

Development Politics

Modular value: 20 credits

Lecturer: [Tom Hewitt \(/schools/government-society/departments/international-development/staff/profiles/hewitt-tom.aspx\)](/schools/government-society/departments/international-development/staff/profiles/hewitt-tom.aspx)

The politics of a country has a profound impact on levels of development. In recent years, donors have begun talking about the importance of supporting 'pro-poor' politics but without clear consensus about what constitutes pro-poor development or whether it is either feasible or desirable.

The module looks at the issues involved in dealing with complex and often fluid political environments in developing countries, drawing comparisons within and between both countries and regions. It looks particularly at the impact of the increased emphasis on democratisation and good governance in the past decade.

The module is delivered via WebCT (our virtual learning environment), with hard copy materials. Students engage in structured group discussion board activities with the tutors.

By the end of the module you should be able to:

- Describe and explain politics in developing countries at the national and regional levels.
- Critically analyse the concepts, theories and approaches relating to the politics of development.
- Demonstrate an in-depth understanding of how the principles and theories of development politics may be applied to the practical situations facing policy makers in developing countries.
- Critically analyse and explain the impact of politics on poverty in developing countries.
- Evaluate a range of political analysis frameworks in the context of developing countries.

Assessment

Two 3,000 word assignments (50% each).

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