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School of Diplomacy and International  
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Spring 2015

## **DIPL 6170 Advanced Topics in Economic Development**

Shelley Ranii

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**DIPL 6170: Advanced Topics in Economic Development**  
School of Diplomacy & International Relations  
Seton Hall University  
Spring 2015 Syllabus

**Administrative Information**

Schedule: Wednesday 7:35–9:45 PM  
Location: TBD  
Instructor: Shelley Ranii  
Office: TBD  
Office Hour: Wednesday 6:35–7:35 PM or by appointment  
E-mail Address: [Shelley.ranii@post.harvard.edu](mailto:Shelley.ranii@post.harvard.edu)  
Grading: Reading quizzes (10%); Course Participation (10%); Development Factsheet on Chosen Country (15%); Draft of Research Paper (15%); Final Research Paper + Presentation (35% + 15%)

**Course Description (Summary and Objectives):**

This course is designed to serve as an in-depth analysis of current aspects of economic development – what works, what doesn't and everything in between. The course will consider recent development dilemmas such as delivery of services for poor people, building institutions for markets, the role of knowledge in advancing economic and social well being, the role and effectiveness of the state in the changing world, and infrastructure and development.

Students will be asked to analyze the relevance of the course's various development topics to a country of their choosing among selected specific countries in Latin America, Africa, East Asia, Eastern Europe, the Former Soviet Union, or the Middle East.

In addition to counting towards the International Economics & Development Specialization, students can count the course towards a regional specialization if they write their final paper on a country in the region in question.

**Requirements and Grading:**

1. Reading Questions (10% of grade): With the aim of encouraging regular reading and critical thinking, each student will come up with one question of their own interest from one or more of the readings for the week and, in no more than one typewritten page, they will discuss (1) why the question is important and (2) will provide an answer to the question using the readings and any other sources s/he may deem appropriate.

These questions must be e-mailed as a Word .doc file attachment to Prof. Ranii no later than midnight the day before the class. Any emails received later than midnight the day before class will not be counted. Each student must do 10 reading questions (counted at 1% each) for the weeks of the students' choosing.

2. Class Participation (10% of grade): The class is designed to be a seminar-type class, which requires active, informed participation from the class for us all to gain the most from the course. As such, the class

participation grade will be based on attending class (and arriving on time) as well as effective (think quality, not necessarily quantity!) discussion during our time together.

3. Development Factsheet on Chosen Country (15% of grade): In an effort to get to know their country of choice, students will be asked to prepare a 2-page factsheet containing key facts about their chosen country. Instructions for the factsheet will be given to students and discussed in class.

4. Draft of Research Paper (15% of grade): I will ask students to submit to me a draft of their 15-20 page research paper, which will be graded, though with considerably more leniency than the final version. Instructions on the paper will be given to students and discussed in class. I will give comments on the paper and will meet with each student to discuss edits for the final version of the paper. The paper will generally cover the development experience of the student's country of choice including an analysis of economic development trends, challenges and policy recommendations.

5. Final Research Paper (35% of grade for paper; 15% for short end of class presentation): As with the draft, more specific instructions on the paper will be given in class with ample time for discussion. The final class will also be dedicated to student presentations of their work.

Please start working on your factsheet and papers as early as possible. Late submissions will be penalized by one grade each day they are late, i.e. an A would become an A-, an A- a B+, etc....

Regular class attendance and participation is crucial to the success of the class. Students will be excused for missing up to one class with advance notification given to the professor. If you need to miss additional classes beyond that for medical reasons, please bring me a note signed by your doctor.

Finally, a public service announcement that I am required to bring to your attention according to Seton Hall University guidelines: "All forms of dishonesty whether by act of omission, including but not limited to, cheating, plagiarism, and knowingly furnishing false information to the University are prohibited and may elicit University sanctions of suspension or expulsion." As you are graduate-level students, I trust you know what is acceptable and what is not, but should you have any doubts, please feel free to discuss the issue with me. See university and school standards for academic conduct here:

<http://www.shu.edu/offices/community-development/community-standards/> and here:

<http://www.shu.edu/academics/diplomacy/academic-conduct.cfm>. Use of electronic devices for any purpose other than taking notes is not appropriate during class time. It distracts other students and the professor and will result in a lowered grade.

Under the Americans with Disabilities Act and Section 504 of the Civil Rights Restoration Act, students at Seton Hall University who have a disability may be eligible for accommodations in this course. Should a student require such accommodation, he or she must self-identify at the Office of Disability Support Services (DSS), Room 67, Duffy Hall, provide documentation of said disability, and work with DSS to develop a plan for accommodations. The contact person is Mrs. Linda Walter at (973) 313-6003.

### **Course Structure:**

Course structure may vary somewhat from class to class, but in classes in which I give a PowerPoint presentation in class on key topics of interest, I will make these available following each class.

Most, if not all classes, will feature a class discussion, including a round robin of how the development topic of discussion during that week is relevant to each student's chosen country as well as discussion of reading questions submitted by students.

### **Student Learning Outcomes:**

By the end of the semester, students should have acquired in-depth knowledge of major themes in economic development both in general terms and as they apply to their specific country of interest. Students should also have refined their research, critical thinking, writing and presentation skills.

### **Tentative Class Schedule:**

1	14 Jan 2015	Introduction to the Course	
2	21 Jan 2015	What is Economic Development?	<p>Banerjee, Abhijit (2008), "Big Answers for Big Questions: The Presumption of Growth Policy," Brookings Global Economy and Development Conference: "What Works in Development? Thinking Big and Thinking Small", available at: <a href="http://www.brookings.edu/~media/Events/2008/5/29%20global%20development/2008_banerjee.PDF">http://www.brookings.edu/~media/Events/2008/5/29%20global%20development/2008_banerjee.PDF</a></p> <p>Kar, Sabtasachi, Pritchett, Lant, Raihan, Selim and Kunal Sen (2013), "The Dynamics of Economic Growth: A Visual Handbook of Growth Rates, Regimes, Transitions and Volatility", The Effective States and Inclusive Development Research Centre, available at: <a href="http://www.effective-states.org/wp-content/uploads/other_publications/final-pdfs/handbook.pdf">http://www.effective-states.org/wp-content/uploads/other_publications/final-pdfs/handbook.pdf</a></p>
3	28 Jan 2015	The Impact of History on Economic Growth and Development	<p>Acemoglu, Daron, Simon Johnson and James Robinson (2001), "The Colonial Origins of Comparative Development: An Empirical Investigation" American Economic Review, vol. 91 (5) 1369-1401, available at: <a href="http://economics.mit.edu/files/4123">http://economics.mit.edu/files/4123</a></p> <p>Caselli, Francesco (2005), "Accounting for Cross-Country Income Differences," Handbook of Economic Growth, in: Philippe Aghion &amp; Steven Durlauf (ed.), Handbook of Economic Growth, edition 1, volume 1, chapter 9, pages 679-741, available at: <a href="http://www.nber.org/papers/w10828">http://www.nber.org/papers/w10828</a></p> <p>Comin, Diego, William Easterly, and Erick Gong (2010), "Was the Wealth of Nations Determined in 1000 B.C.?", American Economic Journal: Macroeconomics 2, p. 65-97, available at: <a href="http://www.hbs.edu/faculty/Publication%20Files/09-052.pdf">http://www.hbs.edu/faculty/Publication%20Files/09-052.pdf</a></p>
4	28 Jan 2015	The Rise (and Fall?) of the 'Washington	Williamson, John (1990), "What Washington Means by Policy Reform," Peterson Institute for International Economics drawn from Chapter 2 from Latin American Adjustment: How Much Has

		Consensus'	<p>Happened? Edited by John Williamson, available at:  <a href="http://www.iie.com/publications/papers/paper.cfm?researchid=486">http://www.iie.com/publications/papers/paper.cfm?researchid=486</a></p> <p>Hausmann, Ricardo, Rodrik, Dani and Andres Velasco (2005), "Growth Diagnostics", The Inter-American Development Bank, available at:  <a href="http://www6.iadb.org/WMSFiles/products/research/files/pubS-852.pdf">http://www6.iadb.org/WMSFiles/products/research/files/pubS-852.pdf</a></p> <p>De la Torre, Augusto and Felipe Valencia Caicedo (2010), "The Washington Consensus: Assessing a Damaged Brand," Center for Global Development Working Paper 213, available at:  <a href="http://www.cgdev.org/publication/washington-consensus-assessing-damaged-brand-working-paper-213">http://www.cgdev.org/publication/washington-consensus-assessing-damaged-brand-working-paper-213</a></p>
	By Midnight 1 Feb 2015 (Sunday)	Two-Page Factsheet on Chosen Country Due by Email to Prof. Ranii	
4	4 Feb 2015	The Rise of the Development and the Development 'Industry'	<p>Cowen, Michael and Robert Shenton (1995), "The Invention of Development," p. 27-43 in Jonathan Crush (ed), Power of Development. London and New York: Routledge.</p> <p>Cooper, Frederick (1997), "Modernizing Bureaucrats, Backward Africans, and the Development Concept," in Frederick Cooper and Randall Packard (eds), International Development and the Social Sciences. Berkeley: University of California Press, pp. 64-92.</p> <p>Radelet, Steven (2006), "A Primer on Foreign Aid," Washington, DC: Center for Global Development, available at:  <a href="http://www.cgdev.org/files/8846_file_WP92.pdf">http://www.cgdev.org/files/8846_file_WP92.pdf</a></p>
5	11 Feb 2015	Financial Services in the Developing World – Savings, Credit, Microfinance and Insurance	<p>De Mel, Suresh, David McKenzie, and Christopher Woodruff (2008), "Returns to Capital in Microenterprises: Evidence from a Field Experiment," Quarterly Journal of Economics, 123(4): 1329-1372, available at:  <a href="http://www.poverty-action.org/sites/default/files/qjereturns.pdf">http://www.poverty-action.org/sites/default/files/qjereturns.pdf</a></p> <p>Burgess, Robin and Rohini Pande (2005), "Do Rural Banks Matter? Evidence from the Indian Social Banking Experiment," American Economic Review, 95(3): 780-795, available at:  <a href="http://econ.lse.ac.uk/staff/rburgess/wp/aer.pdf">http://econ.lse.ac.uk/staff/rburgess/wp/aer.pdf</a></p> <p>Dupas, Pacaline and Jonathan Robinson (2012), "Why Don't the Poor Save More? Evidence from Health Savings Experiments," American Economic Review, forthcoming, available at:</p>

			<p><a href="http://web.stanford.edu/~pdupas/DupasRobinson_HealthSavings.pdf">http://web.stanford.edu/~pdupas/DupasRobinson_HealthSavings.pdf</a></p> <p>Jonathan Bauchet, Cristobal Marshall, Laura Starita, Jeanette Thomas, and Anna Yalouris (2011), "Latest Findings from Randomized Evaluations of Microfinance," Consultative Group to Assist the Poor (CGAP) Access to Finance Forum, No. 2, available at: <a href="http://www.financialaccess.org/sites/default/files/publications/latest-findings-from-randomized-evaluations-of-microfinance.pdf">http://www.financialaccess.org/sites/default/files/publications/latest-findings-from-randomized-evaluations-of-microfinance.pdf</a></p>
6	18 Feb 2015	Gender, the Household and Development	<p>Beaman, Lori, Raghendra Chattopadhyay, Esther Duflo, Rohini Pande and Petia Topalova (2009), "Powerful Women: Does Exposure Reduce Bias?" Quarterly Journal of Economics, Vol. 124(4): 1497-1540, available at: <a href="http://economics.mit.edu/files/3122">http://economics.mit.edu/files/3122</a></p> <p>Qian, Nancy (2008), "Missing Women and the Price of Tea in China: The Effect of Sex-specific Earnings on Sex Imbalance," Quarterly Journal of Economics, 123(3): 1251-1285, available at: <a href="http://home.wlu.edu/~smitkam/274/pdfs/Qian%20gender%20birth%20imbalance.pdf">http://home.wlu.edu/~smitkam/274/pdfs/Qian%20gender%20birth%20imbalance.pdf</a></p> <p>Pitt, Mark, Mark Rosenzweig, and Md. Nazmul Hassan (1990), "Productivity, Health and Inequality in the Intrahousehold Distribution of Food in Low-Income Countries," American Economic Review, 80(5), p. 1139-1156, available at: <a href="http://www.brown.edu/research/projects/pitt/sites/brown.edu.research.projects.pitt/files/uploads/pitt-Rosenzweig-Hassan.pdf">http://www.brown.edu/research/projects/pitt/sites/brown.edu.research.projects.pitt/files/uploads/pitt-Rosenzweig-Hassan.pdf</a></p>
7	25 Feb 2015	Impact of Health on Development Outcomes	<p>Jensen, Robert and Nolan Miller (2011), "Do Consumer Price Subsidies Really Improve Nutrition?" Review of Economics and Statistics, 93(4): 1205-1223, available at: <a href="http://cega.berkeley.edu/assets/cega_research_projects/49/Impact_of_Consumer_Price_Subsidies_on_Nutrition.pdf">http://cega.berkeley.edu/assets/cega_research_projects/49/Impact_of_Consumer_Price_Subsidies_on_Nutrition.pdf</a></p> <p>Kremer, Michael and Edward Miguel (2004), "Worms: Identifying Impacts on Education and Health in the Presence of Treatment Externalities," Econometrica, 72(1): 159-217, available at: <a href="http://cega.berkeley.edu/assets/cega_research_projects/1/Identifying-Impacts-on-Education-and-Health-in-the-Presence-of-Treatment-Externalities.pdf">http://cega.berkeley.edu/assets/cega_research_projects/1/Identifying-Impacts-on-Education-and-Health-in-the-Presence-of-Treatment-Externalities.pdf</a></p> <p>Das, Jishnu, Jeffrey Hammer and Kenneth Leonard (2008), "The Quality of Medical Advice in Low Income Countries," Journal of Economic Perspectives, 22(2): 93-114, available at: <a href="http://pubs.aeaweb.org/doi/pdfplus/10.1257/jep.22.2.93">http://pubs.aeaweb.org/doi/pdfplus/10.1257/jep.22.2.93</a></p> <p>Jayachandran, Seema and Rohini Pande (2013), "Why Are Indian Children Shorter Than African Children?" The New York Times,</p>

			published 8 August 2014, available at: <a href="http://www.nytimes.com/2014/08/10/opinion/sunday/the-youngest-are-hungriest.html">http://www.nytimes.com/2014/08/10/opinion/sunday/the-youngest-are-hungriest.html</a>
8	4 Mar 2015	Impact of Education on Development Outcomes	<p>Munshi, Kaivan and Mark Rosenzweig (2006), "Traditional Institutions Meet the Modern World: Caste, Gender, and Schooling Choice in a Globalizing Economy", <i>American Economic Review</i>, 96(4): 1225-1252, available at: <a href="http://www.econ.brown.edu/fac/Kaivan_Munshi/bombay12.pdf">http://www.econ.brown.edu/fac/Kaivan_Munshi/bombay12.pdf</a></p> <p>Jensen, Robert (2010), "The (Perceived) Return to Education and the Demand for Schooling", <i>Quarterly Journal of Economics</i>, 125(2): 515-548, available at: <a href="http://www.princeton.edu/rpds/seminars/spring-2008/Jensen_Perceived_Returns_Schooling.pdf">http://www.princeton.edu/rpds/seminars/spring-2008/Jensen_Perceived_Returns_Schooling.pdf</a></p> <p>Baird, Sarah, Craig McIntosh, and Berk Ozler (2011), "Cash or Condition? Evidence from a Cash Transfer Experiment", Policy Research Working Paper Series 5259, The World Bank, available at: <a href="http://www-wds.worldbank.org/servlet/WDSContentServer/WDSP/IB/2010/12/13/000158349_20101213164231/Rendered/PDF/WPS5259.pdf">http://www-wds.worldbank.org/servlet/WDSContentServer/WDSP/IB/2010/12/13/000158349_20101213164231/Rendered/PDF/WPS5259.pdf</a></p>
	11 Mar 2015	No Class (Spring Break)	
9	18 Mar 2015	Rights-Based Approach to Human Development, the MDGs and the SDGs	<p>Sen, Amartya (1999), <i>Development as Freedom</i>, New York: Anchor Books. Chapters 1 and 2 (p. 13-53).</p> <p>Kabeer, Naila (2006), "Poverty, Social Exclusion and the MDGs: The Challenge of 'Durable Inequalities' in the Asian Context." <i>IDS Bulletin</i>. 37:3:64-78, available at: <a href="http://www.eldis.org/vfile/upload/1/document/0708/DOC21178.pdf">http://www.eldis.org/vfile/upload/1/document/0708/DOC21178.pdf</a></p> <p>And also from the WDR 2015: How well do we understand poverty? <a href="http://www.worldbank.org/content/dam/Worldbank/Publications/WDR/WDR%202015/Spotlight-3.pdf">http://www.worldbank.org/content/dam/Worldbank/Publications/WDR/WDR%202015/Spotlight-3.pdf</a></p> <p>UN Millennium Development Goals: <a href="http://www.unmillenniumproject.org/goals/gti.htm">http://www.unmillenniumproject.org/goals/gti.htm</a></p> <p>Report of the Open Working Group on Sustainable Development Goals: <a href="http://www.un.org/ga/search/view_doc.asp?symbol=A/68/L.61&amp;Lang=E">http://www.un.org/ga/search/view_doc.asp?symbol=A/68/L.61&amp;Lang=E</a></p>
10	25 Mar 2015	Political Economy, Democracy,	Acemoglu, Daron, Simon Johnson and James Robinson (2005), "Institutions as the Fundamental Cause of Long-Run Growth", in Aghion and Durlauf, <i>Handbook of Economic Growth</i> , Chapter 6,

		Governance and Institutions	<p>available at: <a href="http://economics.mit.edu/files/4469">http://economics.mit.edu/files/4469</a></p> <p>Olken, Benjamin and Rohini Pande (2012), "Corruption in Developing Countries", Annual Review of Economics, available at: <a href="http://www.nber.org/papers/w17398.pdf">http://www.nber.org/papers/w17398.pdf</a></p> <p>Jones, Benjamin F., and Benjamin A. Olken (2005), "Do Leaders Matter? National Leadership and Growth since World War II." <i>Quarterly Journal of Economics</i>, 120(3): 835–64, available at: <a href="http://econ-www.mit.edu/files/2915">http://econ-www.mit.edu/files/2915</a></p> <p>World Bank (2014), "World Governance Indicators 2014", The World Bank Group, available at: <a href="http://info.worldbank.org/governance/wgi/index.aspx#home">http://info.worldbank.org/governance/wgi/index.aspx#home</a></p>
	By Midnight 29 Mar 2015 (Sunday)	First Draft of Research Paper Due by Email to Prof. Ranii	
11	1 Apr 2015	Development in Fragile and Conflict Affected Countries	<p>International Dialogue, "The New Deal for engagement in fragile states," (2011) <a href="http://www.newdeal4peace.org/wp-content/themes/newdeal/docs/new-deal-for-engagement-in-fragile-states-en.pdf">http://www.newdeal4peace.org/wp-content/themes/newdeal/docs/new-deal-for-engagement-in-fragile-states-en.pdf</a></p> <p>The World Bank (2011), "World Development Report 2011: Conflict, Security and Development", Read "Overview", "Practical country directions and options" and "New directions for international support" chapters, available at: <a href="http://siteresources.worldbank.org/INTWDRS/Resources/WDR2011_Full_Text.pdf">http://siteresources.worldbank.org/INTWDRS/Resources/WDR2011_Full_Text.pdf</a></p>
	8 Apr 2015	No Class - Individual Meetings on Research Paper Feedback	
12	15 Apr 2015	Aid Effectiveness	<p>Paris Declaration on Aid Effectiveness and the Accra Agenda for Action (2005), available at: <a href="http://www.oecd.org/dac/effectiveness/34428351.pdf">http://www.oecd.org/dac/effectiveness/34428351.pdf</a></p> <p>4<sup>th</sup> High Level Forum on Aid Effectiveness, Busan Partnership for Effective Development Co-operation (2011), available at: <a href="http://www.oecd.org/development/effectiveness/49650173.pdf">http://www.oecd.org/development/effectiveness/49650173.pdf</a></p> <p>Easterly, William (2007), "The White Man's Burden: Why the West's</p>



			<p>Efforts to Aid the Rest Have Done So Much Ill and So Little Good”, Penguin Books, pages to be assigned.</p> <p>Sachs, Jeffrey (2005), “The End of Poverty: Economic Possibilities for Our Time,” Penguin Books, pages to be assigned.</p> <p>Moyo, Dambisa (2009), “Dead Aid: Why Aid Is Not Working and How There Is a Better Way for Africa,” Farrar, Straus and Giroux, pages to be assigned.</p>
13	22 Apr 2015	Thinking Small: Data and Evidence From Random Control Trials in Economic Development	<p>Cohen, Jessica and William Easterly, Editors (2009), “What Works in Development? Thinking Big and Thinking Small”, Brookings Institution Press: Washington DC, available at: <a href="http://www.brookings.edu/~media/press/books/2009/whatworksindevelopment/whatworksindevelopment_chapter.pdf">http://www.brookings.edu/~media/press/books/2009/whatworksindevelopment/whatworksindevelopment_chapter.pdf</a></p> <p>Banerjee, Abhijit, and Esther Duflo (2006), “Economic Lives of the Poor”, Journal of Economic Perspectives, 21(1), p. 141-167, available at: <a href="http://economics.mit.edu/files/530">http://economics.mit.edu/files/530</a></p> <p>Banerjee, Abhijit, and Esther Duflo (2008), “What is Middle Class About the Middle Classes Around the World?” Journal of Economic Perspectives, 22(4), p. 3-28, available at: <a href="http://economics.mit.edu/files/2081">http://economics.mit.edu/files/2081</a></p>
	By Midnight 26 Apr 2015 (Sunday)	Final Research Paper Due by Email to Prof. Ranii	
14	29 Apr 2015	Student End of Class Presentations on Final Papers	