

LGST 2160 EMERGING ECONOMIES, SPRING 2023 SYLLABUS

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Legal Studies and Business Ethics
JMHH 669
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Class: TuTh 8.30am-10am, Huntsman F50

Office hours: Th 11am-12pm or by appointment, JMHH669

This course is an introduction to the nature and dynamics of economic development. We will discuss the state of global income and inequality, general theories of development, and the role of legal and social institutions. A particular focus will be the relation between political transition and economic development. We will consider various countries and regions as case studies, but use the South African transition as a central example.

ASSESSMENT

I'd like you to pick a *focus area* i.e. a country or city or polity or region. As you read the theoretical material on the syllabus, think about how it applies to your focus area. You will also be put into randomized groups. An efficient method is to pick a focus area as a group, and make this the topic of your individual and group assignment. But you may do as you please.

There are four forms of assessment.

- (1) Class participation. This includes attendance, but also your ability to respond to questions and articulate insights about the material in class.
- (2) Class journal. You should write a paragraph or three each week, discussing a news article or encyclopedia entry or report or something else that you have read about your focus area and whether the material we are reading for class that week illuminates or contradicts it or raises new questions.
- (3) Group report. Your group should write a 5,000-10,000 word report that discusses the focus area of one of the group member. You may drill down into some subject of particular interest, or zoom out and consider a region's global position. You may, for example, frame this as a report for an international agency about the development challenges facing a particular country; or as a scenario analysis for a business that is considering its investment options; or anything else really, so long as you show that you have thought about the focus area and tried to apply some of what we have read and discussed in class.
- (4) Group presentation. Your group should give a 20-30 minute presentation on the topics of your report, and be prepared to take questions from the rest of class.

Grade composition:

Class participation	10%
Individual Assignment (journal of assignment responses, due 04/26)	30%
Group Memo (report, due 4/26)	30%
Group Presentation (due 4/11-4/25)	30%

CLASS PARTICIPATION

The participation grade is based partly on attendance, but mostly on discussion, which I will sometimes initiate by cold calling. Some students are anxious about the cold calling, but I do not aim to embarrass anyone. Rather, cold calling ensures that everyone gets a chance to speak.

MATERIALS

Prepare each reading before the class for which it is scheduled. It may be helpful to return to the reading after class to consolidate your understanding. Readings will be posted on the Canvas course site by Library Course Reserves. Lecture slides and videos will be posted on Canvas after the lecture.

CONSULTATION

I will hold office hours in person every Thursday, 11am-12pm. You may attend these to discuss whatever you like. You should also feel free to make an appointment outside this time by sending me an email with three times at which you are available. I'm happy to meet in person or on zoom.

NB: The reading list is very likely to change during the course of the semester. Make sure that you are receiving Canvas notifications in order to keep up with changes.

* indicates that a reading is recommended for background.

I. Nature and History

Class 1 (Thursday 12 January)

Introduction: The State of the World

No reading

Class 2 (Tuesday 17 January)

The History of the World

Jeffrey Sachs, *Ages of Globalization* (2020), Chapters 6 and 7

Class 3 (Thursday 19 January)

Natural History 1

Jared Diamond, *Guns, Germs, and Steel*, chapters 10 and 12

Class 4 (Tuesday 24 January)

Natural History 2

Peter Zeihan, *Disunited Nations* (2020), Chapters 1, 4, and 6

Class 5 (Thursday 26 January)

Institutions

Daron Acemoglu, Simon Johnson and James A. Robinson, “The Colonial Origins of Comparative Development,” *American Economic Review* 91 (2001): 1369-1401.

Eleanor M. Brown and Ian Ayres, “The Nature of the Farm,” forthcoming *Journal of Legal Studies*, https://papers.ssrn.com/sol3/papers.cfm?abstract_id=3836599

Class 6 (Tuesday 31 January)

Property Rights

tbd

Class 7 (Thursday 2 February)

Trade

tbd

Class 8 (Tuesday 7 February)

Human Capital

tbd

Class 9 (Thursday 9 February)

Interventions

tbd

II. Political Transition

Class 10 (Tuesday 14 February)

South Africa 1: Some History

tbd

Class 11 (Thursday 16 February)

South Africa 2: Apartheid Economics

tbd

Class 12 (Tuesday 21 February)

South Africa 3: The Property Clause

tbd

Class 13 (Thursday 23 February)

South Africa 4: Black Economic Empowerment

tbd

Class 14 (Tuesday 28 February)

South Africa 5: Corruption

tbd

Class 15 (Thursday 2 March)

South Africa 6: Energy Crisis

tbd

Spring Break 4-12 March

III. Some Cases

Class 16 (Tuesday 14 March)

India 1

tbd

Class 17 (Thursday 16 March)

India 2

tbd

Class 18 (Tuesday 21 March) China 1

tbd

Class 19 (Thursday 23 March) China 2

tbd

Class 20 (Tuesday 28 March) Latin America

tbd

Class 21 (Tuesday 30 March) South-east Asia

tbd

Class 22 (Tuesday 4 April) East Africa

tbd

Class 23 (Thursday 6 April) Africa 2

tbd

Class 24 (Tuesday 11 April) Regional Presentations 1

Class 25 (Thursday 13 April) Regional Presentations 2

Class 26 (Tuesday 18 April) Regional Presentations 3

Class 27 (Thursday 20 April) Regional Presentations 4

Class 28 (Tuesday 25 April) Regional Presentations 5

GROUP MEMO DUE: WEDNESDAY 26 APRIL

JOURNAL ASSIGNMENT DUE: WEDNESDAY 26 APRIL

END