

BUTTE COLLEGE

COURSE OUTLINE

I. CATALOG DESCRIPTION

POS 14 - Politics of Third World Nations

3 Unit(s)

Prerequisite(s): NONE

Recommended Prep: Reading Level V; English Level IV

Transfer Status: CSU/UC

51 hours Lecture

The political dynamics of selected Third World nations are examined in this course. Major emphasis will be on problems of poverty, colonialism, comparative political structures and behavior, imperialism, and international relations. This course will also focus on tensions in the political culture between traditional and non-traditional values in contemporary Third World societies.

II. OBJECTIVES

Upon successful completion of this course, the student will be able to:

- A. recognize how political institutions in selected Third World countries operate. In addition, students will examine ethnocentrism and the significance of cultural relativism in evaluating the governments of Third World countries.
- B. explain the process of socialization, citizens' attitudes toward government, political behavior, political culture, and their interaction with political processes and institutions.
- C. differentiate the features of revolutionary movements in Third World countries. Students will also examine how persons involved in revolutionary movements engage government leaders to effect changes in society.
- D. classify political systems in Third World countries.

III. COURSE CONTENT

A. Unit Titles/Suggested Time Schedule

Lecture	
<u>Topics</u>	<u>Hours</u>
1. Describe the Third World	3.00
2. The Shape of the Third World	3.00
3. The Crisis of the Third World	3.00
4. The Economic Context	3.00
5. The Social Context	3.00
6. The Cultural Context	3.00
7. State-Building	4.00
8. Democratization	4.00
9. The Armed Forces and Politics	3.00
10. The International Dimension	4.00
11. The Right to Development	4.00
12. Women and Development	6.00
13. Environmental Issues	4.00
14. Modernization in Asia; The Decline of Africa; The Deindustrialization of Europe; and The Future of the Pacific Rim	4.00
Total Hours	51.00

IV. METHODS OF INSTRUCTION

- A. Lecture
- B. Guest Speakers
- C. Homework: Students are required to complete two hours of outside-of-class homework for each hour of lecture
- D. Discussion
- E. Multimedia Presentations

V. METHODS OF EVALUATION

- A. Exams/Tests
- B. Quizzes
- C. Class participation
- D. There will be writing assignments totaling at least 2500 words

VI. EXAMPLES OF ASSIGNMENTS

- A. Reading Assignments
 - 1. Read the article passed out in class that deals with how political scientists classify modern nation states. In your discussion, focus on the limitations of the definitions given in the article. Propose a better system of categories for defining modern nation types.
 - 2. Read the article “Emerging Brazil.” Be prepared to discuss this article in class. What is the current nature of the Brazilian political system. Discuss how certain commodities exported from Brazil are giving Brazil a higher profile in international politics.
- B. Writing Assignments
 - 1. Write a three page essay focusing on semantic problems regarding how overly simplistic categories for modern nation states influences our views of various countries. Focus especially on the label “Third World;” why is this term problematic.
 - 2. 2.) Write a short three page essay focusing on problems associated with the “Fourth World,” (indigenous societies). Why, in discussions of “third world” countries (keeping in mind problems with the term “Third World”) are indigenous societies often left out?
- C. Out-of-Class Assignments
 - 1. Attend the panel discussion (on campus) made up of students from Pakistan. Be able to discuss their views on U.S. involvement in Pakistani internal affairs (e.g. U.S. forces killing Osama Bin Laden, or U.S. war drones working across the Afghanistan border into Pakistani territory).
 - 2. Watch the Documentary (Nova) on politics in the Philippines. How has the political system changed in the Philippines since Marcos was driven from office.

VII. RECOMMENDED MATERIALS OF INSTRUCTION

Textbooks:

- A. Calvert, Peter and Calvert, Susan. Politics and Society in the Third World. Longman, 2008.
- B. Sen, Amartya. Development of Freedom. Random House, 2000.
- C. Borstmann, Thomas. The Cold War and the Color Line: American Race Relations in the Global Arena. Harvard University Press, 2003.