

# Andrews University

**PLSC 437**  
**TOPICS: POLITICS IN DEVELOPING COUNTRIES**  
**CREDITS: 3.0**

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## **Instructor Contact**

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## **Course Description:**

This course provides an overview of the politics of developing countries and aims to facilitate students' understanding of variations across countries in political and economic outcomes. The course examines the colonial and post-colonial development, relationship of the state and society, the nature of fragile and strong states, human rights and policy issues facing developing nations. We draw on examples from Latin American, Asia, Africa and the Middle East.

## **Course Objectives:**

Students will gain an understanding of the forces that contribute to economic and political development. They will be able to understand the importance of cultural and societal forces shaping political institutions and policies in developing countries.

## **Course Materials: May include, but not limited to, the following:**

Burnell, Peter, Lise Rakner, and Vicky Randall. *Politics in the Developing World*, 4<sup>th</sup> edition. Oxford University Press, 2014. ISBN 978-0-19-966600-3.

**Grading:** Grades will follow the A-B-C-D-F according to the scale below and will not be curved. Passing grade in this course is 60 percent (D). Course requirements can include any combination of the following: discussion and quizzes; exams; and paper.

Letter Grade	Percentage
A	94-100%
A-	90-93%
B+	86-89%
B	83-85%
B-	80-82%
C+	76-79%
C	71-75%
C-	68-70%
D	60-67%
F	0-60%

Grades will be distributed in the following manner:

Exams: 50%

Research: 50%

**Attendance Policy:** Attendance is required. Unexcused absences will affect grade—2 will reduce student grade one letter; 4 will result in automatic failure.

### **Class Policies:**

**Student Responsibility:** Email is the official form of communication at Andrews University. Students are responsible for checking their Andrews University email, Moodle, and iVue alerts regularly.

**Professionalism:** To prepare students for the professional world, certain behaviors/activities are not allowed in the classroom.

- Cell Phones, Personal Laptops, and Recording devices: **Cell phones should be turned off before entering the classroom.** Students who choose to text during class will be marked absent for the day. Picture-taking during class is not allowed. Recording devices are allowed only if pre-approved by instructor, and if approved, under no circumstance are recordings—visual or verbal—to be posted on a public website.
- Laptops should not be used for surfing the web or watching movies during class. It is disrespectful and unprofessional to use these devices inappropriately during class.
- Late Assignments are unacceptable unless prearranged with instructor.
- Tardiness; is disruptive and disrespectful to the class and instructor.
- Eating in class: Please do not bring food or beverages to class. Water is permitted.

**Additional Policies:** CHEATING in any form (including plagiarism) is not allowed. Plagiarism is a serious matter and cause for an F in the course. Cheating, plagiarism, or doing work for another person which will receive academic credit are all impermissible. This includes the use of unauthorized books, notebooks, or other sources in order to secure or give help during an examination, the unauthorized copying of examinations, assignments, reports, or term papers, or the presentation of unacknowledged material as if it were the student's own work.

### **Disability Accommodations:**

If you qualify for accommodation under the American Disabilities Act, please contact Student Success in Nethery Hall 100 ([disabilities@andrews.edu](mailto:disabilities@andrews.edu) or 269-471-6096) as soon as possible so that accommodations can be arranged.

### **Academic Integrity:**

In harmony with the mission statement, Andrews University expects that students will demonstrate the ability to think clearly for themselves and exhibit personal and moral integrity in every sphere of life. Thus, students are expected to display honesty in all academic matters.

Academic dishonesty includes (but is not limited to) the following acts:

- Falsifying or presenting falsified documents
- Plagiarizing
- Misusing copyrighted material and/or violating licensing agreements
- Using media from any source or device including the internet in ways that mislead, deceive, or defraud
- Presenting another person's work as one's own
- Using materials other than those specifically allowed by the teacher or program during a quiz or examination
- Stealing, accepting, or studying from stolen quizzes or examination materials
- Obtaining information from another student or any other source during a regular or take home test or quiz
- Assisting others in acts of academic dishonesty such as falsifying attendance records or providing unauthorized course materials"

### **Emergency Protocol:**

Andrews University takes the safety of its student seriously. Signs identifying emergency protocol are posted throughout buildings. Instructors will provide guidance and direction to students in the classroom in the event of an emergency affecting that specific location. It is important that you follow these instructions and stay with your instructor during any evacuation or sheltering emergency.

### **Research Paper:**

Students will write a research paper. Papers should be a minimum of 15 pages in length, double-spaced, Times New Roman 12 pt. font, using the Chicago bibliographic citation style. Students will use footnotes or endnotes and include a bibliography.

Each student will choose a developing country and write a research paper about the politics of that country. Papers must include a brief history of the country and its political history; describe the current demographics, resources and governing structures of the country.

### **Exams:**

Exams are based on assigned reading, class discussions and lectures. Exams will be short answer and/or essay.

<b>Date</b>	<b>Readings</b>	<b>Assignments</b>
Aug. 24 & 26	Brunell et al. Chapter 1 <i>Changing Analytical Approaches</i> Chapter 2 <i>Colonialism and Post-Colonial Development</i>	Discuss research country
Aug. 31 & Sept. 2	Brunell at al. Chapter 3 <i>Institutional Perspectives</i> ; Chapter 4 <i>The Developing World in the Global Economy</i> ; Chapter 5 <i>The Developing World in International Politics</i>	
Sept. 9	Brunell at al. Chapter 6 <i>Inequality</i> ; Chapter 7 <i>Ethnopolitics and Nationalism</i>	Choose research country
Sept. 14	Brunell at al. Chapter 8 <i>Religion</i> ; Chapter 9 <i>Women and Gender</i>	
Sept. 21 & 23	Brunell at al. Chapter 10 <i>Civil Society</i> ; Chapter 11 <i>Social Movements and Alternative Politics</i>	Sept. 23: Submit working bibliography
Sept. 28 & 30	Brunell at al. Chapter 12 <i>Theorizing the State</i> ; Chapter 13 <i>Violent Conflict and Intervention</i>	
Oct. 5 & 7	Brunell at al. Chapter 14 <i>Democratization</i> ; Chapter 15 <i>Governance</i>	Oct. 7: Submit Outline
Oct. 14	<b>Mid-term Exam Oct. 14</b>	
Oct. 19 & 21	Brunell at al. Chapter 16 <i>Development</i> ; Chapter 17 <i>Environment</i>	
Oct. 26 & 28	Brunell at al. Chapter 18 <i>Human Rights</i> ; Chapter 19 <i>Security</i>	
Nov. 2 & 4	Brunell at al. Chapter 20 <i>Pakistan</i> ; Chapter 21 <i>Indonesia</i>	Nov. 4: turn in rough draft
Nov. 9 & 11	Brunell at al. Chapter 22 <i>Iraq</i> ; Chapter 23 <i>Mexico</i> ; Chapter 24 <i>South Korea</i>	
Nov. 16 & 19	Brunell at al. Chapter 25 <i>Nigeria</i> ; Chapter 26 <i>Guatemala</i>	
Nov. 23		
Nov. 30 & Dec. 2	Brunell at al. Chapter 27 <i>Brazil as a Global Player</i> ; Chapter 28 <i>China and the Developing World</i> ; Chapter 29 <i>India as a 'Post-Colonial' Development Partner</i>	Dec. 2: Turn in final draft