

EAS 302: Dilemmas of Development in Asia

Professors David Leheny (Princeton University) and Jin Sato (University of Tokyo)
MW, 2:30-3:20, Frist 302

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Cascading from Japan's economic miracle, through Korea's high-speed/high-tech industrialization, the rise of the Southeast Asian "tiger" economies, and most dramatically the emergence of China as a global economic superpower, East Asian development has been arguably the most important social, economic, and political phenomenon of the past half century. It has posed, and continues to pose, monumental challenges. These have included intellectual debates over the proper means and methods to develop an economy. There are continuing cultural struggles within nations facing dramatic shifts in wealth and democracy. Political systems have strained to capitalize on and contain the outcomes of economic transformation. The natural environment has been profoundly reshaped by resource use and industrial production. Asia is now the fastest aging region in the world. And ordinary citizens contend with changing expectations and opportunities, including insecurity about employment and hopes for their children's education and future.

In this course, we survey some of the dilemmas facing the countries of East and Southeast Asia, drawing attention to the myriad connections between economic growth and political, social, cultural, and environmental transformation. We will not only highlight apparent dilemmas of development, such as balancing economic growth with environmental protection, but will also aim to build critical skills that will allow us to tease out dilemmas even in those situations when they might not be expected. This is neither a "how-to" course nor a lament for the unspoiled days before development. It is rather an opportunity ask foundational and critical questions about what development has meant and will continue to mean, particularly in Asia.

Books for purchase:

- E.F. Schumacher, *Small Is Beautiful: Economics as if People Mattered* (Harper Reprint, 2010).
- Leslie Chang, *Factory Girls: From Village to City in a Changing China* (New York: Spiegel and Grau, 2009 reprint).

Readings and Films Readings and films are available on Blackboard.

Evaluation:

Grading will be based on the following assignments: a research paper (40%, broken into 10% for the prospectus and 30% for the final paper), a midterm exam (20%), final exam (25%), and precept participation (15%).

Research Paper:

The paper assignment is designed to allow each student the opportunity to pursue rigorous and focused research on a topic of interest to him or her. Detailed instructions will be provided in the

second week of class, but each paper (8-10 pp.) should engage a specific developmental challenge or dilemma in Asia — which we will define primarily as East, Southeast, and South Asia — and should ask an interesting question that can be answered or at least approached through research. Topics must be chosen in consultation with your preceptor, though you are of course free to contact any of the course instructors and preceptors in their office hours if you are looking for advice and feedback. Each student must identify his or her research question and research plans for the paper in a 2-pp. prospectus due on February 24.

Organization of Class

Feb. 3 Intro

Theorizing Development, Methods, and Consequences

Feb. 5 – Framing Development

- Lohmann, L. 1998. “Missing the Point of Development Talk,” *The Corner Stone Briefing Report No. 9*. Available at: <http://www.thecornerhouse.org.uk/resource/missing-point-development-talk>
- James C. Scott, “Hill and Valley in Southeast Asia...or Why the State is the Enemy of People who Move Around...or...Why Civilizations Can’t Climb Hills,” in *The Concept of Indigenous Peoples in Asia* (Transaction Publishers, 2008), pp. 161-182.

Feb. 10: Debates About What Development Actually Means

- Stacy Leigh Pigg, “Inventing Social Categories through Place: Social Representations and Development in Nepal,” *Comparative Studies in Society and History* 34:3 (Jul. 1992), pp. 491-513.
- Christine J. Walley, “Our Ancestors Used to Bury their ‘Development’ in the Ground: Modernity and the Meanings of Development within a Tanzanian Marine Park,” *Anthropological Quarterly* 76:1 (Winter 2003), pp. 33-54.

Feb. 12: Asian Development and Democracy

- Ha-Joon Chang, Hong-Jae Park and Chul Gyue Yoo, “Interpreting the Korean Crisis: Financial Liberalisation, Industrial Policy and Corporate Governance,” *Cambridge Journal of Economics* 22 (1998), pp. 735-746.
- Mark R Thompson, “Pacific Asia After ‘Asian Values’: Authoritarianism, Democracy, and ‘Good Governance,’” *Third World Quarterly* 25:6 (2004), pp. 1079-1095.
- Amartya Sen, “Democracy: The Only Way out of Poverty,” *New Perspectives Quarterly* 17:1 (Winter 2000), pp. 28-30.

The Political and Economic Foundations of Development

Feb. 17: The Division of Labor

- Adam Smith *An Inquiry into the Nature and Causes of the Wealth of Nations* (1776), Ch.1 “Of the Division of Labor,” Ch.2 “Of the Principle which gives Occasion to the Division of Labor,” Ch.3 “That the Division of Labor is Limited by the Extent of the Market,” pp. 7-25.
- E.F. Schumacher. *Small is Beautiful: A Study of Economics as if People Mattered*, pp. 13-80, 181-201.

Feb. 19: Simplification and Standardization

- James C. Scott, "State Simplification," in Robert Goodin and Philip Pettit, eds. *Contemporary Political Philosophy: An Anthology* (2nd edition) (Blackwell Publishing), pp. 26-54.
- Hernando De Soto, *The Mystery of Capital: Why Capitalism Triumphs in the West and Fails Everywhere Else* (New York: Basic Books, 2001), pp. 39-68.

Feb. 24: The Developmental State and Its Critics

- Robert Wade, "Japan, the World Bank, and the Art of Paradigm Maintenance: The East Asian Miracle in Political Perspective," *New Left Review* 217 (May-June 1996): 3-36.
- Ben Fine, "The Developmental State Is Dead — Long Live Social Capital?" *Development and Change* 30 (1999), pp. 1-19.
- Research Prospectus Due - 2 pages

Experiencing Development

Feb. 26: Urbanization

- Leslie Chang, *Factory Girls* (begin reading)

Mar. 3: Gender and the Power of Place

- Leslie Chang, *Factory Girls* (complete reading)
- Film: *Not One Less* (一个都不能少, dir. Zhang Yimou, 1999)

Mar. 5: Cooperatives, Corruption, and Everyday Forms of Resistance

- Attwood, David. 1988. "Social and Political Pre-condition for Successful Co-operatives: The Co-operatives: The Co-operative Sugar Factories of Western India," in D.W. Attwood & B.S. Baviskar, *Who Shares? Cooperatives and Rural Development* (Oxford University Press, 1988).
- Paul Robbins, "The Rotten Institution: Corruption in Natural Resource Management," *Political Geography* 19:4 (2000), pp. 423-443.
- James C. Scott, "Everyday Forms of Resistance," *Copenhagen Journal of Asian Studies* 4 (1989): 33-62.

Mar. 10: Dissent and Nostalgia

- Erik Harms, "Beauty as Control in the New Saigon: Eviction, New Urban Zones, and Atomized Dissent in a Southeast Asian City," *American Ethnologist* 39:4 (2012), pp. 735-750.
- Jennifer Robertson, "Furusato Japan: The Culture and Politics of Nostalgia," *International Journal of Politics, Culture, and Society* 1:4 (1988), pp. 494-518.

Evening Review Session, 6:30 p.m.

Mar. 12 Midterm Exam

Spring Break!

Asian Development and the Environment

Mar. 24: Control of Resources as Control of People

- Karl Wittfogel, *Oriental Despotism: A Comparative Study of Total Power* (Yale University Press, 1957), pp. 11-48.
- Sato, J. "Resource Politics and State-Society Relations; Why certain states are more inclusive than others?" *Comparative Studies in Society and History* Vol.56, No.3 (forthcoming).

Mar. 26: Global Logic and Local Wisdom on Managing the Commons

- Margaret A. McKean, "Common Property: What is it, What is it Good For, and What Makes it Work," in Clark C. Gibson, Margaret A. McKean and Elinor Ostrom, eds., *People and Forests: Communities, Institutions, and Governance* (Cambridge, MA: MIT Press 2000), pp. 27-55.
- Yasushi Inoue, "The Sage" (trans. James T. Araki), in *Lou-Lan and Other Stories* (Kodansha, 1981), pp. 47-64.
- Hardin, G. "The Tragedy of the Commons," *Science* 162 (1968), pp. 1243-8.

Mar. 31: Nature in Memory

- Julia Adeney Thomas, "The Exquisite Corpses of Nature and History: The Case of the Korean DMZ," *The Asia-Pacific Journal* 43:3 (2009). Available at: http://japanfocus.org/~Julia_Adeney-Thomas/3242
- Weller, Robert P. 2006. *Discovering Nature: Globalization and Environmental Culture in China and Taiwan* (Cambridge, UK: Cambridge University Press), Chapter 4, pp. 64-104.

April 2: Diseased, Polluted Politics

- Brett Walker, "Mercury's Children," from *Toxic Archipelago: A History of Industrial Disease in Japan* (University of Washington Press, 2010), pp. 137-175.
- Film: *Godzilla vs. the Smog Monster* (ゴジラ対ヘドラ, dir. Banno Yoshimitsu, 1971).

Asian Countries as Aid Donors

April 7: Aid Debates

- Lucia Hulsether, "TOMS Shoes and the Spiritual Politics of Neoliberalism," *Religion and Politics*, 2013: <http://religionandpolitics.org/2013/10/01/toms-shoes-and-the-spiritual-politics-of-neoliberalism/>
- William Easterly, "The Aid Debate is Over," *Reason* (January 2014), available at: <http://reason.com/archives/2013/12/26/the-aid-debate-is-over>
- Corey Flintoff, "India's Poor Reel Under Microfinance Debt Burden," NPR, Dec. 31, 2010. Available at: <http://www.npr.org/2010/12/31/132497267/indias-poor-reel-under-microfinance-debt-burden>
- David Mosse, "Is Good Policy Unimplementable? Reflections on the Ethnography of Aid Policy and Practice," *Development and Change* 35:4 (2004), pp. 639-671.

April 9: The Rise of Asian Donors

- Yasutami Shimomura and Hideo Ohashi (eds.), *A Study of China's Foreign Aid: An Asian Perspective* (Palgrave Macmillan, 2013). Chapters TBA.
- Jin Sato, "Aiding Development: How Does Recipient Experience Count?" in Jin Sato and Yasutami Shimomura (eds.), *The Rise of Asian Donors: Japan's Impact on the Evolution of Emerging Donor* (Routledge 2012), pp.1-7.
- Masami Mizuno, "Rural Development: The Role of Rural Livelihood Improvement," in Toshihisa Toyoda, Jun Nishikawa and Hiroshi Kan Sato (eds). *Economic and Policy Lessons from Japan to Developing Countries* (Palgrave 2009), pp. 134-142.
- *Kaizen* (short film - view in class)

Disasters – Natural and Human

April 14: Asian Tsunami

- Jin Sato "Social Resilience in Post-Tsunami Japan: Diversity and Security after March 11th 2011," *International Encyclopedia of Social and Behavioral Sciences*, 2nd edition. Elsevier (forthcoming).
- Jin Sato, "Matching Goods and People: Aid and Human Security After the 2004 Tsunami," *Development in Practice*, 20:1 (2010), pp. 70-84.

Apr 16: Constructing Calamities

- Michael R. Dove and Mahmudul Huq Khan, "Competing Constructions of Calamity: The April 1991 Bangladesh Cyclone," *Population and Environment* 16:5 (May 1995), pp. 445-471.
- Anne Allison. 2013. *Precarious Japan*. Durham: Duke University Press. (Ch 7 "In the Mud," p. 180-206).

Planning

April 21: Planning for the Worst

- David Leheny, "Remaking Transnationalisms: Japan and the Solutions to Crises," in David Leheny and Kay Warren (eds.), *Japanese Aid and the Construction of Global Development: Inescapable Solutions* (Routledge, 2010), pp. 270-286.
- Andrew Lakoff, "Preparing for the Next Emergency," *Public Culture* 19:2 (Spring 2007), pp. 247-271.

April 23: Three Gorges

- Jun Jing, "Rural Resettlement: Past Lessons for the Three Gorges Project," *The China Journal* 38 (July 1997), pp. 65-92.
- Brooke Wilmsen, Michael Webber and Yuefang Duan, "Involuntary Rural Resettlement: Resources, Strategies, and Outcomes at the Three Gorges Dam, China," *The Journal of Environment Development* 20:4 (2011), pp. 355-380.

Apr 28: Learning and Unlearning in Development

- Albert O. Hirschman, *Development Projects Observed* (Brookings, 1967). Chapter 1: “The Principle of the Hiding Hand.”
- Richard B. Norgaard, *Development Betrayed: The End of Progress and a Co-Evolutionary Revisioning of the Future* (Routledge 1994). Pages TBA.
- Ui Jun, “Japan as an Advanced Polluting Nation- Its Responsibility,” *Japan Quarterly* 27 (July/September 1980): 321-332.

Apr 30: Learning (and unlearning?) in Princeton Courses About Development

- No reading, discussion of themes in course
- Research papers due