Overview
This seminar reviews theoretical and empirical debates on the relationship between politics and economics in developing countries. In the course of the semester we will evaluate different perspectives on development and assess their explanatory potential. In the first part we will discuss assumptions about development and different ways of describing what is involved in the development process. Next we will analyze the gap separating rich and poor countries and look at political and economic development in historical perspective. We will then familiarize ourselves with different theoretical approaches centering on the economic, international, cultural and institutional determinants of development and underdevelopment. The seminar concludes by focusing on specific challenges facing low and middle income countries, namely welfare policies, the environment and the role of women in socioeconomic change. In sum, this seminar presents old and new debates on the causes of development and underdevelopment. Upon successful completion of this course students will:

- acquire informed views on the process of political and economic development
- understand some of the core assumptions about socioeconomic change
- become familiar with the main intellectual debates in the field
- explore some of the main obstacles preventing economic and political development
- analyze the extent to which domestic and international factors affect development

Expectations and Requirements
Interesting and engaging seminars depend primarily on active student participation. This includes good attendance, informed discussions based on careful analyses of the readings, and willingness to contribute to thoughtful and respectful debates. Students will contribute to this seminar by presenting the readings, facilitating seminar debates, and reporting on individual research.

Your grade for the course will be determined as follows:
- **Facilitation of three seminars (30%).** Address questions 1-6 below in your oral presentation, and bring a 1-2 page outline of what you will present. You should plan to present for a period of 45-60 minutes.
  1. What is the main problem at hand?
  2. What do the different perspectives reveal about the problem?
  3. What is some of the evidence presented?
  4. Are you convinced by this evidence?
  5. List at least 2 questions for class discussion.

- **Two reading reports (30%).** These reports will address the issues raised by that week’s readings and must be submitted to me the following week. You may choose the readings assigned for the day when
you are due to facilitate the seminar. The reports should be around 5 double-spaced pages and should summarize in a few paragraphs the core arguments and make connections between the different texts. Finally, the paper should offer some critique of key aspects of what the authors are contenting.

- **One 20-25 page research paper (40%)** on one of the following issues: Income gap/inequality, development policies, social welfare, governance of natural resources, or women and development. Although the paper is due **May 10 at 5PM in my office** you will present your research to the class on **5/5**. More information about the paper will be provided later.

  Other paper due dates: Topic statement (due **2/11**), topic statement revised (**2/25**), initial bibliography (**3/10**), critical review of 3 sources (**3/24**=10% of paper grade), thesis/argument (**4/7**=10%), summary of paper (**4/28**= 10%), presentation of results (**5/6**=10%).

**Grading Scale:**
A+ (98-100), A (94-97), A- (90-93), B+ (88-89), B (84-87), B- (80-83), C+ (78-79), C (70-77), D (60-69), F (0-59)

**Late Policy:**
Assignments may be completed for full credit at a later time if you provide written documentation that shows you had an emergency beyond your control that prevented you from doing your work. You must provide a photocopy of the documentation within the next 5 working days after the incident. Assignments must be completed during class on the due date. Take note of the class schedule when making travel arrangements and other personal plans.

**Academic Integrity:**
This course will adhere to the CSU Academic Integrity Policy as found in the General Catalog (http://catalog.colostate.edu/general-catalog/policies/students-responsibilities/#academic-integrity) and the Student Conduct Code (http://www.conflictresolution.colostate.edu/conduct-code). At a minimum, violations will result in a grading penalty in this course and a report to the Office of Conflict Resolution and Student Conduct Services.

Anyone caught cheating or plagiarizing will receive an F for that assignment and will be reported to the University’s Office of Conflict Resolution and Student Conduct Services. According to the General Catalog cheating includes “using unauthorized sources of information and providing or receiving unauthorized assistance on any form of academic work” and plagiarism includes “the copying of language, structure, ideas, or thoughts of another, and representing them as one’s own without proper acknowledgement.”

**Required books:**
Other readings can be downloaded from the library’s databases or will be placed on reserve.
Course Outline:

INTRODUCTION
21-Jan No readings assigned.
How should we define development? Has the study of development fluctuated over the years? Why?

WHAT IS DEVELOPMENT?
What are some of the critiques of the field of development? What do these authors contribute to our understanding of development? How should the process of development be evaluated? What explains the economic gap between rich and poor countries?

4-Feb The Gap between Rich and Poor Countries
Passe-Smith JT. 2013. Characteristics of the Income Gap. SP
Kuznets S. 2013. Economic Growth and Income Inequality. SP
Banerjee A. and E. Duflo. The Economic Lives of the Poor. SP
Ortiz I. and M. Cummins. 2013. Global Inequality. SP
Berg A. and JD. Ostry. 2013. Equality and Efficiency. SP
Ravillion M. 2013. Do Poorer Countries Have Less Capacity for Redistribution? SP
Muller E.N. and M.A. Seligson. 2013. Inequality and Insurgency. SP

11-Feb Historical Explanations
Maddison A. 2013. The World Economy: A Millennial Perspective. SP
Diamond J. 2013. Why did Human History Unfold Differently on Different Continents? SP
Rodrik et. al. 2013. Institutions Rule. SP
Acemoglu et. al. 2008. The Colonial Origins. SP

UNDERSTANDING DEVELOPMENT: THEORETICAL APPROACHES
What core assumptions do these approaches defend? What does each approach successfully explain? What theoretical framework did you find more convincing? Why?
18-Feb Modernization
Rostow W. 2013. Five Stages of Growth. SP.
Baumol W. 2013. Productivity Growth, Convergence, and Welfare. SP.
De Long B. 2013. Productivity Growth… a Comment. SP
25-Feb  **Dependency**  
Frank AG. 2013. The Development of Underdevelopment. SP.  
Hammer H. 2013. American Penetration and Canadian Development. SP.  
Cardoso F. 2013. New Paths. SP  

3-Mar  **Culture**  
McClelland D. 2013. The Achievement Motive in Economic Growth. SP.  
Harrison L. 2013. Underdevelopment is a State of Mind. SP.  
Granato et. al. 2013. The Effect of Cultural Values on Economic Development. SP.  
Lane Ruth, “Political Culture: Residual Category or General Theory,” *Comparative Political Studies*, 25, 3 (1992): 362-387  
Ronald Inglehart, “Modernization, Cultural Change and Persistence of Traditional Values,” in *the Democracy Sourcebook*, edited by Robert Dahl, Ian Shapiro, and Jose Antonio Cheibub, (MIT, 2003), 168-180  

10-Mar  **Institutions**  
Olson M. 2013. Big Bills Left on the Sidewalk. SP.  
Lipton M. 2013. Urban Bias and Inequality. SP.  
Przeworski A. 2013. Political Regimes and Economic Growth. SP.  
Birdsall N. 2008. Inequality as a Constraint on Growth in Latin America. SP.  
Diamond J. 2013. What Makes Countries Rich or Poor? SP  

17-Mar  **Spring Break**  

STATE FORMATION AND GOVERNANCE  
How does pacification and the monopolization of violence impact development? What are the main tradeoffs of this process? What are some factors that explain institutional effectiveness?  


31-Mar  **Institutional Reforms**  

SPECIFIC ISSUES  
7-Apr  **Welfare**  
What is social insurance? What particular challenges do low and middle income countries face in the provision of social welfare?  


14-Apr The Environment: Natural Resources, Climate Change, and the Gap
What is sustainable development? How can low and middle income countries alleviate poverty and protect the environment? What is the role of social movements and civil society in supporting these objectives?


28-Apr Women, gender, and social hierarchies
What is the role of women in the development process? What assumptions about women and their economic role do you find useful? Which do you find problematic? How should women (in general) and their role be considered in development studies?

5-May Research project presentations
Recommended Readings:

**Development Studies (modernization, convergence hypothesis, democracy)**


**State and Institutions (institutionalism, path-dependence, state development, public policy)**


**International Political Economy (dependency, international trade, inter-dependence)**


**Environment**


**Gender**


