

The Making of the Global South (GPOL 6385)

Fall 2016

Time: Wednesday 4:00-5:50 p.m.

Location: 63 Fifth Avenue, Room 312

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Introduction

This course investigates the intellectual history, political aspirations and developmental trajectories of the postcolonial world during the long twentieth century. The first part surveys the comparative impact of imperial rule and colonial exploitation upon the pattern and character of states, economies and societies in Latin America, Asia and Africa in the twentieth century. The second part of the course investigates the politics of the Third World after WWII, as it was then called, to enhance national sovereignty and collective self-determination. We analyze the patterns and ramifications of state formation, national integration and late industrial development pursued by its postcolonial elites, as well as their collective efforts to forge solidarity through the Non-Aligned Movement in the 1950s, Trilateral Conference in the 1960s to the New International Economic Order in the 1970s. The third part of the course examines shifting economic strategies and transitions to democracy in the developing world, as commentators increasingly called it, following the debt crises of the 1980s. Finally, the last part analyzes various efforts to resurrect the prospects of the so-called global South since the 1990s. Topics include the establishment of the South Commission and the World Social Forum, reconfiguration of parties and movements on the left and the right, and impact of the BRICS upon the balance of power, wealth and status in the evolving world order.

Requirements & Assessment

You are expected to attend each class and read all the set material in advance. Attendance comprises 25% of your final grade.

The success of the class depends on your active and informed participation. Being active means engaging in discussion and debate; being informed entails careful reading of the set material. To encourage both activities each student is required to post a set of questions and comments in the Discussion section on Canvas one day prior to each class. Your commentaries are worth an additional 25% of your final grade.

Lastly, you are required to write two short papers (10-12 pages of double-spaced text), which should address the readings of a particular week in two different sections of the course: 'Legacies of Empire', 'The Emergence of the Third World' and 'Reconfigurations of the Global South'. Papers are due at the beginning of the class in question. Each paper comprises 25% of your final grade.

The aim of your short papers is to provide a critical evaluation of the assigned readings for a particular week: to identify the main issues, situate the various positions taken by the authors and appraise their respective contributions. The following questions are useful to bear in mind in writing your responses: What are the principal theoretical, methodological and empirical issues at stake in the readings? What are the central arguments of each author? What are the

main strengths or weaknesses of each work? Are they coherent, or does a lack of consistency or bias in evidence impair the argument put forward, and if so, how? How valuable, original and viable is the theory or argument proposed? How does a particular contribution relate to larger debates we are studying?

Your papers should not be a mere summary of the readings but a critical evaluation of the issues and arguments that arise in the material. Remember that a critique does not necessarily mean a negative evaluation; it also involves explicating the conceptual foundations, theoretical reasoning and empirical basis of a piece of work. Indeed, it is far easier to say what is wrong or missing in an argument than to show why it works or how it might be developed. Each paper will be evaluated according to the clarity, insight and comprehensiveness of your analysis.

Course Material

There are two required texts for the course. Both are available at Barnes & Noble, 33 East 17th Street (between Broadway and Park Avenue South). All course books are filed on the 4th floor, alphabetically by author.

- Vijay Prashad, *The Darker Nations: a people's history of the Third World* (New York: The New Press, 2008)
- Vijay Prashad, *The Poorer Nations: a possible history of the global South* (New York: Verso, 2014)

All other assigned readings will be available electronically through Canvas.

Schedule

Week 1 (August 31): Introduction

Legacies of Empire

Week 2 (September 7): Economies of empire

Required:

- Eric R. Wolf, "In search of wealth," *Europe and the People without History* (Berkeley: University of California Press, 1982), pp. 127-261.
- James Mahoney, "Explaining levels of colonialism and postcolonial development," *Colonialism and Postcolonial Development: Spanish America in comparative perspective* (New York: Cambridge University Press, 2010), pp. 1-34.
- Deepak Nayyar, *Catch Up: developing countries in the world economy* (New York: Oxford University Press, 2013), pp. 3-48.

Week 3 (September 14): Colonial states

Required:

- Joel S. Migdal, "A model of state-society relations" and "Conclusion," *Strong Societies and Weak States: state-society relations and state capabilities in the Third World* (Princeton: Princeton University Press, 1988), pp. 10-42 and 269-278.
- Sudipta Kaviraj, "On state, society and discourse in India," in James Manor (ed.), *Rethinking Third World Politics* (London: Longman, 1991), pp. 72-100.
- Achille Mbembe, "Provisional notes on the postcolony," *Africa: Journal of the International African Institute*, 62, 1 (1992): 3-37.
- Crawford Young, "The imperial legacy and state traditions," *The African Colonial State in Comparative Perspective* (New Haven: Yale University Press, 1994), pp. 244-281.

Week 4 (September 21): Societies under colonialism

Required:

- Christopher A. Bayley, "India in the eighteenth century: the formation of states and social groups," *Indian Society and the Making of the British Empire: The New Cambridge History of India, II, 1* (Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, 2010), pp. 7-44.
- Nicholas Dirks, "Castes of mind," *Representations*, 37 (Winter 1992): 56-78.
- Jean-Francois Bayart, "Civil society in Africa," in Patrick Chabal (ed.), *Political Domination in Africa: reflections on the limits of power* (Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, 1996), pp. 109-126.
- Mahmood Mamdani, "Introduction: thinking through Africa's impasse," *Citizen and Subject: contemporary Africa and the legacy of late colonialism* (Princeton: Princeton University Press, 1996), pp. 4-34.

The Emergence of the Third World

Week 5 (September 28): Nationalism and decolonization

Required:

- Eric Hobsbawm, “End of empires,” *Age of Extremes: the short twentieth century 1914-1991* (London: Penguin, 1994), pp. 199-222.
- Benedict Anderson, “The last wave” and “Census, map, museum,” *Imagined Communities: reflections on the origin and spread of nationalism, 2nd edition* (London: Verso, 1991), pp. 113-141 and 163-187.
- Partha Chatterjee, “Nationalism as a problem in the history of political ideas,” *Nationalist Thought and the Colonial World: a derivative discourse* (Minneapolis: University of Minnesota Press, 1993), pp. 1-35.
- Kumari Jayawardena, *Feminism and Nationalism in the Third World* (New York: Verso, 2016), pp. tbd.

Week 6 (October 5): The quest for independence and solidarity

Required:

- Vijay Prashad, *The Darker Nations: a people’s history of the Third World* (New York: The New Press, 2008), pp. 3-115.
- Robert H. Jackson, “Independence by right,” *Quasi-States: sovereignty, international relations and the third world* (Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, 1993), pp. 82-108.
- Siba N. Grovogui, “Sovereignty in Africa: quasi-statehood and other myths in international theory,” in Kevin C. Dunn and Timothy M. Shaw (eds), *Africa’s Challenge to International Relations Theory* (London: Palgrave Macmillan, 2001), pp. 29-45.
- Arturo S. Escobar, “The problematization of poverty: the tale of three worlds and development,” *Encountering Development: the making and unmaking of the third world* (Princeton: Princeton University Press, 1995), pp. 21-54.
- Eric Helleiner, “Southern pioneers of international development,” *Global Governance*, 20, 3 (July-September 2014): 375-388.

October 12: Yom Kippur—No Class

Week 7 (October 19): Tensions, conflicts and setbacks

Required:

- Vijay Prashad, *The Darker Nations: a people’s history of the Third World* (New York: The New Press, 2008), pp. 119-203.
- Eric Hobsbawm, “The Third World,” *Age of Extremes: the short twentieth century 1914-1991* (London: Penguin, 1994), pp. 344-371.
- Thomas E. Skidmore, “Politics and economic policymaking in authoritarian Brazil, 1937-1971,” in Alfred Stepan (ed.), *Authoritarian Brazil: origins, policies and future* (New Haven: Yale University Press, 1973), pp. 3-46.

- Stuart Corbridge and John Harriss, “The ‘tall men’ and the ‘third way,’” *Reinventing India: liberalization, Hindu nationalism and popular democracy* (Cambridge: Polity Press, 2001), pp. 43-66.
- Benedict Anderson, “Old state, new society: Indonesia’s new order in comparative historical perspective,” *The Journal of Asian Studies*, 42, 3 (May 1983): 477-496.

Week 8 (October 26): Prospects of sovereignty and development in the peripheries

Required:

- Vijay Prashad, *The Darker Nations: a people’s history of the Third World* (New York: The New Press, 2008), pp. 207-275.
- Immanuel Wallerstein, “The rise and future demise of the world capitalist system: concepts for comparative analysis,” *Comparative Studies in Society and History*, 16, 4 (1974): 387-415.
- Albert O. Hirschman, “The rise and decline of development economics,” *Essays in Trespassing: economics to politics and beyond* (New York: Cambridge University Press, 1981), pp. 1-24.
- Bill Warren, “The postwar economic experience of the Third World,” in Charles K. Wilber (ed.), *The Political Economy of Development and Underdevelopment*, 3rd edition (New York: Random House, 1984), pp. 109-133.
- Gita Sen and Caren Grown, “Systemic crisis, reproduction failures and women’s potential,” *Development, Crises and Alternative Visions: Third World Women’s Perspectives* (Washington D.C.: Earthscan, 1988), pp. 50-77.
- Ali Mazrui, “Superpower ethics: a Third World perspective,” *Ethics in International Affairs*, 1, 1 (March 1987): 10-21.

Week 9 (November 2): Comparative socialist experiments

Required:

- Eric Hobsbawm, “Third World and revolution,” in *Age of Extremes: the short twentieth century 1914-1991* (London: Penguin, 1994), pp. 433-460.
- Patrick Chabal, “Revolutionary democracy in Africa: the case of Guinea-Bissau,” in idem (ed.), *Political Domination in Africa: reflections on the limits of power* (Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, 1986), pp. 84-108.
- James C. Scott, “Compulsory villagization in Tanzania: aesthetics and miniaturization,” *Seeing like a State* (New Haven: Yale University Press, 1998), pp. 223-261.
- Susan Eckstein, “The impact of the Cuban revolution: a comparative perspective,” *Comparative Studies in Society and History*, 28, 3 (July 1986): 502-534.
- Article on Vietnam—tbd.

Week 10 (November 9): Crisis, transformation and divergence

Required:

- Vijay Prashad, *The Poorer Nations: a possible history of the global South* (New York: Verso, 2014), pp. 15-84.

- Charles Gore, “The rise and fall of the Washington consensus as a paradigm for developing countries,” *World Development*, 28, 5 (2000): 789-804.
- Cristóbal Kay, “Why East Asia overtook Latin America: agrarian reform, industrialization and development,” *Third World Quarterly*, 23, 6 (2002): 1073–1102.
- Peter Evans, “Class, state and dependence in East Asia: lessons for Latin Americanists,” in Frederic C. Deyo (ed.), *The Political Economy of the New Asian Industrialism* (Ithaca: Cornell University Press, 1994), pp. 203-226.
- Giovanni Arrighi, “The African crisis: world systemic and regional aspects,” *New Left Review*, 15 (May-June 2002): 5-37.

Reconfigurations of the Global South

Week 11 (November 16): After the end of history

Required:

- Vijay Prashad, *The Poorer Nations: a possible history of the global South* (New York: Verso, 2014), pp. 85-142.
- John Ravenhill, “The North-South balance of power,” *International Affairs*, 66, 4 (1990): 731-748.
- S. Neil Macfarlane, “Superpower rivalry in the 1990s,” *Third World Quarterly*, 12, 1 (January 1990): 1-25.
- Bahgat Korany, “End of history, or its continuation and accentuation? the global South and the ‘new transformation’ literature,” *Third World Quarterly*, 15, 1 (March 1994): 7-15.
- Arif Dirlik, “Specters of the Third World: global modernity and the end of the three worlds,” *Third World Quarterly*, 25, 1 (February 2004): 131-148.

Week 12 (November 22): New patterns of growth and inequality

Note: this class meets on *Tuesday*

Required:

- Vijay Prashad, *The Poorer Nations: a possible history of the global South* (New York: Verso, 2014), pp. 143-230.
- Deepak Nayyar, “The South in the world economy: past, present and future,” *Human Development Report Office Occasional Paper 2013/01*, United Nations Development Programme, 16 pp.; available at http://hdr.undp.org/sites/default/files/hdro_1301_nayyar.pdf
- Arjun Jayadev, Rahul Lahoti and Sanjay Reddy, “Who got what, then and now? A fifty year overview from the global consumption and income project,” 8 May 2015, 39 pp.; available at http://papers.ssrn.com/sol3/papers.cfm?abstract_id=2602268
- Jayati Ghosh, “Beyond the Millennium Development Goals: a southern perspective on a global new deal,” *Journal of International Development*, 27, 3 (April 2015): 320-329.

Week 13 (November 30): Remaking the order of states

Required:

- Fareed Zakaria, “A non-western world?” *The Post-American World* (New York: W.W. Norton & Company, 2009), pp. 49-86.
- Kevin Gray & Barry K. Gills, “South–South cooperation and the rise of the Global South,” *Third World Quarterly*, 37, 4 (2016): 557-574.
- Walden Bello, “The BRICS: challengers to the global status quo,” *The Nation*, 4 September 2014, available at <http://bit.ly/1w6snOD>.
- Philip Nel and Ian Taylor, “Bugger thy neighbor? IBSA and south-south solidarity,” *Third World Quarterly*, 34, 6 (2013): 1091-1110.
- Philip S. Golub, “From the new international economic order to the G20: how the ‘global South’ is restructuring world capitalism from within,” *Third World Quarterly*, 34, 6 (2013): 1000-1015.
- Partha Chatterjee, “Empire and nation revisited: 50 years after Bandung,” *Inter-Asia Cultural Studies* 6, 4 (2005): 487-496.

Week 14 (December 7): Seeking to reshape global society

Required:

- Vijay Prashad, *The Poorer Nations: a possible history of the global South* (New York: Verso, 2014), pp. 231-280.
- Jackie Smith, “Globalizing resistance: the battle of Seattle and the future of social movements,” *Mobilization: An International Quarterly* 6, 1 (March 2001): 1-19.
- Interview with Walden Bello, “Pacific panopticon,” *New Left Review*, II/16 (July-August 2002): 68-85.
- Arturo Escobar, “Beyond the Third World: imperial globality, global coloniality and antiglobalization social movements,” *Third World Quarterly*, 25, 1 (2004): 207-230.
- Boaventura De Sousa Santos, “The World Social Forum and the global left,” *Politics & Society*, 36, 2 (June 2008): 247-270.

Week 15 (December 14): Conclusion