


Spring 2005

Politics of the Third World

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**Syllabus for
Politics of the Third World
GOVT 338 – Spring 2005
Dr. Steven Alan Samson
Liberty University
School of Business and Government**

- I. **Course Description** An analysis of the common problems of the developing countries – Africa, Asia, the Middle East and Latin America.
- II. **Rationale** This course directly supports Aims 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, and 10 of the Liberty University Statement of Purpose.
- III. **Prerequisite** GOVT 200 or GOVT 220, preferably both
- IV. **Materials List**

Purchase:

Kaplan, Robert D. The Ends of the Earth [K]
Landes, David S. The Wealth and Poverty of Nations [L]

Handouts:

Ayittey, George B. N. "Introduction" to Africa in Chaos
De Soto, Hernando. "Citadels of Dead Capital"
Hausmann, Ricardo. "Prisoners of Geography"
Kaplan, Robert D. An Empire Wilderness, chs. 10, 12

Library:

Calvocoressi, Peter. World Politics, 1945-2000.

Internet:

www.antiwar.com
www.countrywatch.com
www.fpri.org
www.ipl.org/reading/news/
<http://www.lizardpoint.com/fun/geoquiz/index.html> (map quizzes)
www.memri.org
www.menewslines.com
www.policyreview.org
www.stratfor.com
www.dir.yahoo.com/regional/countries

V. **Course Objectives/Requirements**

- 1. The student will be exposed to a variety of concepts and social science approaches to the study of comparative politics, particularly relating to the problems of political and economic development.
- 2. The student will learn how to analyze and compare the history, geography, economies, governing institutions, and behavior of contemporary political agents, such as nations, states, IGOs, and NGOs.
- 3. The student will thereby become better equipped to understand, participate in, and evaluate the current issues and events.

VI. Graded Requirements

1. Each student is responsible for completing reading assignments prior to class and should keep a loose leaf notebook of class materials.
 2. Participation is an essential part of class. Textbook chapters, collateral readings, and current events will be the subject of class commentary and discussions. Students should be prepared to discuss readings and current events.
 3. Students will be tested on the lecture and reading material through a series of seven tests that are to be taken at the scheduled time. Students who will be absent due to illness, family emergency, or some university sponsored event must notify the professor by e-mail **before the test** and arrange to take the test from Mrs. Sharon Cohick, the secretary, preferably before class but no later than the period before the next class meeting. Otherwise, all make-up tests must be taken at the time scheduled for the final exam.
 4. Two pass/fail (80%) world map tests are scheduled for February 4 and February 18. Students who receive a passing grade on **both** tests may drop their lowest test score (except for the last test).
 5. Each student will participate in a panel discussion **or** present a paper on a Third World country or topic toward the end of the term. Discussion topics will be chosen later but may revolve around one or more of the books or authors listed below.
 6. **Optional:** Students who miss or do poorly on a regular test may write an 8-10 summary and evaluation of one of the following books: George Ayittey's Africa in Chaos, Hernando de Soto's The Mystery of Capital, Jared Diamond's Collapse, Howard J. Wiarda's Political Development in Emerging Countries, Samuel P. Huntington's The Third Wave, Edward T. Hall's The Silent Language, or one of Thomas Sowell's series of books on the role of middleman minorities. The lowest test score (except for the last test) will be dropped upon completion so long as at least five test scores remain. **Alternatively**, students may read and take a test on one of the following books to **replace** a test (but only for one class): Fereydoun Hoveyda, The Broken Crescent, Robert D. Kaplan, The Coming Anarchy or Eastward to Tartary, José Ortega y Gasset, The Revolt of the Masses, or Ahmed Rashid, Taliban.
 7. Honors students may fulfill their honors requirement by reading one of the books above (or other work with prior approval) and writing an 8-10 page summary and evaluation of the major themes.
 8. The grading scale is 100-90=A, 89-80=B, 79-70=C, 69-60=D, 59 and below=F.
- VII. Attendance** Students are supposed to arrive **on time** for every class meeting. Students who are absent due to illness or emergency should notify the professor prior to class or soon afterward. Excused absences include participation in university-sponsored events, serious illness (if accompanied by a physician's note), or a family emergency. **Five unexcused absences may result in a failing grade** (F or FN). Persistent tardiness will also have a detrimental effect on grades.
- VIII. Dress Code** Observe the Liberty Way. Students who are not in appropriate campus attire will **not** be admitted to class. Caps will **not** be worn in class. Other than drinks, there will be **no** eating in the classroom.
- IX. Office Location, Phone, E-Mail, Hours**

School of Business and Government, DH 1016

Phone: 582-2640

E-Mail: ssamson@liberty.edu

Hours: MWF 12:20-2:10; TR 8-10:40, R 10:50-12:00; by appointment

CLASS SCHEDULE

January

Wed.	19	Introduction
Fri.	21	Maps; Ricardo Hausmann, "Prisoners of Geography"
Mon.	24	L. 1
Wed.	26	L. 1
Fri.	28	Kaplan, Empire, 10, 12
Mon.	31	Kaplan, Empire, 12; George B. N. Ayittey, "Introduction" to <u>Africa in Chaos</u>

February

Wed.	2	K. 1
Fri.	4	K. 1; FIRST MAP TEST: Africa and the Middle East
Mon.	7	K. 2 (pp. 32-36, 44-59, 64-67)
Wed.	9	K. 2; K. 3 (pp. 76-84)
Fri.	11	"The Devil's Footpath" (DVD); Jared Diamond (excerpts)
Mon.	14	L. 2; FIRST TEST: Hausmann; Kaplan, Empire, 10,12; Ayittey; K. 1-4
Wed.	16	L. 3-4
Fri.	18	L. 4-5 (pp. 60-72); SECOND MAP TEST: East Asia and Latin America
Mon.	21	L. 6-7 (pp. 99-109)
Wed.	23	L. 8 (pp. 113-22), L. 9; SECOND TEST: L. 1-6, Diamond
Fri.	25	L. 10-11 (pp. 150-64)
Mon.	28	L. 12

March

Wed.	2	L. 13 (pp. 186-95)
Fri.	4	L. 14 (pp. 200-10), L. 15 (pp. 213-23); THIRD TEST: L. 7-12
Mon.	7	L. 15-16 (pp. 231-47)
Wed.	9	L. 17 (pp. 256-70, 273-75), L. 18 (pp. 276-85)
Fri.	11	L. 18-19
Mon.	14	SPRING BREAK
Wed.	16	SPRING BREAK
Fri.	18	SPRING BREAK
Mon.	21	L. 20 (pp. 310-28); Hernando de Soto, "Citadels of Dead Capital"
Wed.	23	De Soto; collateral : de Soto, "Introduction"; FOURTH TEST: L. 13-19
Fri.	25	L. 21-22 (pp. 350-59)
Mon.	28	L. 22-23 (pp. 371-81)
Wed.	30	L. 24

April

Fri.	1	L. 25-26; FIFTH TEST: L. 20-24; de Soto
Mon.	4	L. 27-28 (pp. 465-80)
Wed.	6	L. 28-29
Fri.	8	K. 4-5
Mon.	11	K. 5-6; possible guest speaker: Clive McClelland on Morocco
Wed.	13	K. 7-8
Fri.	15	K. 9-10; SIXTH TEST: L. 25-29; K. 4-6
Mon.	18	K. 11-12
Wed.	20	K. 13, 16
Fri.	22	K. 17, 19
Mon.	25	K. 22-23
Wed.	27	K. 24-25
Fri.	29	K. 27, 29
Mon.	2	PANEL DISCUSSIONS
Wed.	4	PANEL DISCUSSIONS
Fri.	6	SEVENTH TEST: K. 7-29