

GLOBAL SOUTH STUDIES

Course Number: M2190.000800.001
Graduate School of International Studies
Seoul National University
Fall 2024

Instructor: Professor Taekyoon KIM
Class hours: Thursday 14:00-17:00
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Outline of the Course

This course examines the role of developing countries, or what we call the “Global South,” in contemporary world politics. While the Global South numerically consists of the largest number of nations in the world, their impact on world politics is largely limited in comparison to their wealthier and more powerful neighbors in the north. International relations theory is constructed by scholars in the Global North. It also addresses the growing importance of developing nations, as emerging economies and potential political powerhouses such as China, India and Brazil take a much larger role on the world stage. So it addresses two related questions: does international relations theory accurately describe the politics in the developing world?; and how much does this potential power shift from the Global North to the Global South change international politics?

The broad learning objectives of the course are:

- Developing an understanding of the historical context by which international relations has developed an understanding of the concept of developing countries or what we now call the Global South. We will emphasize the history of colonialism, of weakness, and its position on the periphery of the global order influenced the role it plays in global politics.
- Explore the difference between the descriptions of traditional international relations theories derived from western history with the experiences of the global south.
- Examine how the growing influence of developing nations have changed negotiations within existing global governance institutions, with a particular eye on institutions of the United Nations system. We will consider how the role of regionalism has enhanced the negotiation positions of developing nations as a tool to pool power in negotiations with more powerful nations.

- Develop an understanding of the role of historical memory in identity formation and the important foundational historical experience of colonialism.
- Introduce new negotiation and cooperation fora such as the BRICS forum promoting cooperation among the strongest developing nations as a potential bloc.
- Imagining a world order that is derived from the newly growing influence of developing nations, and how it might differ from the current world order. This reconsideration will focus on potentially different ideologies and the construction of global governance under different power structures.

Honor code

You are expected to be thoroughly familiar with the Honor Code, which provides guidance on when citation is required. Essentially, all quotations must be set off as such and attributed; citations should be used whenever material is derived from another source; and students who present words or ideas from another source as their own in papers or examinations by failing to give proper attribution will receive a failing grade in the class, at a minimum. Please do not plagiarize your own work: work that has been prepared for a purpose other than this class may not be submitted to fulfill class requirements and doing so is a violation of the Honor Code. If you have any questions about plagiarism or proper citation practices please do not hesitate to ask.

Participation

Stimulating and thoughtful class discussion is a public good that is only possible if students come to class and are well prepared. You are expected to attend class, to arrive on time, and to come to class prepared to engage in class discussion by doing the assigned reading, noting the key arguments, and identifying and thinking about discussion questions and raising questions of your own. You should be prepared to be called upon at random and asked to introduce a reading by outlining its main discussion points.

Course Requirements

Grading

- Mid-term exam (30%)
- Final exam (30%)
- Weekly summaries (15%)
- Presentation (15%)
- Discussion participation (10%)
- Class participation and attendance are a basic requirement that all students enrolled to this course are expected to meet.

Weekly Summaries

In order to help prepare for class discussion, you are required to prepare and submit one or two-paged weekly summary. Weekly summary should include **two key points** which you see as the most important arguments from the reading assignments. You need to

explain why they are chosen as key arguments of main scholars. This requirement needs to be turned in no later than 10 pm, every Wednesday, by uploading it to the ETL.

Presentation

All students are required to make verbal presentations, at least once, on a particular topic of different sessions. You can present your own analytical points on the basis of the required and recommended readings. Make sure that you need to present empirical applications of a particular set of development theories. The number of presentations depends on how many students will be enrolled, so that the instructor will adjust it after the first week.

Basic Reading

- Vijay Prashad, *The Darker Nations: A People's History of the Third World* (New York: The New Press, 2007).
- Chris Alden, Sally Morphet, and Marco Antonio Viera, *The South in World Politics* (Basingstoke: Palgrave Macmillan, 2010).
- Emma Mawdsley, Elsje Fourie, and Wiebe Nauta (eds.), *Researching South-South Development Cooperation: The Politics of Knowledge Production* (Abingdon: Routledge, 2019).
- Jean Comaroff and John L. Comaroff, *Theory From the South: Or, How Euro-America Is Evolving Toward Africa* (Abingdon: Routledge, 2016).
- Taekyoon Kim, *After Bandung: The International Political Sociology of the Global South* (Gwacheon: Jinjinjin, 2023) (김태균, 『반동 이후: 글로벌 남반구의 국제정치사회학』 (과천: 진인진, 2023)).

Office Hours

This office hour sign-up sheet will be put on the door of the instructor's office. Please sign up for a slot; if you find that you must cancel, please cross off your name, or let me know via emailing, so that the slot will be available for another students. If you find that you cannot arrange to meet during the office hours, please email me to set up a special arrangement. Please do not hesitate to email me if you have any questions or concerns.

Individual Exceptions

In the interest of fairness to all students, no individual exceptions to the rules stated in this syllabus will be granted in principle.

Course Readings

All sessions will be conducted in the combined fashion of instructor's lecture, students' presentations, and class discussions which invite all students enrolled in this course.

WEEK 1 (09/05): COURSE INTRODUCTION

Chris Alden, Sally Morphet, and Marco Antonio Viera, *The South in World Politics* (Basingstoke: Palgrave Macmillan, 2010), Introduction, pp. 1-23.

[PART 1] CONCEPTS, HISTORY & EVOLUTION

WEEK 2 (09/12): THE GLOBAL SOUTH AS A CONCEPTUAL CONUNDRUM

Required Readings:

Sebastian Haug, Jacqueline Braveboy-Wagner & Günther Maihold, "The 'Global South' in the Study of World Politics: Examining a Meta Category," *Third World Quarterly* 42(9), 2021.

Arif Dirlik, "Global South: Predicament and Promise," *The Global South* 1(1 & 2), 2007.

Kawashima Shin, "How China Defines the 'Global South': Beijing Tries to Make the Term Its Own," *The Diplomat*, 11 January 2024.

Recommended Readings:

Independent Commission on International Development Issues, *North-South, A Programme for Survival: Report of the Independent Commission on International Development Issues* (Cambridge: MIT Press, 1980).

WEEK 3 (09/19): THE RISE OF THE GLOBAL SOUTH

Required Readings:

Kevin Gray and Barry K. Gills, "South-South Cooperation and the Rise of the Global South," *Third World Quarterly* 37(4), 2016.

Sarang Shidore, "The Return of the Global South: Realism, Not Moralism, Drives a New Critique of Western Power," *Foreign Affairs*, 31 August 2023.

Recommended Readings:

Chris Alden, Sally Morphet, and Marco Antonio Viera, *The South in World Politics* (Basingstoke: Palgrave Macmillan, 2010), Chapter 4, 5, 6.

WEEK 4 (09/26): BEFORE BANDUNG

Required Readings:

Vijay Prashad, *The Darker Nations: A People's History of the Third World* (New York: The

New Press, 2007), Paris & Brussels.

Chris Alden, Sally Morphet, and Marco Antonio Viera, *The South in World Politics* (Basingstoke: Palgrave Macmillan, 2010), Chapter 1.

Recommended Readings:

Aimé Césaire, *Discourse on Colonialism* (New York: Monthly Review Press, 2000).

WEEK 5 (10/03): THE BANDUNG SYSTEM

Required Readings:

Vijay Prashad, *The Darker Nations: A People's History of the Third World* (New York: The New Press, 2007), Bandung, Cairo, Belgrade & Havana.

Christopher J. Lee (ed.), *Making a World after Empire: The Bandung Moment and its Political After lives* (Athens: Ohio University Press, 2010), Chapter 1.

Recommended Readings:

Dipesh Chakrabarty, "The Legacies of Bandung: Decolonization and the Politics of Culture," *Economic and Politics Weekly* 40(46), 2005.

WEEK 6 (10/10): DECOLONIZING WORLD: NAM, G77 & NIEO

Required Readings:

Chris Alden, Sally Morphet, and Marco Antonio Viera, *The South in World Politics* (Basingstoke: Palgrave Macmillan, 2010), Chapter 2.

Jacqueline Anne Braveboy-Wagner, *Institutions of the Global South* (Abingdon: Routledge, 2009), Chapter 1 & 2.

John Toye, "Assessing the G77: 50 Years After UNCTAD and 40 Years After the NIEO," *Third World Quarterly* 35(10), 2014.

Recommended Readings:

Margot E. Salomon, "From NIEO to Now and the Unfinishable Story of Economic Justice," *International and Comparative Law Quarterly* 62(1), 2013.

WEEK 7 (10/17): THE DEMISE OF THE THIRD AND THE CONFRONTATIONAL COEXISTENCE

Required Readings:

Chris Alden, Sally Morphet, and Marco Antonio Viera, *The South in World Politics* (Basingstoke: Palgrave Macmillan, 2010), Chapter 3.

Richard Devetak, Tim Dunne, and Ririn Tri Nurhayati, "Bandung 60 Years on: Revolt and Resilience in International Society," *Australian Journal of International Affairs* 70(4), 2016.

Vijay Prashad, *The Poorer Nations: A Possible History of the Global South* (London: Verso, 2012), Introduction.

Recommended Readings:

Shailaja Fennell, "Building on Bandung: What Does Cooperation Do for Regional Engagement?" *Asian Journal of Peacebuilding* 10(1), 2022.

WEEK 8 (10/24): MID-TERM EXAMINATION**[PART 2] CURRENT TRENDS IN THE GLOBAL SOUTH****WEEK 9 (10/31): THE RISE OF BRICS AND ITS IMPACTS****Required Readings:**

Cynthia Roberts, Leslie Armijo and Saori Katada, *The BRICS and Collective Financial Statecraft* (Oxford: Oxford University Press, 2017), Chapter 1 & 5.

Andrew F. Cooper, "China, India and the Pattern of G20/BRICS Engagement: Differentiated Ambivalence between 'Rising' Power Status and Solidarity with the Global South," *Third World Quarterly* 42(9), 2021.

Recommended Readings:

Pádraig Carmody, *The Rise of the BRICS in Africa: The Geopolitics of South South Relations* (London: Zed Books, 2013).

Li Xing (ed.), *The BRICS and Beyond: The International Political Economy of the Emergence of a New World Order* (Abingdon: Routledge, 2014).

WEEK 10 (11/07): THE GLOBAL SOUTH FROM THE SOUTHERN PERSPECTIVE**Required Readings:**

Emma Mawdsley, Elsje Fourie, and Wiebe Nauta (eds.), *Researching South-South Development Cooperation: The Politics of Knowledge Production* (Abingdon: Routledge, 2019), Chapter 1 & Conclusion.

Jean Comaroff and John L. Comaroff, *Theory From the South: Or, How Euro-America Is Evolving Toward Africa* (Abingdon: Routledge, 2016), Chapter 1.

Recommended Readings:

Raewyn Connell, *Southern Theory: The Global Dynamics of Knowledge in Social Science* (Cambridge: Polity, 2007).

WEEK 11 (11/14): GEOPOLITICAL POWER OF THE GLOBAL SOUTH**Required Readings:**

John Ikenberry, "Three Worlds: The West, East and South and the Competition to Shape Global Order," *International Affairs* 100(1), 2024.

Comfort Ero, "The Trouble with 'the Global South': What the West Gets Wrong

about the Rest,” *Foreign Affairs*, 1 April 2024.

Leslie Vinjamuri, “Why Multilateralism Still Matters: The Right Way to Win Over the Global South,” *Foreign Affairs*, 2 October 2023.

Recommended Readings:

John Ciorciari, “As Ukraine War Deepens Great-Power Divisions, A Revitalized Non-aligned Movement Could Emerge,” *The Conversation*, 22 April 2022.

WEEK 12 (11/21): INTERNAL COMPETITION WITHIN THE GLOBAL SOUTH

Required Readings:

Fantu Cheru, and Cyril Obi (eds.), *The Rise of China and India in Africa: Challenges, Opportunities and Critical Interventions* (London: Zed Books, 2010), Chapter 1 & 3.

Gulshan Sachdeva, “Indian Perceptions of the Chinese Belt and Road Initiative,” *International Studies* 55(4), 2018.

Recommended Readings:

Isaline Bergamaschi, Phoebe Moore and Arlene B. Tickner (eds.), *South-South Cooperation Beyond the Myths: Rising Donors, New Aid Practices?* (London: Palgrave Macmillan, 2017).

Anil Sigdel, *India in the Era of China’s Belt and Road Initiative: How Modi Responds to Xi* (Lanham: Lexington Books, 2020), Part I.

WEEK 13 (11/28): THE GLOBAL SOUTH AT THE UNITED NATIONS

Required Readings:

Dena Freeman, “The Role of the Global South at the UN: Using International Politics to Re-Vision the Global.” *The Global South* 11(2), 2017.

Macharia Kamau, Pamela Chasek, and David O’Conner, *Transforming Multilateral Diplomacy: The Inside Story of the Sustainable Development Goals* (Abingdon: Routledge, 2018), Chapters 2 & 5.

Recommended Readings:

Sean Walsh, Huifang Tian, John Whalley and Manmohan Agarwal, “China and India’s Participation in Global Climate Negotiations,” *International Environmental Negotiations* 11, 2011.

WEEK 14 (12/05): INCLUSIVE PARTNERSHIPS WITH THE GLOBAL SOUTH?

Required Readings:

Stephan Klingebiel, *Engaging with Partners in the Global South in Uncertain Times* (Policy Brief, 5/2022) (Bonn: German Institute of Development and Sustainability, 2022).

WEEK 15 (12/12): FINAL EXAMINATION