

SOCIOLOGY OF DEVELOPING AREAS
SOCIOLOGY 450/550
WINTER 1999

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office hours: W and Th 12-1 or by appointment

This course begins from the premise that "development", as it has usually been conceived and executed, has been a severely flawed enterprise. We will try to understand why and how it has been severely flawed, as well as what alternatives exist, in two ways. First, we will look at development issues from a more theoretical perspective, familiarizing ourselves with some of the major and contrasting theoretical positions on "development". Next we will focus on the "development" of two countries -- Guatemala 1944-present and Cuba 1959-present. The theoretical work we do in the first part of the class is intended to sharpen and deepen our understanding of what has occurred during the "development" histories of both these countries. Throughout the course particular attention will be directed toward historical, global, economic, class, gender, race, and ecological aspects of "development" in the South. And we will always keep in mind that "development" is first and foremost an issue of politics.

COURSE REQUIREMENTS: (undergraduates)

1. three analytical essays: Each analytical essay is worth 25% of your course grade. Each essay will be approximately 5 pages long (typed, double-spaced). You will have a choice of at least two questions each time, and they will be given to you one week in advance of the date on which they are due. The due dates of the essays are: Thursday, February 4th and Thursday February 25th in class and Tuesday March 16th at 4:00 p.m. Late papers will be downgraded one-third of a grade for each day or portion of a day they are late, if you have not made prior arrangements with Linda.

2. course journals: (12% of your course grade) ONCE A WEEK, on any day you want, students will make a journal entry in a small notebook. This entry, which should be no more than two handwritten pages long, should discuss ONE IDEA FOR FURTHERING "DEVELOPMENT" that you think is worthwhile. This idea can be original, or it can be one that you encountered in course material. Be careful to devote this journal space principally to an idea furthering "development", rather than to a description or analysis of the problems facing "developing" countries. Each entry must be dated, and each student will turn in her/his journal at least once during the quarter on random, unannounced days. Each student will also turn in her/her journal on the last day of class. Journals will be evaluated on the basis of the completeness and thoughtfulness of your entries.

3. class participation: Class participation is worth 13% of your course grade. Class participation will be evaluated on the basis of two things: 1) involvement in class discussions, and 2) small group work. Small group work will be written and non-written and may take place both in and out of class. Most of it will be evaluated collectively, but in some cases the work of group members may be evaluated individually.

COURSE REQUIREMENTS: (graduates)

1. You can do the same things as the undergraduates, although the essay page limits will be 6-7 pages, typed and double-spaced,

OR

2. You can substitute a research paper (approximately 20 pages, typed and double-spaced) on a relevant topic for the three analytical essays mentioned above. The paper will be worth 75% of your course grade. The rest of your grade will depend on course journals and class participation (see #2 and #3 above). If you choose this option you must turn in a 1-2 page proposal with a) the questions you want to explore, b) a tentative outline, and c) a partial bibliography to Linda by Thursday February 4th. If you don't, you'll automatically be graded under option #1. This paper is due during the regularly scheduled final exam hours for this class.

note: Whichever option you choose, you will be evaluated separately from undergraduates.

COURSE READINGS:

The following books are required and/or on sale at the bookstore as well as on reserve in the library: Burgos-Debray, ed., I, Rigoberta Menchú; Rosset and Benjamin, The Greening of the Revolution; Wright, The Death of Ramón González; and Shiva, Staying Alive. There is also a xerox reader on sale at Campus Copy and the bookstore that contains a number of articles and large portions of several books, which are also required. Next to each date on the schedule below you will find a list of the readings you should complete by the time class begins on that particular day.

We'll always have a 10 minute break about 3:30.

CLASS SCHEDULE (APPROXIMATE):

Th 1/7	Overview of course requirements, getting to know one another, etc.
Th 1/14	Halstead/Cobb article; first Norberg-Hodge article; Valenzuela and Valenzuela article (all in xerox reader, hereafter denoted by

Th 1/21

author name followed by an (x)
Shiva: foreword, intro., chs. 1, 3,
and 4

Th 1/28

Shiva: chs. 5 and 7; and Wright:
intro., ch. 1, ch. 2 (excluding pp.
40-50), ch. 3, and ch. 4

Th 2/4

Payer (x); Heredia and Purcell;
Bishop (x); Roxborough (x); Wright
ch. 5, ch. 6 (one paragraph intro.
and pp. 153-166 and 171-end); and
ch. 8

Th 2/11

Wright: ch. 9; "Women in the Global
Economy"; Wright ch 7; Mies (x);
Ritchie (x); Norberg-Hodge (11x)

Th 2/18

Jonas (x); Manz (x); Burgos-Debray:
chs. 1, 2, 4, and 6-17

Th 2/25

Burgos-Debray: chs. 18-34; EPICA
booklet (x)

Th 3/4

Bray and Harding (x); Kozol pp. 3-
59

Th 3/11

Kozol pp. 60-95 (x); No Free Lunch:
ix-ch. 13; Koont (x)

Rosset and Benjamin: preface,
intro., chs. 1, 2, ch. 3 (read pp.
35-7 and 47-50 and skim the rest),
ch. 4 (read one paragraph intro.
and pp. 58-65 and skim the rest),
read chs. 5, 6, and 7; Reed (x);
Randall (x); and McGarrity (x)

*grad papers and
third essay due
Tuesday 3/16
@ 4:00 p.m.*