This course will introduce students to the major sociological perspectives on economic and political development, with emphasis on developing countries. Among the views to be considered are modernization, which assumes that later developing countries will follow paths once traveled by today's advanced countries; and dependency and world system theories, which view the integration of less developed countries into the world market as problematic and, under certain conditions, even disadvantageous. We will test these theories by applying them to specific cases. A major part of the course will focus on the economic miracle of East Asian countries, as well as cases that have not been so successful. Other important topics to be studied include the influence of states, markets, and multinational corporations in economic development; the relationship between different modes of development and income distribution; and political development and the prospects for democratization.

Any student with a documented disability needing academic adjustments or accommodations is requested to speak with the professor by the end of the second week of the term. All discussions will remain confidential, although the Academic Skills Center may be consulted to verify the documentation of the disability.

Readings:


Graham, F. “A World Without Islam”, in Foreign Policy Jan-Feb, 2008


*Course Requirements:*

1. Two take-home exams (length ranging from 15 to 25 pages)
2. Class attendance and participation (Missing more than three classes will impact the grade).
Schedule

WEEK 1
Jun. 23-Jun. 24

Introduction to the Sociology of Development:

Readings:
Sen, Introduction and Ch. 1-2

WEEKS 2-3
Jun. 27-Jul. 8

Theories of Development and Underdevelopment:

Readings:
So, Ch. 3-7
Yergin and Stanislaw, Ch. 1-5
Harrison, *Who Prospers*, Introduction, Ch. 1, 3, and 4
O’Hearn, “The Irish
Thurow, Ch. 1-2

**FILMs:** "Commanding Heights"
“Life and Debt”

WEEKS 4-5
Jul. 11-22

The Rise of Capitalism and Economic Development:

Readings:
Karl Marx and capitalist development, Lecture
M. Weber, *The Protestant Ethic and the Spirit of Capitalism*
Smith, in Research in Law and Sociology
Thurow, Ch. 4, 6, 14
Wolf, Ch. 4 and 5

**FILM:** “Taken for a Ride”

**** First Assignment **** - Date to be announced

WEEK 7-8
Jul 25-Aug 5

State and Economic Development in East Asia

Readings
Woo-Cumings, Ch. 1
Wade, Ch. 1-2, and 4-6
Barrett and Chin (Ch. 1 in Deyo)
Koo (Ch. 5 in Deyo)
Amsden, in Evans
Lim, in Asian Survey

**FILM:** “Mini Dragons,” South Korea (#2578)

**WEEK 8**  
**Aug. 8-12**  
**Globalization and Economic Development**

Readings:
Stiglitz, Ch. 1-3, 9
Wolf, Ch. 2 and 7
Yergin and Stanislaw, Ch. 13

**FILM:** “The Coat of Many Countries?”

**WEEK 9-10**  
**Aug. 15-24**  
**Globalization and Inequality**

Readings:
Thurow, Ch. 8
Easterly, Ch. 13
Sen, Ch. 4
Wolf, Ch. 9
Singer, Ch. 1, 3, and 6

**FILM:** “Who Is Getting Rich and Why Aren’t You?”

•••• Final Assignment •••• - Date to be announced