

Development and Democracy

PLSC 421b
Spring 2008
T/Th 10:30-11:20
WLH 120

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Office Hours:

Teaching Fellows: Jennifer Green, Xiaobo Lu

Discussion section times and locations: TBA

Objectives of the course:

What is the relationship between democracy and the market? How might political and economic institutions reinforce, complement, or sometimes subvert one another? Does economic development increase the likelihood of democracy, and what impact does democracy – and different kinds of democratic institutions – have on economic development? These are a few of the questions we will consider in this course.

While we will be strongly interested in the particular answers scholars have proposed to these questions, we will also be interested in *how* they have gone about formulating these answers. The course will explore the various research methods used by political scientists, sociologists, and economists who study these topics - including case studies, comparative historical-institutional analysis of particular sets of countries, cross-national statistical analyses, game-theoretic work, experimental designs, and other research methods. Lectures and especially discussion sections will also focus on the practical aspects of conducting research, including obtaining and analyzing quantitative data and conducting interviews or gathering other kinds of evidence.

This course has been designed in conjunction with Professor Susan Stokes of the Political Science Department, who will teach a seminar in the fall of 2008 entitled "Development and Democracy: Research Seminar." Although taking both courses is not a requirement, we hope that many students will do so. While the focus in the present course will be on developing our understanding of basic theoretical, empirical, and methodological issues, Professor Stokes' course will ask you to conduct your own research and to write a research paper related to the shared topics of the two courses. Those considering writing senior essays are particularly encouraged to take both courses. Our hope is that some students will use the intervening summer to travel and/or conduct research related to possible essay topics. Students who take this lecture course may be given priority in enrollment in Professor Stokes' seminar.

Expectations/Requirements:

There are no prerequisites for the course. The requirements include an in-class midterm, a final exam, a research proposal, and participation in class and especially in discussion sections, as described further below.

In-class midterm exam: March 4, 2008

Final exam: May 7, 2008

There is no term paper to write for this course (but see below regarding the research proposal). However, the midterm and final exams will be designed to test some of the same skills and attributes as a research paper would require: careful reading of the texts; the ability to relate the readings to one another; the ability to discuss empirical cases in the light of different theoretical perspectives we have covered in the course; and the ability to analyze the extent to which these perspectives help us make progress in understanding major questions regarding development and democracy. The midterm will include both short answers and longer essay questions.

Research proposal: Because this course focuses on research design, and because it is hoped that students will use the course to prepare to undertake a research project, writing a research proposal is an important part of the course. The research proposal should reflect careful thinking about a particular substantive topic or problem; the formulation of a sharp research question; and an investigation of available data sources and a reading of the secondary literature. You should write it as though you were applying for funding from a grant agency to conduct the research, so you should describe in precise terms how you will go about doing your research. Will you conduct field research? Run an experiment? Compile a large-n data set? How will you do these things? In other words, you should have done everything you can to set yourself up to do the research, short of actually doing it, and you should describe and discuss what you have done. Further instructions on the research proposal will be given separately.

Discussion sections: Discussion sections are an important part of the class, and attendance in section is as important as attendance in lecture. Discussion sections will be geared not just towards discussion of the readings but also towards the practical aspects of conducting research, including obtaining and analyzing data and other research strategies. There may be occasional, short, graded assignments due in discussion section.

Class/section participation: Active and prepared participation in class and particularly in the discussion section is critical.

Grade breakdown:

In-class midterm: 25%
Research proposal: 30%
Final exam: 30%
Discussion section: 15%

Readings/Logistics:

Required books:

Dahl, Robert A., Ian Shapiro, and José Antonio Cheibub, eds., *The Democracy Sourcebook*, Cambridge, MA: The MIT Press.

Lindert, Peter H. 2004. *Growing Public: Social Spending and Economic Growth Since the Eighteenth Century*. New York: Cambridge University Press.

There is also a reading packet available for purchase at RIS. The book will be on order at the Yale bookstore and will also be placed on reserve at the Sterling Memorial Library/Cross-Campus Library (SML/CCL) or at the Social Sciences Library (SSL).

OUTLINE OF THE COURSE

Tuesday, Jan. 15: Introduction and Overview

PART I. WHAT IS DEMOCRACY? WHAT IS DEVELOPMENT? HOW CAN WE STUDY THEM?

Thursday, Jan. 17: Conceptualizing Democracy

- Rousseau, Jean-Jacques. "The Social Contract." Excerpted in Dahl et al., *The Democracy Sourcebook*, pp. 2-4.
- Schumpeter, Joseph. 1976. *Capitalism, Socialism, and Democracy*. New York: Allen & Unwin. Excerpted in Dahl et al., *The Democracy Sourcebook*, pp. 5-11.
- Przeworski, Adam. "Minimalist Conception of Democracy: A Defense." Excerpted in Dahl et al., *The Democracy Sourcebook*, pp. 12-17.
- Dahl, Robert. "Polyarchal Democracy." Excerpted in Dahl et al., *The Democracy Sourcebook*, pp. 48-53.

Recommended:

- Diamond, Larry. 1999. *Developing Democracy: Toward Consolidation*. Baltimore: Johns Hopkins University Press, pp. 1-19. Excerpted in Dahl et al., *The Democracy Sourcebook*, pp. 29-47.
- Collier, David and Steven Levitsky. 1997. "Democracy with Adjectives: Conceptual Innovation in Comparative Research." *World Politics* 49: 430-51. (Available online; see the fifth link at <http://www.polisci.berkeley.edu/faculty/bio/permanent/collier,d/articles-n-chapters/index.asp>)

Tuesday, Jan. 22: Conceptualizing Development

- Jones, Charles I. 2002. "Introduction: The Facts of Economic Growth." In Charles I. Jones, *Introduction to Economic Growth*. London: W.W. Norton & Company, Second Edition, pp. 1-19 (in first reader).
- Sen, Amartya. 1999. *Development as Freedom*. New York: Random House. pp. 3-53 (in first reader).
- Esteva, Gustavo. 1992. "Development." In Wolfgang Sachs (ed.) *The Development Dictionary: A Guide to Knowledge as Power*. London: ZED Books, pp. 6-25 (in first reader).

Thursday, Jan. 24: Democracy and Development

- Lipset, Seymour Martin. 1959. "Some Social Requisites of Democracy: Economic Development and Political Legitimacy." *American Political Science Review* 53(1): 69-105 (in first reader).
- Przeworski, Adam. "Capitalism and Socialism." Chapter Three in Adam Przeworski, *Democracy and the Market: Political and Economic Reforms in Eastern Europe and Latin America*. New York: Cambridge University Press, pp. 100-135.

Tuesday, Jan. 29: Introduction to Research Design I

- Freedman, David, Robert Pisani, Roger Purves. *Statistics*. New York: W.W. Norton & Co., Third Edition, pp. 119-140, 158-179, 202-213.

Thursday, Jan. 31: Introduction to Research Design II: Model-based and design-based approaches

- Gerber, Alan S., and Donald P. Green. 2008. Field Experiments and Natural Experiments. *Handbook of Political Methodology* (in second reader or distributed).
- Dunning, Thad. "Improving Causal Inference: Strengths and Weaknesses of Natural Experiments." *Political Research Quarterly*, forthcoming; online version available at <http://intl-prq.sagepub.com/pap.dtl> as of October 3, 2007 (in second packet or distributed).
- Collier, David, Henry E. Brady, and Jason Seawright. "Sources of Leverage in Causal Inference: Toward an Alternative View of Methodology." In Henry E. Brady and David Collier, eds., *Rethinking Social Inquiry: Diverse Tools, Shared Standards*. New York: Rowman & Littlefield (in second reader or distributed).

Recommended:

- Green, Donald P. 2007. "Experimental Design." *Encyclopedia of Research Methods in the Social Sciences*.

PART II. ECONOMIC SOURCES OF DEMOCRACY

Tuesday, Feb. 5

- Przeworski, Adam, Michael E. Alvarez, José Antonio Cheibub, Fernando Limongi. 2000. *Democracy and Development: Political Institutions and Well-Being in the World, 1950-1990*. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press. Pp. 1-54, 78-136 (in first reader).

Thursday, Feb. 7

- Boix, Carles and Susan C. Stokes. 2003. "Endogenous Democratization." *World Politics*, 55 (4): 517-49 (in first reader).
- Acemoglu, Daron, Simon Johnson, James A. Robinson, Pierre Yared. 2007. "Reevaluating the Modernization Hypothesis." Manuscript, Massachusetts Institute of Technology, Harvard University, and Columbia University. Available online at http://www.people.fas.harvard.edu/~jrobinson/researchpapers/unpublishedpapers/jr_modernization.pdf

ECONOMIC SOURCES OF DEMOCRACY (CONT.): THE ROLE OF CLASS

Tuesday, Feb. 12

- Moore, Barrington. 1966. *Social Origins of Dictatorship and Democracy: Lord and Peasant in the Making of the Modern World*. Boston: Beacon Press. pp. 413-483 (in first reader).
- Skocpol, Theda. "Social Revolutions in the Modern World." Excerpted in Dahl et al., *The Democracy Sourcebook*, pp. 56-64, pp. 65-70.
- Tocqueville, Alexis de. 1835 [1966]. *Democracy In America*. New York: Harper Collins, Perennial Classics. pp. 31-56 (in first reader).

Thursday, Feb. 14

- Acemoglu, Daron, and James Robinson. 2006. *Economic Origins of Dictatorship and Democracy*. New York: Cambridge University Press. Chapters 1-3 (in first reader).
- Reuschemeyer, Dietrich, Evelyne Stephens, and John Stephens. 1992. *Capitalist Development and Democracy*. Chicago: The University of Chicago Press. Chs. 1-3 (pp. 1-72) (in first reader).
- Collier, Ruth Berins. 1999. *Paths Toward Democracy: The Working Class and Elites in Western Europe and South America*. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press. pp. 1-32 (in first reader).

THE POLITICAL IMPACT OF ECONOMIC SECTORS: THE CASE OF OIL

Tuesday, Feb. 19

- Ross, Michael. 2001. "Does Oil Hinder Democracy?" *World Politics* 53 (3): 325-61.
- Dunning, Thad. 2008. *Crude Democracy: Natural Resource Wealth and Political Regimes*. Forthcoming, Cambridge Studies in Comparative Politics, Cambridge University Press. Chapters One, Two and Five. (Skim Chapters Three, Four, and Six). To be distributed in class.

Thursday, Feb. 21: Research Design (cont.)

- READING TBA

TACTICAL DISTRIBUTION, CLIENTELISM, AND MOBILIZATION IN DEMOCRACIES

Tuesday, February 26th

- Stokes, Susan C. 2006. "Perverse Accountability: A Formal Model of Machine Politics with Evidence from Argentina." *American Political Science Review* 99(3):315-325.
- Cox, Gary. 2006. "Swing Voters, Core Voters, and Distributive Politics." Paper given at the Conference on Representation and Popular Rule, October 27-8, 2006, at Yale University. To be distributed in class.
- Bates, Robert. 1981. *Markets and States in Tropical Africa: The Political Basis of Agricultural Policies*. Berkeley: University of California Press. pp. 1-44, 81-118 (in second reader or to be distributed).

Thursday, February 28

- Wantchekon, Leonard "Clientelism and Voting Behavior: Evidence from a Field Experiment in Benin." *World Politics*, forthcoming (in second reader or to be distributed).
- Gerber, Alan S., and Donald P. Green, and Christopher W. Larimer. 2008. Social Pressure and Voter Turnout: Evidence from a Large-Scale Field Experiment. *American Political Science Review*, forthcoming (in second reader or to be distributed)

Midterm Exam: March 4, 2008

Thursday, March 6, 2008, pre-break wrap up, topic TBA

SPRING BREAK, MARCH 7-24

PART III: DEMOCRACY'S ECONOMIC EFFECTS

Tuesday, March 25

- Przeworski, Adam, Michael E. Alvarez, José Antonio Cheibub, Fernando Limongi. 2000. *Democracy and Development: Political Institutions and Well-Being in the World, 1950-1990*. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press. Chapter Three (in first reader).
- Sen, Amartya. "Freedom Favors Development." Excerpted in Robert A. Dahl, Ian Shapiro, and José Antonio Cheibub, eds., *The Democracy Sourcebook*, Cambridge, MA: The MIT Press. pp. 444-447. (in first reader).

Thursday, March 27

- Olson, Mancur. 1993. "Dictatorship, Democracy, and Development." *American Political Science Review* 87 (3): 567-576. Excerpted in Dahl et al., *The Democracy Sourcebook*, pp. 436-443.
- Acemoglu, Daron and James Robinson. 2000. "Political Losers as Barriers to Economic Development." *American Economic Review* 90: 126-130.
- Robinson, James. "Theories of Bad Policy," (1998) *Policy Reform* 1: 1-45.
- Robinson, James. "When is a State Predatory?" Manuscript, Department of Government, Harvard University. Available online at <http://www.people.fas.harvard.edu/~jrobinson/researchpapers/unpublishedpapers/index.htm>.

Democracy, Redistribution, and Growth

April 1

- Lindert, Peter. 2004. *Growing Public*. Chapters 1-5.

April 3:

- Wintrobe, Ronald. "Rent-seeking and Redistribution under Democracy versus Dictatorship." Excerpted in Dahl et al., *The Democracy Sourcebook*, pp. 427-435.
- Shapiro, Ian. "Democracy and Distribution." 2003. Chapter Five in Ian Shapiro, *The State of Democratic Theory*. Princeton: Princeton University Press.

ECONOMIC INTERESTS AND DEMOCRATIC CONSTITUTIONS

April 8

- Lindert, Peter. 2004. *Growing Public*. Chapters 10-12.

April 10:

- Persson, Torsten and Guido Tabellini. 1994. "Is Inequality Harmful for Growth?" *American Economic Review* 84: 600-621.

APRIL 15

- Persson, Torsten and Guido Tabellini. 2003. *The Economic Effects of Constitutions*. Cambridge: The MIT Press. pp. 1-34, 113-152, 155-183.
- Beard, Charles. 1913. *An Economic Interpretation of the Constitution of the United States*. New York: Macmillan. pp. 1-18, 152-188.

APRIL 17

Guest Lecture, Xiaobo Lu

APRIL 22

- Bardhan, Pranab. 1999. "Democracy and Development: A Complex Relationship." Manuscript, Department of Economics, University of California, Berkeley. In Ian Shapiro and C. Hacker-Cordon (eds.), *Democracy's Values*, Cambridge University Press, 1999. Available online at globetrotter.berkeley.edu/macarthur/inequality/papers/BardhanDemoc.pdf

APRIL 24

WRAP-UP AND REVIEW