SOCI 254: DEVELOPMENT AND UNDERDEVELOPMENT

Tuesdays and Thursdays, 14.35pm-15.55pm: ENGMC-204

Instructor: Ali Zeren
Email: ali.zeren@mcgill.ca
Office Hours: Lea-822A, Tuesdays and Thursdays, 4:00pm-5:30pm
Teaching Assistants: Jeremy Buist (jeremy.buist@mail.mcgill.ca)
Yasmeen Shazadeh (shahzadeh.yasmeen@gmail.com)

DESCRIPTION
The purpose of this course is to introduce students to various concepts, issues, debates, and key actors of socio-economic development. In doing so, it also aims to provide an overview of historical development experiences across different periods and geographies. The course is centred on a sociological perspective, but it frequently incorporates insights from political economy and history as well.

READINGS:
All the readings for this class will be available online on MyCourses.

EVALUATION:
Your grade assessment will be based on the following:
- Mid-Term, Feb-20th – 30%
- Reading Questions: 20% (4 x 5%)
- Final: TBA – 50%
- Reading questions (20%): It is strongly encouraged that you attend lectures. Through the semester there will be four assignments that you are required to complete. These assignments are questions that ask you to write short 300-500 word essays, using the readings, to answer a major discussion raised in the lectures. The questions will be announced a week before their due-dates. Their purpose is to help you synthesize the lectures and the readings, and to encourage you to complete the assigned reading materials.

POLICIES & NOTES:
Tentative nature of the syllabus: This syllabus is an approximate plan of how the semester will progress. Depending on the pacing of the course, we may have to update and change the material as we go along. Thus, I reserve the possibility to amend the items on this syllabus, including readings, order of topics, or dates of quizzes and conferences, at any point in the semester. Any changes will be announced at least one class in advance and posted on MyCourses.

Academic Integrity: McGill University values academic integrity. Therefore, all students must understand the meaning and consequences of cheating, plagiarism and other academic offences under the Code of Student Conduct and Disciplinary Procedures (see www.mcgill.ca/students/srr/honest/ for more information)

Language: In accord with McGill University’s Charter of Students’ Rights, students in this course have the right to submit in English or in French any written work that is to be graded.
PLANNED SCHEDULE

January 7, 9:
1. Introduction
   - Szirmai. (2005) Dynamics of Socio-Economic Change [Chapter-1]

January 14, 16:
2. Theories

January 21, 23:
3. History-1: Market Society and Rise of Europe
   - Weber, Max (1905) The Protestant Ethic
   - Braudel, Ferndad (1977) Afterthoughts on Material Civilization and Capitalism [excerpts]
   - Polanyi, Karl (1942) The Great Transformation. [excerpts]

January 28, 30:
4. History-2: Colonialism and De-Colonisation

February 4, 6:
5. History-3: Late development
   - Amsden, Alice H. (2001) The rise of "the rest": challenges to the west from late-industrializing economies. [Chapter-1]

February 11, 13:
6. International Dimensions and Constraints
   - Easterly, William (2006) The white man's burden: why the West's efforts to aid the rest have done so much ill and so little good [excerpts]

February 18, 20:
7. Institutions
   - Chang, Ha Joon, and Peter Evans (2005) “The role of institutions in economic change”

February 20th:
   MIDTERM EXAM
February 25, 27:  
**8. Markets and Property Rights**  

(No class during study break, March 3rd and 5th)

March 10, 12:  
**9. The State**  
- Tilly, Charles (1985) “War making and state making as organized crime”  

March 17, 19:  
**10. Social Capital, Human Capital & Education**  
- Putnam, Robert D. et. al. (1994) Making Democracy Work: Civic Traditions in Modern Italy [excerpts]

March 24, 26:  
**11. Gender and Inequality**  
- Boserup Ester et. al. (2013) Woman's role in economic development [excerpts]  
- Myrdal, Gunnar (1975) The Equality Issue in World Development

March 31, April 2:  
**12. Globalization, Technology and Structural Change**  
- Schumpeter, Joseph (1942) Capitalism Socialism and Democracy [excerpts]  

April 7, 9:  
**13. Conclusions**  
- Reid, Hannah (2014) Climate Change and Human Development [Chapter-1]  