INTRODUCTION TO POLITICAL ECONOMY: 82905-008-01

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CLASS MEETS:    TTH.  12:40 – 2:00 P.M.
CLASS ROOM:     DGH., ROOM: 125
OFFICE:                 HC, ROOM: 530
OFFICE HOURS:  TTH. 9:00 a.m.-12:00 noon and by Appointment

COURSE DESCRIPTION:

This course introduces the student to understanding of the interrelationship between the political process and the economic process, involving the production, distribution and consumption of goods and services. The course also offers a discussion of the basic theoretical approaches which attempt to explain the inter-relationship both within and between societies divided into classes, ethnic or religious groups.

REQUIRED TEXTBOOKS


Today’s Globalization, Project South, (Atlanta. GA: Institute for the Elimination of Poverty and Genocide, Winter 2000).* This Text is Available in the Department of Sociology, Room 205, Howard University.

RECOMMENDED READINGS


COURSE REQUIREMENTS

Students are expected to be familiar with the appropriate readings for this course, and do their reading assignments before coming to class. Each student will be required to do a special study of political economy of one Country for their term paper. There will be a class oral presentation before the final term paper is submitted. The term paper of five pages, minimum and 10 pages, maximum typed and double-spaced with footnotes. The topic for the term paper should be chosen from the attached topics. Term paper to be submitted on Tuesday December 2, 2003. Late paper shall not be accepted.

*Final examination is Thursday December 4, 2003 12:40 – 2:00p.m.

CLASS ATTENDANCE

Students are expected to attend classes regularly and actively participate in class discussions. Students are advised that all examinations will be comprised of both readings assignments and all materials covered in class lectures during the semester. Very important, class attendance will be taken into consideration in the final grading process, therefore, students are strongly advised to attend classes regularly. Students who are absent from the class will be held responsible for materials they might have missed by their absence. Unjustified/undocumented absence or late arrivals to classes will lead up to 10 points being deducted from the final grade.

TESTS AND GRADING SYSTEM

1. Class attendance and participation -------------------------------------------------------------10%
2. First Test (Thursday Sept. 18, 2003; 12:40 - 2:00) -------------------------------------------10%
3. Mid-term Exam. (Thursday Oct. 16, 2003; 12:40- 2:00p.m) ----------------------------------20%
4. Critical review of chapters III & VI of Walter Rodney, two to five pages typed double spaced. (Due on November 23, 2003; 12:40 p.m.)----------------------------------------10%
5. (Term paper due on Dec. 2, 2003) -----------------------------------------------------------20%
6. Final Examination (Thursday Dec. 4, 2003; 12:40 – 2:00p.m.)-----------------------------30%

GRADES
90 - 100-A
80 - 89-B
70 - 79-C
60 - 69-D
50 - 59-F

2.
COURSE OUTLINE

1. Introduction
   Politics, Economics, and Political Economy
   A. Politics and Economics
   B. The Market as an Economic Institution
   C. The Market as a Political Institution
   D. Government as a Political Institution
   E. Government as an Economic Institution
   F. The Political Economy

2. The History of Political Economy
   A. Origins of Political Economy
   B. Classical Political Economy
   C. The Radical Perspective
   D. The Conservative Perspective
   E. Neo-classical Economics
   F. Modern Political Economy

3. The Classical Liberal Perspective
4. The Radical Perspective
5. The Conservative Perspective
6. The Modern Liberal Perspective
7. Government and the Market
8. Inflation and Unemployment
9. Poverty and Inequality
Film: Hear Our Voices: The Poor on Poverty
Film: Global Village or Global Pillage?
10. Labor and Industry
11. Minorities and Discrimination
12. The Political Economy of Gender
13. Education and Culture
14. Pollution and the environment
15. International Trade and Development

3.
AFRICA COUNTRIES

Angola
Benin Republic
Botswana
Burkina Faso
Burundi
Cameroon
Cape Verde
Central African Republic
Chad
Comoro Islands
Congo Republic (former Zaire)
Democratic Republic of Congo
Cote d'Ivoire (Ivory Coast)
Djibouti
Equatorial Guinea
Eritrea
Ethiopia
Gabon
The Gambia
Ghana
Guinea
Guinea-Bissau
Kenya
Lesotho
Liberia
Madagascar
Malawi
Mali
Mauritania
Mauritius
Mozambique
Namibia
Niger
Nigeria
Rwanda
Sao Tome and Principe
Senegal
Seychelles
Sierra Leone
Somalia
South Africa
Sudan
Swaziland
Tanzania
Togo
Uganda
Zambia
Zimbabwe
Algeria
Egypt
Libya
Morocco
Tunisia

OTHER THIRD WORLD COUNTRIES

Brazil
Cuba
Argentina
Chile
Jamaica
Mexico
Venezuela
Bangladesh
India
China
Malaysia
Pakistan
Philippines
Saudi Arabia
South Korea
Taiwan

SOME INDUSTRIALIZED/DEVELOPED COUNTRIES

Britain
Canada
France
Germany
Italy
Japan
Sweden
Switzerland
Russia

5.
REGIONAL AND INTERNATIONAL ECONOMIC ORGANIZATIONS

African Development Bank (ADB)
Arab Bank for Economic Development in Africa (ABEDA)
African American Economic Empowerment
Caribbean Economic Community (CARICOM)
Economic Community of West African States (ECOWAS)
European Economic Community (EEC) now simply call European Union (EU)
North American Free Trade Area (NAFTA)
Organization of Petroleum Exporting Countries (OPEC)
Southern African Development Community (SADC)
International Monetary Fund (IMF) and World Bank

SOME USEFUL WEB SITES ON POLITICAL ECONOMY

Information from different sources and on different countries with relevant information related to the World Bank.

**International Finance Corporation at http://www.ifc.org**
This is one of the World Bank Group organizations that is responsible for promoting private sector investment in developing countries, to reduce poverty and improve people’s lives.

These are detailed and comprehensive analysis of political, economic and social issues of each African country/and regions.

**Africa Policy Information Center, now Africa Action at http://www.africapolict.org**
Analyzes and publishes policy relevant information related to the U.S. role in Africa, bringing to light perspectives from grassroots organizations and government entities.

**African News on Line at http://www.africanews.org/**
is the one-top source for up-to-date information on all of Africa; news from more than 60 different sources. New stories and news are added daily. Pick any country in Africa or topical news section or visit a region within the continent of Africa. It covers all aspects of Africa.

+++NOTE:
You can choose any of these countries or any of the Regional and International Organizations for your term/research paper

6.