</b><br>February 8  |                                | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• WNF Ch. 3 The Making of Prosperity and Poverty</li> <li>• PE Ch. 2 A Billion Hungry People?</li> </ul>                                                          |
| <b>Week 5</b><br>February 15 |                                | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• WNF Ch. 4 Small Differences and Critical Junctures: The Weight of History</li> <li>• PE Ch. 3 Low-Hanging Fruit for Better (Global Health?)</li> </ul>          |
| <b>Week 6</b><br>February 22 |                                | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• WNF Ch. 5 "I've Seen the Future, and It Works": Growth Under Extractive Institutions</li> <li>• PE Ch. 4 Top of the Class</li> </ul>                            |
| <b>Week 7</b><br>March 1     |                                | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• WNF Ch. 6 Drifting Apart</li> <li>• PE Ch. 5 Pak Sudarno's Big Family</li> </ul>                                                                                |
| <b>Week 8</b><br>March 8     |                                | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• WNF Ch. 7 The Turning Point</li> <li>• WNF Ch. 8 Not on Our Turf: Barriers to Development</li> <li>• Comparative Development Paper Rough Draft</li> </ul>       |
| <b>Week 9</b><br>March 15    | <u>Spring Break – No Class</u> |                                                                                                                                                                                                          |
| <b>Week 10</b><br>March 22   | <u>Midterm Exam Due</u>        | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• WNF Ch. 9 Reversing Development</li> <li>• Midterm Exam Due</li> </ul>                                                                                          |
| <b>Week 11</b><br>March 29   |                                | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• WNF Ch. 10 The Diffusion of Prosperity</li> <li>• PE Ch. 6 Barefoot Hedge-Fund Managers</li> </ul>                                                              |
| <b>Week 12</b><br>April 5    |                                | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• WNF Ch. 11 The Virtuous Circle</li> <li>• PE Ch. 7 The Men from Kabul and the Eunuchs of India: The (Not So) Simple Economics of Lending to the Poor</li> </ul> |

|                            |                               |                                                                                                                                      |
|----------------------------|-------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <b>Week 13</b><br>April 12 |                               | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• WNF Ch. 12 The Vicious Circle</li> <li>• PE Ch. 8 Saving Brick by Brick</li> </ul>          |
| <b>Week 14</b><br>April 19 |                               | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• WNF Ch. 13 Why Nations Fail Today</li> <li>• PE Ch. 9 Reluctant Entrepreneurs</li> </ul>    |
| <b>Week 15</b><br>April 26 |                               | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• WNF Ch. 14 Breaking the Mold</li> <li>• PE Ch. 10 Policies, Politics</li> </ul>             |
| <b>Week 16</b><br>May 3    | <b><u>Final Paper Due</u></b> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• WNF Ch. 15 Understanding Prosperity and Poverty Today</li> <li>• Final Paper Due</li> </ul> |
| <b>Week 17</b><br>May 10   | <b><u>Final Exam Due</u></b>  | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Final Exam Due</li> </ul>                                                                   |

***The descriptions and timelines contained in this syllabus are subject to change at the discretion of the Professor.***

## **Appendix A**

### **Comparative Development Paper**

In this paper you will:

- Compare and contrast the history of development between two countries. One country must be an OECD member and the other country must not be an OECD member.
- Discuss how each of these countries fared (and is faring) during the Great Divergence and Great Convergence.
- Give the historical context and background for your countries' past struggles and successes with development, focusing on specific variables studied throughout the semester, including, but not limited to:
  - Economic and Political Institutions
  - Geography
  - Food and water security
  - Culture
  - Education
  - Health
- Identify your countries' current challenges and opportunities for development.
- Forecast future prospects for development for your countries.
- Utilize 3-4 scholarly, peer-reviewed, sources.

#### **Paper guidelines:**

- Double spaced – no extra space between paragraphs
- 12 pt Times New Roman Font
- 1 inch margins
- 2000-2500 words. This does not include reference pages or cover sheet.
- Assignment must be submitted electronically, via Canvas as a .pdf document. The file name must follow the format "LastName\_AssignmentName". In the header, include your full name and assignment name. Assignments uploaded with the wrong file name or in the wrong file type will be penalized 10 points.
- Late assignments will be penalized 10 points per day
- The paper should be in Chicago or Turabian style including a bibliography.



## On-Campus Course Syllabus

### ADDENDUM FOR SP-21

POL 310 L1

## Political Economy of Development

In the event that Criswell College has to close the campus to on-campus classes during the SP-21 semester, this addendum specifies how your instructor intends to adjust the course in order to allow students to meet the course objectives.

The course requirements, assignments, calendar, and attendance requirements from the syllabus for this course are replicated below. Notes and changes to the information in syllabus are highlighted. Information that is no longer relevant is indicated with a strike through the font and *replacement or new information is placed in italics.*

### Course Requirements and Assignments

No change to this requirement.

### Remote Class Sessions: Identity and Participation Verification

Every class session will be synchronous and use Zoom. You are required to use your web camera for these sessions.