

University of New Brunswick – Fredericton
DEPARTMENT OF POLITICAL SCIENCE
Political Science 2303 – Winter 2013

Politics of the Developing World
Dr. Carolyn Bassett

Class Time:	M W F 1:30-2:20	Location:	T304
Office:	214 Tilley Hall	Telephone:	458-7192
E-mail:	cbassett@unb.ca		
Office Hours:	Thursdays 1-2; Fridays 11:30-12:30		

About the course: This course introduces students to key political issues facing developing countries using a comparative politics approach. Key themes include state formation; sovereignty, democracy and accountability; economic strategy; impact of globalization. The course uses a country case-study approach with major developing countries across the globe: Mexico, South Africa, Iran, Nigeria, China and India. The course is designed to be suitable for students who do not have a political science background and will prepare students for advanced-level study.

Students are expected to have completed all assigned readings prior to attending class. There will be opportunities for class discussion, especially during the in-class presentations, and you will be expected to participate regularly in order to obtain a good grade for that course component.

Course readings:

Mark Kesselman, Joel Krieger and William A Joseph (eds) (2013), *Introduction to Politics of the Developing World*, 6th edition, Boston: Wadsworth. The book is available for purchase at the university bookstore. Second-hand copies will be of the previous edition and will not have the South Africa chapter, so make sure you have access to the updated version.

We will also utilize some supplementary materials available via the course Desire2Learn.

Course requirements:

Test – February 8:	20%
Essay – March 25:	30%
Exam – examination period:	35%
In-class presentation – “news event”	10%
Attendance and participation in class discussion:	5%

About the in-class presentation (‘news event’):

Students will be expected once in the term to research and present one major contemporary event featuring the country case study of that week, by using news stories from credible newspapers available via the internet. Your event should have been covered extensively in the news media within the previous twelve months. In addition to presenting the event and explaining its

relevance to the course (in light of course themes), you should be prepared to answer questions from the class and must pose two discussion questions to the class. Your presentation may be no more than ten minutes and then there will be time for discussion. **You will be required to submit the text of your presentation and your bibliography at the beginning of class.** The country case-studies and dates will be assigned at the beginning of term.

About the test and final exam:

The test and exam will examine your knowledge of the core concepts covered in the course and your ability to apply them to one or more country case studies. Some questions will ask you to explain the reasons for similarities and differences among the cases. You should know the case studies well to prepare for each test, including major developments and main eras, but will not be expected to memorize a lot of specific dates or names. The questions will be essay-style, designed to evaluate your ability to illustrate concepts with examples. You will be permitted to bring one page of preparatory notes to the test. If you must miss the test due to illness or a death in the family, you must provide documents supporting your absence such as a doctor's note or a death notice.

About the essay:

Your essay, which is due on March 25, requires you to address one of the analytical questions circulated to the class during the term, utilizing three of the country case studies. You will use primarily course readings for the essay, though you have the option to undertake some supplementary library research (you may use electronic sources accessed via the library catalogue system but no web-based research). All research materials used (whether from the textbook or additional research) must be fully documented using APA format – a guide is available via the course Blackboard – for documentation (but ignore the material on APA manuscript format and use my essay-writing guidelines instead). The essay should contain an introduction that summarizes your main conclusions, a well-structured body that explains how you reached those conclusions and provides evidence for them, and a conclusion that reiterates your main points. Avoid using subheadings. Please format your essay to save paper – no title page (but put your name, my name, the course number and essay title at the top), use single or 1.5 spacing, and print on both sides if possible. Essay length: approximately 2000 words.

Submitting your essay and late policy:

Your essays must be submitted electronically via Desire2Learn and you may also submit a paper copy in class. If you submit your essay late, you will receive a penalty of 2% per day (2/100, weekends included). April 11 (at 11:59 pm) will be the last day essays are accepted for the course. Under no circumstances are essays to be submitted by fax or slipped under my door. Deadline extensions will be granted only for documented illnesses or on compassionate grounds (eg death in the family, again with documentation).

Academic honesty and plagiarism:

The University of New Brunswick places a high value on academic integrity and has a policy on plagiarism, cheating and other academic offences.

Plagiarism includes:

1. quoting verbatim or almost verbatim from any source, including all electronic sources, without acknowledgement;
2. adopting someone else's line of thought, argument, arrangement, or supporting evidence without acknowledgement;
3. submitting someone else's work, in whatever form without acknowledgement;
4. knowingly representing as one's own work any idea of another.

Examples of other academic offences include: cheating on exams, tests, assignments or reports; impersonating somebody at a test or exam; obtaining an exam, test or other course materials through theft, collusion, purchase or other improper manner, submitting course work that is identical or substantially similar to work that has been submitted from another course; and more as set out in the academic regulations found in the Undergraduate Calendar.

Penalties for plagiarism and other academic offences range from a minimum of F (zero) in the assignment, exam or test to a maximum of suspension or expulsion from the University, plus a notation of the academic offence on the student's transcript. For more information, please see the Undergraduate Calendar, Section B, Regulation VII.A, or visit <http://nocheating.unb.ca>. It is the student's responsibility to know the regulations.

Schedule and readings:

Mon Jan 7: Introduction – politics of developing countries. No readings.

Wed Jan 9: imperialism, decolonization and state formation. Kesselman Krieger and Joseph (KKJ) ch 1.

Fri Jan 11: role of government.

Mon Jan 14: economic development.

Wed Jan 16: China – history and state formation. KKJ ch 7.

Fri Jan 18: China – political institutions.

Mon Jan 21: China – economy.

Wed Jan 22: China – news events.

Fri Jan 24: India – history and state formation. KKJ ch 2.

Mon Jan 28: India – political institutions.

Wed Jan 30: India – economy.

Fri Feb 1: India – news events.

Mon Feb 4: Theory and 'real world' – examples from China and India.

Wed Feb 6: China and India compared.

Fri Feb 8: **Test.**

Mon Feb 11 – Mexico – history and state formation. KKJ ch 4.

Wed Feb 13 – Mexico – political institutions

Fri Feb 15 – Mexico - economy

Mon Feb 18 – Mexico – news events

Wed Feb 20 – South Africa – history and state formation. KKJ ch. 6.

Fri Feb 22 – South Africa – history and state formation cont.

Mon Feb 26 – South Africa – political institutions.

Wed Feb 28 – South Africa – economy.

Fri Mar 1 – South Africa and Mexico compared.

Mon Mar 4-Fri Mar 8 – **reading break**. No classes.
Mon Mar 11 - Iran – history and state formation. KKJ ch 8.
Wed Mar 13 – Iran – political institutions.
Fri Mar 15 – Iran – economy.
Mon Mar 18 – Iran and South Africa – news events.
Wed Mar 20 – Nigeria – history and state formation. KKJ ch 5.
Fri Mar 22 – Nigeria – political institutions.
Mon Mar 25 – Nigeria – economy. **Essay due**.
Wed Mar 27 – Nigeria – news events.
Fri Mar 29. **Easter – no class**.
Mon Apr 1. **Easter – no class**.
Wed Apr 3 – politics of developing world after western imperialism. Andrew F Cooper (2010),
The G20 as an Improvised Crisis Committee and/or a Contested ‘Steering Committee’ for
the World, *International Affairs* 86.3, 741-757. Access via Desire2Learn.
Fri Apr 5 – **class cancelled**.
Mon Apr 8 – politics of developing world after western imperialism cont.
Wed Apr 10 – wrap-up, exam review.