DESCRIPTION:

This course is more appropriately titled “The Politics of Market Economic Reforms in New Democracies”. Over the last two decades, many countries in the developing world have undergone democratization and sweeping neo-liberal market reforms. The latter include privatization of firms and social services, trade liberalization, and labor market deregulation. The course will be oriented around the following questions: what factors affect popular support for market economic reforms in new democracies? Secondly, do economic and political reforms compliment each other or work at cross purposes? Finally, does increasing reliance on the market endanger attempts to consolidate fragile democratic institutions?

GOALS:

Our goal is to study the political and institutional logic of market based neo-liberal economic reforms in the new democracies of Latin America, Eastern Europe and East Asia. Particular emphasis is placed on questions of sequencing: do democratic governments face more opposition to particular reforms? Are reforms in certain issue areas more politically feasible? Drawing on a rapidly expanding literature on the subject, we will investigate the causes and consequences of privatization, trade and capital liberalization and (labor) market deregulation in new democracies. Our goal will be to weigh in on important debates in the field of comparative politics pertaining to the feasibility and resilience of neo-liberal economic reforms.

TEXTs:


http://150.108.4.35/uhtbin/cgisirsi.exe/k1Kl6Dkb0e/ROSEHILL/293660005/60/502/X.

RESOURCES:

(A) **books**: the above list of texts are available for purchase at the Fordham University bookstore and on reserve at Walsh library.

(B) **Articles**: All articles are available online through ERes (http://reserves.library.fordham.edu/eres/). Go to the main ERes page and search for POGA 6569. Under “password” type “bronx”. Readings not available online will be made available through Blackboard. This is a web-based platform used to administer course announcements, grades, and additional course materials. Each student must obtain a blackboard account (directions attached).

(C) **special assistance**: students with disabilities or in need of additional assistance should contact the instructor at the beginning of the semester to allow for coordination of assistance with the Office of Disability Services (ODS).

EVALUATION

1) **Attendance and participation:**

   The course will rely heavily on student participation. Students are expected to attend class having done the readings in advance and ready to participate with questions and comments. In addition, each student will be assigned one or more of the readings and required to summarize/critique them.

**OPTION A**

2a) **Research Paper: (60%)**

   Students have the option of writing a 15-20 page paper on a topic of their choice. A summary of your topic is due November 7. An outline and preliminary bibliography is due on November 21. The paper itself will be due December 5. The paper should not be merely a literature review, but an attempt to engage an outstanding theoretical question. Some possibilities include a case study analytical paper, a two-way comparison, or a cross-national analysis.

OR

**OPTION B**

2b) **Class Papers: (60%)**

   Students who choose this option will be responsible for writing 2 short papers (around 8 to 10 pages each) on questions pertaining to the course. You will be responsible for formulating the topic of each paper. As with Option A, it is important that the paper be self-consciously theoretical – that is, it should make an argument rather than merely summarize the readings or give descriptive background. (I am available to discuss potential paper topics.)
The first paper will be due on October 17. The second paper will be due on December 5.

3) Final Exam: (40%)

The final exam will be a short take home essay. I will hand out the question on December 5 and the answer will be due by December 12.

COURSE SCHEDULE:

September 5 (WEEK 1): INTRODUCTION (no readings)

September 12 (WEEK 2): CONTEMPORARY DEMOCRACY: AN INTRODUCTION

- Przeworski, Prologue, Chapter 1
- Barbara Geddes, “What Do We Know About Democratization After Twenty Years?” *Annual Reviews of Political Science* 2(1) (1999), pp. 115-144.

September 19 (WEEK 3): THE THIRD WAVE OF DEMOCRATIZATION

- Przeworski, Chapter 2.

September 26 (WEEK 4): DEMOCRACY AND THE MARKET


October 3 (WEEK 5): MARKET ECONOMIC REFORMS IN NEW DEMOCRACIES

• Przeworski, Prologue, Chapter 3.


October 10 (WEEK 6): TRADE AND CAPITAL LIBERALIZATION


• Rafael Reuveny and Quan Li, “Economic Openness, Democracy, and Income Inequality,” *Comparative Political Studies* 36:5 (June 2003), pp. 575-601.


October 17 (WEEK 7): STRUCTURAL ADJUSTMENT AND PRIVATIZATION


October 24 (WEEK 8): LABOR MARKET REFORMS


October 31 (WEEK 9): LABOR MARKET REFORMS (CONT'D)

- Cook 2007

November 7 (WEEK 10): SOCIAL SECURITY AND WELFARE REFORMS


November 14 (WEEK 11): REDISTRIBUTIVE POLITICS IN THE GLOBAL ECONOMY
• Edwards and Lustig, chapters 1-3.


**November 21 (WEEK 12): DEMOCRACY, INEQUALITY, AND GLOBALIZATION**


**November 28 (WEEK 13): THE CHALLENGE OF POVERTY**


• Mick Moore and Howard White, “Meeting the Challenge of Poverty and Inequality,” in Atul Kohli, Chung-in Moon and Georg Sørensen (eds.), pp. 64-94.


**December 5 (WEEK 4): THE FUTURE OF THE THIRD WAVE**


• Carsten Q. Schneider and Philippe C. Schmitter, “Liberalization, Transition, and
Consolidation: Measuring the Components of Democratization, ”