
Legal Studies 216

Emerging Economies

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he/him/his

MW 12:00 to 1:30 EST

This is a class about polities that are called “emerging economies.” I say “polities” because not every political unit in the world is a country (Hong Kong, for example, is a member of the World Trade Organization in its own name, and Puerto Rico fields its own Olympic team). *This is not a course on economics.* It also is not a course on any particular part of the world. Instead, we will try to develop a general understanding of these places and of the changes that have occurred and continue to occur. By understanding these changes, we can help make things better for people, plants, and animals. At the end of this course you should have a deeper understanding of topics reported in the news every day, you should understand how certain types of business relationships are affected by the changes occurring in emerging economies, and you should be able to think more fully about those changes in the context of global challenges and issues.

Please Be Aware

This course critically examines many polities, and in class and group exercises you will be asked to critically discuss several polities. Critical thinking sometimes involves criticism, and some polities have laws or rules that prohibit criticism. If you are spending the semester in such a country, please consider your own safety and security. In this course we will study changes such as democratization and liberalization. We will *never* suggest that changes should be forced on polities, it is always a polity’s own choice whether or not to undertake changes. However the laws and rules of some polities prohibit or discourage the study of these changes. Again, if you are spending the semester in such a polity, please consider your own safety and security.

Expectation in the Age of Covid

Although there will be asynchronous parts of this class, we will be meeting at regularly scheduled class times and you are expected to participate in those classes. **Access class through the zoom site embedded in Canvas.** Accessing the class through Canvas automatically signs you in, so that you do not have to go through the security protocols, and enables you to rejoin a class in session if you accidentally leave.

Before Each Class: (1) Do the assigned reading and watch the assigned video(s). All of the assigned readings are available in the Files section of the Canvas site for this class. The readings are made up of excerpts combined into one reading, so that there is only one reading for each class. The videos are short. All videos can be accessed through the Canvas site; if there is more than one video the videos will be labelled “A” and “B” (if, for example, there were two videos for class 6, the videos would be labelled 6A and 6B). (2) Take the assigned quiz on the readings/video. You will access the quizzes through the Canvas site for this class.

In Class: Class is a time to discuss the concepts and frameworks laid out in the readings and the videos. Sometimes we will have breakout rooms and sometimes we will spend all of our time as a class. Given the constraints of virtual meeting it will be difficult to have open discussions with the entire class; sometimes you may be called on but often participation will occur in more structured ways. There will be opportunities for engagement regardless of technology or time zone constraints. This kind of classroom is new for many of us, so if you have any questions at all about what is expected or how to engage, please just ask me.

During the First Two (Maybe Three) Weeks: Schedule a one-on-one office hours with me. There will be a way to schedule through the Canvas site for this class. We will talk for about fifteen minutes.

Midterm Examination: There will be an open-book “take home” midterm examination. The examination will be posted at 12:01 am EST on October 28 and is due by 11:59 PM EST on that same day. *The midterm will not take a full day*, it is just that you have a day in which to do it. The regularly scheduled class that day will be more like an open office hours; if it is convenient for you to complete the midterm during that time that is fine.

Polity Report: You will be randomly assigned to a group, and your group will randomly be assigned a polity. Your group will give a report to the class on that polity. I may ask your group to pay special attention to one aspect of that polity. In general, we will talk much more about this in class, but in your report should provide the class with sufficient information about the history and current status of the polity with respect to the aspects of emerging economies focused on in this course. Your group’s presentation will be based on content, not on the polish of the presentation.

Final Paper: Your group will collaborate on a final paper in this class, due the last week of class. The paper will be based on the polity on which your group presented to class, but I will assign particular topics to be covered in your paper. Each person in your group will have primary responsibility for one section of the paper. We will discuss this much more in class, but in general the paper will be graded based on how it demonstrates an understanding of the subject matter of this course.

Office Hours

Office hours will be held on Tuesdays from 2:00 to 4:00 EST. A link to office hours will be available on the Canvas site; please access office hours through Canvas in order to protect security. You do not need to have a question to come to office hours; office hours are a great time to swap ideas and to hear other people’s perspectives. Office hours are a lot of fun. If you have questions but cannot attend office hours during regularly scheduled times we can try to find another time.

Study Groups

Form study groups. They are a great way to practice thinking and talking about the concepts in this class, and a great way to meet people. Use the chat functions on the Canvas site to find potential study group partners, or ask me to help.

Academic Integrity

Don’t cheat. Some of the work is group work, other than that please do all of the required work yourself. If you quote someone or use someone else’s idea, cite them. Again, we

are in new environment, so if you have any questions at all about whether something would be cheating, please ask. I will not judge, and it is much better to ask than to risk cheating.

Grading

class engagement	10% (individual)
reading/video quizzes	10% (individual)
midterm exam	20% (individual)
polity presentation	30% (group)
polity paper	30% (individual/group)

Classes, Material, and Assignments

<i>class</i>	<i>date</i>	<i>reading/video</i>	<i>topic</i>
1	Sep 2	reading 1 no video	Introduction and overview: the world is an interesting place. Why don't most definitions of emerging economies work?
	Sep 7	no class	it is a holiday (Labor Day) in the United States
2	Sep 9	reading 2 video 2	A review of histories critical to understanding emerging economies. And the world is still an interesting place.
BASIC CONCEPTS			
3	Sep 14	reading 3 video 3	Institutions: what are these things? From a variety of disciplines.
4	Sep 16	reading 4 video 4	Institutions: orientation. And a discussion of money.
5	Sep 21	reading 5 video 5	Appropriateness: mental acceptance of the existence and use of institutions.
6	Sep 23	reading 6 video 6	Trust: the concept of generalized trust. Which differs from personal or particular trust.
7	Sep 28	reading 7 video 7	Trust: changes in levels of generalized trust.
THE PROCESS OF CHANGE			
8	Sep 30	reading 8 video 8	Change: what is to be done and what tools can we use?
9	Oct 5	reading 9 video 9	Privatization: the most used of tools. The three most common techniques of privatization.
10	Oct 7	reading 10 video 10	Privatization: What are some of the effects? What constitutes "successful" privatization?
11	Oct 12	reading 11 video 11	Rule of Law: perhaps the most mentioned tool. Understanding the rule of law and placing it in the context of changes in emerging economies.
12	Oct 14	reading 12 video 12	Rule of Law: constitution building and constitutionalism. Hyper appropriate rule of law.

13	Oct 19	reading 13 video 13	Democratization: what is democracy and why is it still a tool.
14	Oct 21	reading 14 video 14	Liberalization: space and what is done in it. To many people, this is the essence of an emerging economy.
15	Oct 26	no reading no video	Today we will catch up, and review material.
16	Oct 28	no reading no video	midterm examination
PARTICULAR RELATIONSHIPS			
17	Nov 2	reading 17 video 17	Trade: the moving parts.
18	Nov 4	reading 18 video 18	Trade: barter and countertrade. Relational staples.
19	Nov 9	reading 19 video 19	Trade: payment mechanisms, particularly letters of credit.
20	Nov 11	reading 20 video 20	Investment: the moving parts.
21	Nov 16	reading 21 video 21	Investment: the relationship between investors and managers. Through the lens of self-governing rules.
22	Nov 18	reading 22 video 22	Investment: a certain type of swap. And what it reveals about rules in emerging economies.
23	Nov 23	no reading no video	review and catch up
	Nov 25	no class	friday schedule (go to the classes you go to on friday)
EMERGING ECONOMIES AND THE WORLD			
24	Nov 30	no reading no video	Is it an emerging economy?
25	Dec 2	reading 25 video 25	Corruption: what corruption is, why it is so damaging and detrimental, and why it is an issue in emerging economies.
26	Dec 7	reading 26 video 26	Social Justice: do the changes in emerging economies create special issues?
27	Dec 9	reading 27 video 27	"Post-liberalism": is this all too late? Is the world changing in a way that makes the changes we have discussed irrelevant? No.
28	Dec 10 THURS DAY	no reading no video	The future of emerging economies and semester wrap up.