Syllabus

Economics 4774/5774
Spring 1993
Professor Poulson
Office: Economics 108
Office Hours: 1:30-3:00 MW, and by appointment

Required Texts:
Meier Politics and Policy Making in Developing Countries
Poulson Economic Development: Private and Public Choice (the relevant chapters from this text are available in mimeo form from Kinkos)

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Extending The New Political Economy

The Pluralist Revolution

Meier Ch.12

Poulson Ch.18

Jan 29 Term Paper Project Statement, Bibliography, Outline due

Mar 5 First part of Term Project (Political Reform) due

Mar 8- May 3

Part II Economic Reform

Stabilization Policy

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Poulson Ch.16

Meier Ch.9

Trade Reform

" "

Poulson Ch.14,17

Meier Ch.5

Financial Reform

Poulson Ch.10,17

Land Reform

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Poulson Ch.12

Meier Ch.6

Privatization

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Poulson Ch.17

Meier Ch.8

Poverty

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Poulson Ch.6

Meier Ch.7

Apr 3 Second part of Term Project (Economic Reform) due
Course Requirements

There are no examinations in the course. The grade is based entirely on class participation and the term paper project. Both class participation and the term paper project are structured and evaluated throughout the course.

Class Participation:

In addition to regular class discussion of the material presented in the lectures and texts, you will be asked to participate in a series of panel discussions of this material in class. These panel discussions should be based upon your readings and work on your term paper project, as well as the text and lecture material. You will receive a schedule for these panel discussions following the submission of your term projects. One third of the final grade is based upon these panel discussions and class participation.

Term Project:

The term project will determine two thirds of the final grade in the course, one third will be based upon the first part of the term project, and one third on the second part of the term project. You should select a developing country that you wish to investigate in some depth. Your term paper project will examine political and economic reform, with reference to that developing
country.

Note that by January 29 you are required to submit a term paper project, outline, and bibliography. You should begin work on the project as soon as possible, because you may find that some of the material for the project is not available in our library. Your bibliography search should include journal literature, and government documents as well as books. An important source of information relating to your country will be found in publications of the international agencies, e.g. the World Bank, the International Monetary Fund, etc.

Your term project should follow the standard style manuals with regard to footnotes, bibliography, and other references. If you are not familiar with standard style manuals you should obtain a copy, e.g. The Chicago Manual Of Style. Term Projects submitted without footnotes, bibliography, and references will be returned as incomplete.

The first part of the Term Project on Political Reform is due Mar 5. In the first part of the term project you should discuss political reform in the developing country, with reference to the issues raised in the text and lectures on political reform. In other words this should not be a description of political change in that country, but rather a critical evaluation of political change with reference to issues of private and public choice, i.e. what Meier refers to as the new political economy. You will
be asked to participate in a panel discussion on political change in a particular region of the developing world, in which you will have the opportunity to exchange your ideas regarding political change in the country you have chosen with other students writing about countries in that region. The panel discussion and feedback from the class should inform your writing of this part of the term project.

The second part of the term project on Economic Reform is due May 3. Note that this is the last day of class. If for any reason you will not be there for the last day of class you should make arrangements to submit this portion of the term project prior to May 3. For this second part of the project you should select a specific aspect of economic reform, e.g. stabilization policy, or trade, or finance, or privatization, or land reform, or poverty, from among the topics examined in this section of the course. You should examine that specific aspect of economic reform in depth for the same developing country you chose for part one of the term paper project. Your term project should address to the specific issues raised in the text and lectures relating to that topic. Again, the term project should not be simply a description, but rather a critical evaluation of that aspect of economic reform. Economic reform in that country will be linked to the political reforms discussed in the first part of the project. You will be asked to participate in a panel discussion relating to the specific reform you are examining, and to discuss the experience of the country that you are examining as it
relates to that of other developing countries.

Free Riders

This course is structured for students willing to take responsibility for their own work in the course, free riders who choose not to assume that responsibility are discouraged from taking the course. Due to the close links between your work on the term project, panel discussions, and the lecture and text assignments it will be necessary to strictly follow the scheduled due dates. If you submit your term project late this will affect your grade for that portion of the project. Class attendance and discussion is a required part of the course. If you are unable to attend a class for medical reasons you are asked to submit a note with an explanation. If you miss more than three classes during the semester for any reason this will affect the grade that you receive.