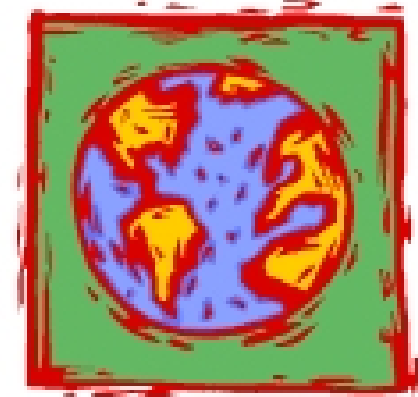


CST 251: Introduction to the Third World
Fall Quarter 2007
M,W,F: 8:30-9:35am
401 Millett Hall

Instructor: Dr. Laura M. Luehrmann
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Office Hours: Mondays 2:45-4:00pm;
Wednesdays 10:00-11:15am; *and* by appointment



Course Description:

In our increasingly interdependent world, it is becoming more important than ever to understand other cultures and societies. The purpose of CST 251 is to introduce students to the social, economic and political systems of the so-called “Third World.” Facing much diversity in this huge sub-section of the world’s population, we will focus on eight case studies, concentrating our analysis on a discussion of the historical background, economic conditions, contemporary issues and international relations of Peru, Mexico, Nigeria, Zimbabwe, Iran, Turkey, China and Indonesia. Students will sharpen their critical thinking skills through a consideration of contending theories explaining various social, political and economic aspects of the non-Western world.

Course Materials: There is one required text for the course:

December Green and Laura Luehrmann (2007), *Comparative Politics of the Third World: Linking Concepts and Cases* (please note: Second Edition) (Lynne Rienner Publishers).

Additional reading will assist students in following international affairs through news sources from the developing world.

Students will also be required to participate in the classroom studio for CST 251, available on the University’s WINGS portal (<http://wings.wright.edu>). After entering your WSU username and password, go to the “**Academics**” Tab and then find “**Academic and Student Services.**” After you click on “**Access my Courses,**” you will find each of your WSU courses. Click on “CST 251” to open our course studio. The instructor will post review guides, internet links, handouts and other important material to the Course Studio. Prior to each exam, virtual office hours will also be made available through this service. In order to use WINGS, *students must use their Wright State University e-mail account.* For questions about your WSU account, password, etc., please contact Computing and Telecommunications Services (CATS) at 775-4827.

Student Responsibilities:

Attendance, Readings and Participation:

In order to promote an environment conducive to learning, it is critical that students refrain from personal conversation during classroom time. Please arrive on time and stay for the duration of the class meeting. Students should complete all readings prior to the class session for which they are assigned. Cell phones and beepers must be turned off once class begins.

Regular attendance, reading and participation are **essential** for your success in this course. If you must miss a class, it is up to you to receive the lecture notes from another student, and to take upon yourself the responsibility of finding out any changes made in the schedule for class readings, exams, or assignments. Students will be encouraged to actively participate in this course, especially during classroom discussion time. We will begin each class period with discussion of current events in the Third World. (By the way, attendance is a necessary but insufficient portion of your participation grade: it is hard to participate if you are not in class! ☺) Students with more than 4 unexcused absences will receive a zero for the participation portion of the final grade.

Note: Please do not wait until the end of the quarter to voice concerns about your performance or understanding of the material. There will be ample time provided during our class meetings for students to ask questions and clarify any points of confusion. Additionally, students are encouraged to “stop by” during office hours (no appointment necessary). To make an appointment outside of office hours, please e-mail the professor.

Exams:

There are three exams in the course: students will be responsible for information from the readings, lectures, Course Studio materials and class discussion. Exams will be a mix of multiple choice, true-false, and short essay questions. Make-up exams will be administered only with acceptable documentation. Please note that the final exam time is set by the university and **this date can not be changed**. Students need to arrange their travel commitments accordingly.

Writing Assignments:

As a way to help students understand the material and integrate it into their own views and understandings, students will need to complete brief (2-3 pages) writing assignments based upon the readings and current media materials. Items posted in the Course Studio will provide resources for this work. Assignments will be distributed (unannounced) throughout the quarter. In all there will be **five assignments**, and each student is required to complete **three** of them. They are due at the beginning of class on the date announced in each assignment: late writing assignments and e-mail submissions will **not be accepted**. Students with excused university absences need to meet with the professor in advance of the absence in order to facilitate the timely completion of these assignments.

Writing assignments need to be thoughtfully prepared – they require careful consideration and reflection. **Any sources used for these papers (including internet-based newspapers and other web sites) must be acknowledged in a list of “sources cited” for each paper.** Be sure to organize your assignment and present it in a professional manner – this includes, *at a minimum*, using the spell check and grammar check services available on word processing programs. The University Writing Center (031 Dunbar Library -- 775-4186)

provides high quality, free assistance to all Wright State students. Take advantage of these programs designed to help you!