

Third World Politics Research Group Programme 2011-2012

Semester 1

Reading Group Meeting

Walt Rostow and Modernization Theory

5 pm, 18 October: Meetings Room

The first in the 'back to the basics' series of reading group meetings, which aims to provide an opportunity to get to know, discuss and evaluate the legacy of some of the most influential books written on the topic of development during the past five decades. The series begins with Walt Rostow's classic work on what came to be known as 'modernization theory'.

Reading: Selected readings from Walt Rostow's 'Stages of Economic Growth' (1960).

Guest Speaker

André Siebrits: South Africa in the Modern World System

5pm, 1 November: Meetings Room

André Siebrits, a PhD candidate at the Australian National University, will present his research on South African development since 1850, drawing upon world-systems theory and the work of Immanuel Wallerstein.

Reading Group Meeting

André Gunder Frank and the Development of Underdevelopment

12.30pm, 1 December: Meetings Room

The second in the 'back to the basics' series of reading group meetings. Dependency theory might appear somewhat dated nowadays, but it was a popular idea in the 1970s which influenced not only academic debates but also the choices of policymakers in the Third World.

Reading: André Gunder Frank (1966) *The Development of Underdevelopment*, *Monthly Review*, Volume 18, pp. 17-31.

Semester 2

Guest Speakers

Dr Lucy Taylor & Dr Carl Death: The Third World in International Politics

2.30pm, 10 February: Main Hall

Where is the Third World in the discipline of International Relations, and what purpose does it serve? Does IR theory (mainstream and critical) adequately take the Third World into consideration? What happens if we think about IR south-side up? Two lecturers in International Politics will present their current research, in part motivated by the above questions.

Dr Lucy Taylor: *A View of IR from Latin America: Decolonial Strategies and the USA*

Dr Carl Death: *Governmentality at the Limits of the International: African Politics and Foucauldian Theory*.

Reading Group Meeting

E.F. Schumacher and 'Small is Beautiful'

1 pm, 12 March: Meetings Room

The third in the 'back to the basics' series of reading group meetings. When Schumacher's work was first published in 1973 it presented a challenge to the development orthodoxy of both the left and the right and emerged as a key text within the nascent environmental movement. Almost 40 years on, is small still beautiful?

Reading: Selected chapters from Schumacher's 'Small is Beautiful: A Study of Economics as if People Mattered'.

Guest Speaker

Clare Paine: Imagining 'Traditional' Authorities in Africa

5pm, 10 May: Main Hall

Joint event with the Security Research Group. Clare Paine will present her work on "Imagining 'Traditional' Authorities in Africa: A Case of Ker Kwaro Acholi in Northern Uganda".

Guest Speaker

Dr Owain Williams: The Political Economy of a Global Food Crisis

4pm, 16 May: Main Hall

Joint event with the Environmental Politics Research Group. Dr Owain Williams will present his research on "The Political Economy of a Global Food Crisis: Science, Law, Development and Oligopoly".

Guest Speaker

Dr Japhy Wilson: The Shock of the Real: The Neoliberal Neurosis in the Life and Times of Jeffrey Sachs

5pm, 30 May: Main Hall

Dr Japhy Wilson, a Hallsworth Research Fellow at Manchester University, will present his current research into the work of award-winning economist Jeffrey Sachs and his role in the changing politics of international development. Wilson's presentation addresses the turn from neoliberalism to the post-Washington consensus, and as such concludes our engagement with key thinkers and trends on development over the last five decades.