

PSCI 116

Political Change in the Third World

Sumitra Badrinathan

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- No OH next week (email me to meet)

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Class requirements

- Midterm (20%)
- Take-home paper (30%)
- Final (40%)
- **Recitation (10%)**

Recitation

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- But simply attending without participating = no higher than C

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- ➎ Identify the key arguments
- ➏ What kind of evidence is used to back the claims made?
- ➐ Did the author convince you? What would you have done differently?

Understanding Third World Politics, Smith 1997

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- ④ South v. North
 - Implies all southern countries are poor; no poor countries in north
 - “A non-existent geographical solidarity”

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- Third World has changed since these early versions of solidarity
 - Not a uniform, stagnant mass devoid of distinct character

Moral Economy of the Peasant, Scott 1976

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Who is the author?

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What are they writing about?

- First chapter of a larger book volume
- Book is a survey of the economic/political tensions in peasant communities of Burma and Vietnam during the 1930s

Moral Economy of the Peasant, Scott 1976

Subsistence ethic

- Peasant families are subsistence-oriented
- Units of production as well as consumption
- Struggle for a subsistence minimum

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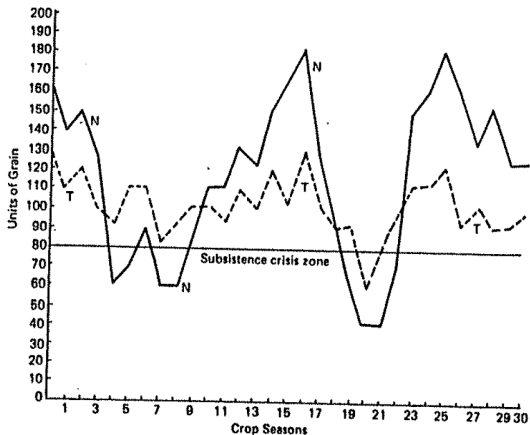
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Safety First Principle

- Minimizing the probability of having a disaster rather than maximizing average return
- Ruling out strategies that could increase income but could jeopardize subsistence by risk

Moral Economy of the Peasant, Scott 1976

Figure: Safety First Principle (p.18)



Moral Economy of the Peasant, Scott 1976

Figure: Extraction and Exploitation (p.30)

