



### **POLS 3523 Global Development and NGOs**

Prothro-Yeager College of Humanities and Social Sciences

CRN 22684 Section 201

Spring 2022, Tues/Thurs 9:30-10:50am PY 209

Instructor: Dr. Rebekah Dowd

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#### **Course Description**

This seminar course is designed to explore and explain the connections between economic development and non-governmental organizations (NGOs) in contributing to economic growth, democracy, and societal stability. To examine these interactions, we ask: What is development? Why is it desirable? How do we measure it and how do we achieve it? How have different sets of ideas (theories) about development changed over time? And, how have those ideas informed and shaped practices to promote development in the Global South vs. the prior development of the Global North? What is the relationship between democratization and economic and political development? What role do NGOs play in furthering either of these endeavors? Students are assumed to have little foundational knowledge on these topics prior to taking the course. **The syllabus provides a general plan for the course; changes are sometimes necessary. Any changes may be announced in class and/or posted to D2L.** If a personal emergency should arise, the instructor reserves the right to place some or all material online in D2L, and/or reduce the number of assignments, and will readjust the grade calculations, which may result in assignments increasing in value.

The class material is divided into two main parts. In the first half of the semester, the course reviews theoretical frameworks and general issues concerning development, and basic functions of NGOs. In this part of the course we will examine the methods and theories that political science has used to analyze both, as well as the sort of questions and concerns scholars have tended to focus on. The second half of the course examines NGOs in specific policy areas. Policy areas that may be examined could include: the environment, human rights, international development, the anti-globalization movement, humanitarian crises, peace and security, and democratization.

#### **Learning Objectives:**

- Explore the history of economic development
- Study and learn the main theories of development, including imperialism/colonialism, modernization theory, structuralist economics, dependency theory, neoliberal economics, and post-colonial and post-modern theory (exploring contributions from economics, political science, and sociology).
- Learn the basic institutions of government that contribute to economic outcomes
- Define and outline the functions of non-governmental organizations at the local, state, and international levels
- Trace the ways in which NGO's have imbedded themselves within states to accomplish missions tied to human rights, economic and human capital development, and democratization

- Develop an original strategy paper, based on creating an NGO to solve a current socioeconomic problem affecting a particular state of your choosing
- Present this project, in-person, in the last 3-4 classes

#### **Required Textbook & Instructional Materials:**

1. Margaret Keck and Kathryn Sikkink. 1998. *Activists Beyond Borders*. Ithaca: Cornell University Press.
2. Robert H. Bates. 2010. *Prosperity and Violence: The Political Economy of Development*. New York: W.W. Norton & Company.

*Note: These may be purchased at the MSU Bookstore, as well as through Amazon and major online book retailers.*

3. Additional readings/materials posted on D2L in the Additional Readings folder

**Note, for this course students must have adequate online access to D2L and material posted on it. Technical excuses for being unable to successfully do the coursework will not be accepted. You must complete all online course assignments using D2L between the specified times/dates listed in the weekly course outline.**

#### **Student Handbook**

Refer to: [2021 MSU Student Handbook](#)

#### **Academic Misconduct Policy & Procedures:**

Academic Dishonesty: Cheating, collusion, and plagiarism (the act of using source material of other persons, either published or unpublished, without following the accepted techniques of crediting, or the submission for credit of work not the individuals to whom credit is given). Plagiarism also includes using content you have produced for other classes or assignments, without prior approval from all instructors involved to “recycle” this material in this Global Studies class. Additional guidelines on procedures in these matters may be found in the Office of Student Conduct. [MSU Student Conduct](#)

#### **Electronic Devices:**

Many assignments in this course will be conducted in D2L. Tests and exams utilize the Respondus Lockdown Browser and Respondus Monitor for testing. In order to install these programs, you will need the following:

- A desktop computer or laptop other than a Chromebook. NOTE: Chromebooks DO NOT WORK with the Respondus Lockdown Browser and Monitor.
- Apple iPads may be used for quizzes and exams, but these are not advised for any assignment with a written component. Please notify me if you plan on using an iPad for your tests.
- Mobile phones and similar devices are not compatible with the required programs.
- A working webcam on the computing device used for the exam.
- Microsoft Office or a compatible program for written assignments. Access to Microsoft Office 365 available through the Office 365 for Students on the Microsoft website.

Please note: a limited number of webcams and laptops with cameras are available for check-out through the MSU Texas Moffett Library. If you do not have access to your own computer for completion of online assignments and tests, make sure you make any necessary arrangements to use publicly available computers on campus.

#### **Office Hours:**

Office hours are an open invitation to walk into my office without appointment and discuss with me anything of concern related to the course. Due to the ongoing Covid-19 pandemic, I will have virtual office hours during this term, unless special arrangements are made. See the top of the syllabus for the times in which I am

“virtually” in my office. To speak with me during the posted times, just click the office hours link on D2L. If this time presents a conflict with your schedule, send me an email using the address at the top of this syllabus and I will schedule a virtual Zoom appointment with you.

**Communication:**

The best way to reach me is by the email address at the top of this syllabus. **I will make all attempts to answer emails within 48 business hours unless it is over a holiday break.** You must check your email listed as the primary account in your Banner information, as I will use this address to communicate with you outside of class. I will use D2L for posting syllabi, course communication, course schedule and changes, and the gradebook. There may be some online office hours announced through D2L, if they vary from the office hours posted above. You should regularly check D2L and the email hosted via D2L for important course information.

**When sending an email to me, please include ALL of the following information:**

- Your first and last names (Ex: Taylor Smith)
- Your MSU ID# (Ex: M#2223045667)
- Your class name, and section # (ex: POLS 3523, Development & NGOs, TR 9:30am class)
- An appropriate greeting (ex: Dear Dr. Dowd, I have a question about....)

If you do not include all of the above, answers to your email may be delayed, or even unanswered, because I will not be able to locate the information I need to address your concern. Remember I teach many classes, and because I will not meet you in person with this online class, I need the above information to identify you from other students.

**“Attendance” Policy:**

You should attend class. Students who do not attend class often have difficulty with the course and receive lower grades. Attendance will be taken at 10 random dates and will be applied to your grade in Attendance and Participation. The only excused absences will be those as follows: illness with a doctor’s note covering the date(s) absent from class, death in the family, legal proceedings occurring, or participation in a sports-related event at MSU which provides a coach-granted excuse. Failure to attend will be reported to the registrar’s office and can result in reducing your financial aid available in future terms, as well as permanently damaging your GPA due to failing this class.

**Disability Accommodations:**

Any student having an education disability plan on file with the university needs to inform me within the first week of the class so I make the appropriate arrangements to accommodate your situation. In accordance with Section 504 of the Federal Rehabilitation Act of 1973 and the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990, Midwestern State University endeavors to make reasonable accommodations to ensure equal opportunity for qualified persons with disabilities to participate in all educational, social, and recreational programs and activities. After notification of acceptance, students requiring accommodations should make application for such assistance through Disability Support Services, located in the Clark Student Center, Room 168, (940) 397-4140. Current documentation of a disability will be required in order to provide appropriate services, and each request will be individually reviewed. For more details, please go to [Disability Support Services](#).

**Clery Act Notification:**

Sexual misconduct includes sexual harassment, sexual assault, and any other nonconsensual behavior of a sexual nature; sex or gender discrimination violate University policies. Any person experiencing such behavior may receive confidential support from the Counseling Center. Counseling Center staff will hold what you share in strict confidence. If you disclose sexual misconduct, domestic violence, dating violence, or sex or gender discrimination occurring on campus, in a University-sponsored program, or involving a campus visitor or

University student or employee (whether current or former) to me, I as the instructor of this course am required to forward such information to the MSU Title IX office. This should not prevent you from speaking to me should you wish to do so, but know that what you tell me in this area cannot be held confidential, but must be shared with the Title IX office.

## Grading

<i>Assignments</i>	<i>%</i>
Attendance	20
Short Writing Assignments	20
Written Midterm – Essay Style	20
Strategy Paper and Presentation	40
TOTAL	100

## Grading Scale:

<i>Grade</i>	<i>Percentage</i>
A	90-100
B	80-89
C	70-79
D	60-69
F	Less than 60

### Attendance (20%):

Class meets twice weekly, for approximately 30 class dates. Participation is based on attendance AND participation in discussion in class. I expect you to talk during class, engaging with me as the instructor, and your fellow students. Science has shown we learn best by asking and discussing our questions about issues. I encourage questions, dialogue, and open debate, just not a monopoly of class discussions. Some participation may include written assignments in class. All excused absences must receive medical, legal, or sports participation documentation to avoid attendance penalty.

### Short Written Assignments (20% in total, 5% each):

There are four short assignments located on the course D2L webpage. Go to the Assignment folder and look for the current assignment. Read the main message for the assignment of the week and post your work as a reply message. Assignments are due before class unless otherwise noted.

### Midterm Essay Exam (20%):

Using the written assignments you have submitted and the class notes, you will take a typed exam in class, answering a series of essay questions provided ahead of time. I will explain more about this in class.

### Strategy for NGO Paper (40%):

The main assignment for the course is a 7-10 page strategy paper, single spaced. Please use the paper guidelines and other handouts posted on D2L to understand the requirements and also get useful writing and research tips. There are four checkpoints leading to the final submission of the paper and a class presentation. **First**, students must select a specific topic/problem that their NGO will address; the strategy paper will explain and write up a 2-3 page description of the mission of the new NGO by **February 6**. (5 points or 5% of the total grade) **Second**, a 2-3 page summary of previous attempts to solve the problem your paper addresses is due on **March 13**. (5 points) **Third**, a 4-6 page, more refined statement of both the problem and the challenges/previous attempts to solve it is due on **April 3**. (10 points) **Fourth**, the final paper is due on **May 3**. (10 points) **Finally**, each student will give a brief presentation of his/her paper during 3 or 4 classes. (10 points)

All assignments must be submitted on D2L. Late submission of any of the writing assignments will be penalized by 1 letter grade per day. I will not accept late assignments more than 10 days after the due date. Contact me in a timely manner if you have questions or problems – waiting till the end of the semester to submit all or most of your strategy paper assignments is not acceptable. All paper submissions are due at 11:59PM on the deadline.

NGO Strategy Paper	Date
1	February 6, 11:59PM
2	March 13, 11:59PM
3	April 3, 11:59PM
4	May 3, 11:59PM

### Policy on Missed Work

There is no makeup allowed for reading quizzes or the research paper, because these can be completed over several days. Makeup for the exams will only be given in cases of legitimate and documented emergencies (medical excuse, death in family, event required by your degree program). You must request to makeup exams within 5 days of the regular exam window. For Exam 3, there is no extension or makeup because I am required to submit grades to the registrar's office shortly after the exam is taken.

### Last Day to drop with a grade of "W:"

Please note, the semester's midpoint is **March 21. This is the last Day for "W"**. Students can **withdraw from the class up to this point and** receive a W for the class. However, there is a limited number of W's a student can receive over their academic career. **Drops after this date will receive grades of "F."** If you intend to withdraw from a course, you must do so yourself. If you are still on the roll when I have to assign grades and you haven't done any passing work, then you will fail. Also note, I have to report to the university whether students have attended class, and how regularly you attend. If you submitting work for this class when I have to submit my report to the university, you have "stopped attending", and it is possible that the university will reduce your financial assistance.

Refer to: [Drops, Withdrawals & Void](#)

### Desire-to-Learn (D2L):

Extensive use of the MSU D2L program is a required part of this course, and it provides a primary source of communication regarding assignments, examination materials, and general course information. You can log into [D2L](#) through the MSU Homepage. If you experience difficulties, please contact technical support and [Submit a Problem Report](#) for help. Students are expected to watch the lectures and take their own notes from the videos and readings to use for study purposes. You are also welcome to attend my virtual office hours to ask questions prior to the exams.

### Class Behavior Policies

In order to make this a successful class, it is important that we create an environment where everyone has an opportunity to learn. This includes in-person and online classes. Disruptive class behavior includes, but is not limited to, verbal or physical threats, repeated obscenities, unreasonable interference with class discussion, making/receiving personal phone calls or pages (text messaging) during class, leaving and entering class frequently in the absence of notice to instructor of illness or other extenuating circumstances, and persisting in disruptive personal conversations with other class members. For purposes of this policy, it may also be considered disruptive behavior for a student to exhibit threatening, intimidating, or other inappropriate behavior toward the instructor or classmates outside of class, i.e., .online. If your behavior is disruptive to other students or the instructor, this will violate University guidelines, and you will be reported to administrative authorities.

**College Policies****Campus Carry Rules/Policies**

Refer to: [Campus Carry Rules and Policies](#)

**Grade Appeal Process**

Update as needed. Students who wish to appeal a grade should consult the Midwestern State University [Undergraduate Catalog](#)

**Course Schedule:**

You are expected to complete all readings according to the due dates listed. *See next page for schedule.*

## Course Schedule

imperialism/colonialism, modernization theory, structuralist economics, dependency theory, neoliberal economics, and post-colonial and post-modern theory

Dates & Module Info	Reading Assignments/Exams	Due Dates
<b>Module 1- History of Economic Development</b>		
<b>Tues, Jan 11</b>	Course Intro in Class – after class, read: Ch 10 Development, Causes of Wealth and Poverty of Nations (WP p. 424-458) – PDF online	
<b>Thurs, Jan 13</b>	<i>Bates Text</i> , Chapters 1, 2 - “Agrarian Societies”– pgs. 1-33	
<b>Tues, Jan 18</b>	<i>Bates Text</i> , Chapter 3, “State Formation in the Modern Era”, pgs. 34-56	
<b>Thurs, Jan 20</b>	<i>Bates Text</i> , Chapter 4, “Late Century Shocks to the Global System”, pgs. 57-66; skim V.I. Lenin, “From Imperialism, the Highest State of Capitalism” – PDFs online	
<b>Tues, Jan 25</b>	<i>Bates Text</i> , Chapters 5 “Late Century Shocks” and 6 “Conclusion”, pgs. 67-98	Written Assignment 1 – due Sun, Jan 30, 11:59pm
<b>Thurs, Jan 28</b>	Workshop on NGO Strategy Paper, Part I – No new readings	
<b>Module 2 – Theories of Development</b>		
<b>Tues, Feb 1</b>	Imperialism/Colonialism: Constantine, Stephen (1984). The making of British colonial development policy, 1914-1940. Read Introduction only. (Note: can also skim “The Economic Impact of Colonialism”, Ch 7, by Acemoglu and Robinson, from <i>The Long Economic and Political Shadow of History</i> ) - – PDFs online	
<b>Thurs, Feb 3</b>	Modernization Theory: The Stages of Economic Growth Author(s): W. W. Rostow Source: The Economic History Review, New Series, Vol. 12, No. 1 (1959), pp. 1-16 and Easterley, William (October 2006). “Reliving the 50s: the Big Push, Poverty Traps and Takeoffs in Economic Development” – PDFs online	NGO Strategy Paper Pt 1 – due Sun, Feb. 6, 11:59pm
<b>Tues, Feb 8</b>	Structuralist Economics: Fischer, A.M. (2015). The end of peripheries? On the enduring relevance of Structuralism for understanding contemporary global development. <i>Development and Change</i> 46 (4), 700-732 - PDF online	
<b>Thurs, Feb 10</b>	Dependency Theory: Cardoso, F.H. & E. Faletto (1979) <i>Dependency and development in Latin America</i> (pp. 1-28). Berkeley: University of California Press – PDF online	
<b>Tues, Feb 22</b>	Neoliberalism & Washington Consensus; David Harvey (2007). <i>A Brief History of Neoliberalism</i> . Oxford: Oxford University Press. HD87 .H374 2005, Chapters 1 and 3 only – Book PDF online	

Dates & Module Info	Reading Assignments/Exams	Due Dates
<b>Thurs, Feb 24</b>	Post-Modernism: Briggs, J. & J. Sharp (2004). Indigenous knowledges and development: a postcolonial caution. <i>Third World Quarterly</i> 25 (4), 661-676 – PDF online. (Note: Additional content, if needed for your paper: Chapter 1, “Decolonisation as Process”, by Jansen and Osternhammel) – PDFs online	Written Assignment 2, due Sun, Feb 27, 11:59PM
<b>Tues Mar 1</b>	<b>Midterm</b>	
<b>Module 3 – Government Structure and Policies</b>  <b>Thurs, Mar 3 – Role of Institutions</b>  <b>Tues, Mar 8 – Government economic planning</b>  <b>Thurs, Mar 10 – Does regime type matter?</b>	<p>North, Douglass C. (1990). <i>Institutions, Institutional Change and Economic Performance</i>. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press. HB99.5.N67; Chapter 1: “An Intro to Institutions...” In class: Workshop on NGO Strategy Paper, Part II</p> <p>Rodrik, Dani (2007). <i>One Economics, Many Recipes: Globalization, Institutions, and Economic Growth</i>; Chapter 5, “Institutions for High Quality Growth”, pgs. 153-183 – PDF online</p> <p>Sarah Sunn Bush, Chapter 36, “Democracy and NGOs” pgs. 543-5552 <b>and</b> Chapter 38, Andrew Heiss, “NGOs and authoritarian institutions”, Chapter 38, pp. 557-569. In Thomas Richard Davies, ed., <i>Routledge Handbook of NGOs and International Relations</i>. PDFs online</p> <p><b>Note: March 14-18 SPRING BREAK</b></p>	Paper, Pt II due Sunday, Mar 13, 11:59PM
<b>Module 4 – NGOs: Defined and Functionality</b>  <b>Tues, Mar 22 - Defined</b>  <b>Thurs, Mar 24 - Activists</b>  <b>Tues, Mar 29 – NGOs and Development</b>	<p>Peter Willets. 2002. “What is a non-governmental organization?” In <i>UNESCO Encyclopedia of Life Support Systems</i>, Article 1.44.3.7. Isle of Man: EOLSS Publ. -- PDF online on D2L, or available online at: <a href="http://www.staff.city.ac.uk/p.willetts/CS-NTWKS/NGO-ART.HTM">http://www.staff.city.ac.uk/p.willetts/CS-NTWKS/NGO-ART.HTM</a></p> <p>Keck and Sikkink Text. Introduction, Ch. 1, pp. 1-38.</p> <p><b>Dr. Dowd at an academic conference Mar 28-April 1 – no office hours these days- AND content will be online</b></p> <p>NGOs and Development, by Lewis et. al., Introduction, pgs.1-24 <b>and</b> Banks, N., Hulme, D. and Edwards, M., 2015. NGOs, states, and donors revisited: Still too close for Comfort? <i>World Development</i>, 66, 707–718 – PDF online – Discussion Board</p>	Written Assignment 3, due Sun, Mar 27, 11:59PM



Dates & Module Info	Reading Assignments/Exams	Due Dates
<b>Thurs Mar 31- Working for NGOs</b>	Working for an NGO; special guest lecturer, Dr. Linda Veazey and Amnesty International	Paper, Pt III due Sun, Apr 3, 11:59PM
<b>Module 5 - NGO Missions</b>		
<b>Tues, Apr 5 – Health</b>	Listen to NPR podcast: <a href="https://n.pr/33hKr0Q">https://n.pr/33hKr0Q</a> “American With No Medical Training Ran Center for Malnourished Ugandan Kids. 105 Died.”	
<b>Thurs, Apr 7 – Climate Change</b>	Gereke, Marika & Tanja Brühl. 2019. Unpacking the unequal representation of Northern and Southern NGOs in international climate change politics. <i>Third World Quarterly</i> 40(5): 870-889.	
<b>Tues, Apr 12 – – Education</b>	If A-M last name: “The Role of NGOs in Supporting Education in Africa”, by Michael Brophy, <i>Journal of International and Comparative Education (JICE)</i> , April 2020. If N-Z last name: “The Role of NGOs in Providing Non-Formal Primary Education: A Case Study of Khamman District in Telegana”, by A Lakshmi, <i>International Journal of Research in Social Sciences</i>	
<b>Tues, Apr 19 – Human Rights</b>	(Break – holiday begins Weds 10pm – no Thursday class, April 14)  Marc S. Polizzi and Amanda Murdie, “NGOs and human rights,” Chapter 18, pp. 251-262, in Thomas Richard Davies, <i>Routledge Handbook of NGOs and International Relations</i> . Abingdon: Routledge. – PDF online	Written Assignment 4, due Mon, Apr 18, 11:59PM
<b>Module 6 – Presentations</b>		
<b>Thurs, Apr 21</b>	Presentation Group 1	
<b>Tues, Apr 26</b>	Presentation Group 2	
<b>Thurs, April 28</b>	Presentation Group 3	
<b>Tues, May 3</b>	<b>Paper Part IV Due</b>	

***Final course grade will be posted to D2L once all work has been assessed.***