

Centre for Russian and Central Asian Studies
School of International Studies, JNU

Course:	Ph.D
Course Title:	Economic Development of Central Asia
Course Type:	Optional
Course Teacher:	Dr. Raj Yadav
Credit:	Four
Course Code:	SE603
Semester:	Monsoon Semester
Contact Hours:	Two per week

Course Objectives

‘Development’ as a concept is contested both theoretically and politically. It is inherently complex and ambiguous, with various meanings for different people in different contexts. The development needs, for example, of a starving population is different from those where there is sufficient nutrition. Thereby, it is interesting to study how economic development has happened in the world particularly in Central Asia region.

Present day Central Asia has rich historical experience of transformation in all aspects, particularly in economic terms during the *Soviet rule*. In the *Post-Soviet period* these economies underwent transition process paving the way to catch up with the liberal economic system. In the three decades since independence, Central Asian countries have experienced contractions and expansions in economy thereby affecting the development in various facets.

The course titled *Economic Development of Central Asia* intends to understand the Central Asian region from the prism of development specifically through economic perspective. Besides, the Conceptual and Theoretical Understanding of the Economic Development in its *first section*, Course in its *second section* delves into the Soviet Central Asia focussing on Geo Physical features and its economy. The *third section* deals with post 1991 Central Asian countries undergoing economic transition, introducing economic reforms and assessing the performance through the lens of economic development. This section also discusses the issues related to sustainable development, Human development and also assesses region’s bilateral and multilateral relations and challenges.

Learning Outcomes

- Students through this course would learn about basic understanding of economic development concepts and theories
- Students will understand the overview of economy of Central Asia during Soviet times
- Students will understand the economic development contours of Post-Soviet Central Asia and will also be able to understand the challenges and progress of Central Asian economies.

Evaluation Methods

Class performance, Assignments, Seminars, Mid-session examination (50%) End Semester Exam (50%)

Course Content

Section I: Concept of Economic Development: Conceptual and Theoretical Understanding

- (a) Economy and Economic systems
 - Capitalism
 - Socialism
 - Mixed Economy
 - Central Problems of an economy under above mentioned systems
- (b) Economics of Development: Concepts, Approaches and related Theories.
 - Meaning of economic Development. Will also discuss concepts like Sustainable development and Human Development.
 - Traditional Economic Measures: Income Per Capita, GNI and GDP; Amartya Sen's "Capability" Approach; and the Three Core Values of Development: Ability to meet basic needs; self-esteem to be a person and Freedom from servitude(to be able to choose)
 - Classic theories of economic Development: the linear-stages-of-growth model, theories and patterns of structural change, the international-dependence revolution and the neoclassical, free market counter-revolution.

Readings

Banerjee, A. V., Duflo, E. (2011). *Poor Economics: Rethinking Poverty & the Ways to End it*. India: Penguin Random House India Private Limited.

Cypher, J. M. (2020). *The Process of Economic Development*. United Kingdom: Routledge/Taylor & Francis Group.

Handbook of Development Economics. Vol. 1. (1988). Netherlands: North-Holland, Elsevier Science.

Handbook of Development Economics. (2008). Netherlands: Elsevier Science.

Jhingan, M. L. (1967). *Economics of Development and Planning*. India: P Ram.

Justine, George. (June 2011). "Growth and Development...Inclusive Growth: What went wrong with Development?", Munich Personal RePEc Archive. Online at <https://mpra.ub.uni-muenchen.de/33182/> MPRA Paper No. 33182, posted 06 Sep 2011

Meier, G. M., Rauch, J. E. (2005). *Leading Issues in Economic Development*. United Kingdom: Oxford University Press.

Radelet, S. C., Perkins, D. H., Lindauer, D. L. (2006). *Economics of Development*. United Kingdom: W.W.Norton.

Robinson, J. A., Acemoglu, D. (n.d.). *Why Nations Fail: The Origins of Power, Prosperity and Poverty*. Germany: Profile Books.

STIGLITZ, J. E. A., Stiglitz, J. E., Meier, G. M. (2001). *Frontiers of Development Economics: The Future in Perspective*. Greece: World Bank.

Thirlwall, A., Pacheco-López, P. (2017). *Economics of Development: Theory and Evidence*. United Kingdom: Bloomsbury Publishing.

White, C. (2009). *Understanding Economic Development: A Global Transition from Poverty to Prosperity?* United Kingdom: Edward Elgar.

World Development Report 1978. (1978). United States: World Bank.

World Development Report 2021: Data for Better Lives. (n.d.). United States: World Bank Publications.

Section II: Economic Development in Soviet Central Asia

Geo-Physical and economic dimensions of Soviet Central Asia

- Geographical features highlighting availability of natural resources and ecological issues;
- Modernization process, agricultural transformation and a process of integration to a part of Greater Soviet Structure.

Readings:

Central Asia Atlas of Natural Resources. (2010). Philippines: Asian Development Bank.

Geographic Perspectives on Soviet Central Asia. (2003). Ed by Robert A. Lewis. United Kingdom: Taylor & Francis.

Golden, P. B. (2011). *Central Asia in World History*. United States: Oxford University Press, USA.

Menga, F. (2020). *Power and Water in Central Asia*. United Kingdom: Taylor & Francis Limited.

Nove, Alec and J A Newth. (1967). *The Soviet Middle East. A Model For Development?* George Allen and Unwin Ltd London.

Environmental Crises in Central Asia: From Steppes to Seas, from Deserts to Glaciers. (2015). Ed by Eric Freedman, Mark Neuzil. United Kingdom: Taylor & Francis.

Routledge Handbook of Contemporary Central Asia. (2021). Ed by Rico Isaacs and Erica Marat. United Kingdom: Taylor & Francis. (Few Chapters)

Thomas, A. (2018). *Nomads and Soviet Rule: Central Asia Under Lenin and Stalin*. United Kingdom: Bloomsbury Publishing. (Few Chapters)

Central Asia, 130 Years of Russian Dominance: A Historical Overview. (1994).Ed by Edward A. Allworth United Kingdom: Duke University Press. (Few Chapters)

Section III: Economic development in Post-Soviet Central Asia

- (a) Transition and Market economies: Conceptual Understanding and EBRD indicators.
- (b) Economic reforms
 - Fiscal Reforms
 - Monetary Reforms
 - External Sector Reforms(Capital Flows and External Debt)
 - Structural (Price Liberalization) and Financial sector Reforms.
- (c) Assessing their Economic dynamics performance, challenges and opportunities.
 - Trade patterns and policies
 - Foreign direct investment
 - Rentier economy (Dutch Disease, resource curse) in Central Asia
 - Labour Migration
 - Eurasian Economic Union

Readings

Abdih, Y., and L. Medina. (2013). “Measuring the Informal Economy in the Caucasus and Central Asia”. IMF Working Paper No. 13/137.

Amineh, Mehdi Parvizi. (2020). “Environmental security debates in Central Asia: The Post-Kiev Process”. Available Online
http://www.afes-press.de/pdf/Hague/Amineh_Rakel_Environmetal_Security.pdf

Anderson, K. H., Pomfret, R. W. T. (1997). *Uzbekistan: Welfare Impact of Slow Transition*. Australia: Centre for International Economic Studies, University of Adelaide.

Anderson, Kathryn and Richard Pomfret. (2003). *Consequences of Creating a Market Economy: Evidence from Household Surveys in Central Asia*. United Kingdom: Edward Elgar Publishing, Incorporated.

Asel Isaková, (2008). “Monetary Policy Efficiency in the Economies of Central Asia,” Czech Journal of Economics and Finance (Finance a uver), Charles University Prague, Faculty of Social Sciences, vol. 58(11-12), pages 525-553, December.

- Asel, I. (2010). *Financial Sector Development and Dollarization in the Economies of Central Asia*.
- Asian Development Bank (ADB). (2006). *Central Asia: Increasing Gains from Trade through Regional Cooperation in Trade Policy, Transport and Customs Transit*. Manila: ADB Report. Available online <http://hdl.handle.net/11540/2447>
- Asian Development Bank. (2014). *Asian Development Outlook (ADO): Economic Trends and Prospects in Developing Asia - Central Asia*. Manila: ADB Report.
- Central Asia: Aspects of Transition*. (2003). Ed by Tom Everett Heath. United Kingdom: Taylor & Francis.
- Connecting Central Asia with Economic Centres* (2014). Asian Development Bank Institute. <https://www.adb.org/sites/default/files/publication/159307/adbi-connecting-central-asia-economic-centers-final-report.pdf>
- Danzer, A., and O. Ivaschenko. 2010. "Migration Patterns in a Remittances Dependent Economy: Evidence from Tajikistan during the Global Financial Crisis". *Migration Letters* 7(2): 190–202.
- Djalilov, K., & Piesse, J. (2014). The determinants of bank efficiency in Central Asia. *Corporate Ownership and Control*, 12, 656-670.
- Dowling, M., and G. Wignaraja. 2006a. "Central Asia's Economy: Mapping Future Prospects to 2015". *Silk Road Paper Series*. Central Asia-Caucasus Institute, Silk Road Studies Program, Johns Hopkins University-SAIS.
- Drahokoupil, J., Myant, M. (2011). *Transition Economies: Political Economy in Russia, Eastern Europe, and Central Asia*. United Kingdom: Wiley.
- Gevorkyan, A. V. (2018). *Transition Economies: Transformation, Development, and Society in Eastern Europe and the Former Soviet Union*. United Kingdom: Taylor & Francis.
- Gevorkyan, A. V. (2013). *Innovative Fiscal Policy and Economic Development in Transition Economies*. United Kingdom: Taylor & Francis.
- Gerni, C., Gencer, E. A. H. (2012). *Central Asian Economies in Transition*. United Kingdom: Cambridge Scholars Publishing.
- Gurgen, Emine and et.al. (1999). "Economic Reforms in Kazakhstan, Kyrgyz Republic, Tajikistan, Turkmenistan, and Uzbekistan". *Occasional Papers* 183. IMF.
- John, Di. Jonathan. (2010). The 'Resource Curse': Theory and Evidence. Available online https://www.files.ethz.ch/isn/125773/ARI172-2010_DiJohn_Resource_Course_Theory_Evidence_Africa_LatinAmerica.pdf
- Kubayeva, Gulaikhan. (February 2015). *Economic impact of the Eurasian Economic Union on Central Asia*. Central Asia Security Policy Briefs. Norwegian Institute of International Affairs. Bishkek. Available Online https://www.osce-academy.net/upload/file/Policy_Brief_20.pdf
- Kazakhstan: Accelerating Economic Diversification*. (2018). Japan: Asian Development Bank.

- Mahnovski, Sergej, Kamiljon T. Akramov, and Theodore W. Karasik. (2006). "Economic Development in Central Asia is a Long-Term Security Concern". Santa Monica, CA: RAND Corporation. https://www.rand.org/pubs/research_briefs/RB188.html.
- Mahnovski, Sergej, Kamiljon T. Akramov, and Theodore W. Karasik. (2006). "Economic Dimensions of Security in Central Asia". Santa Monica, CA: RAND Corporation. <https://www.rand.org/pubs/monographs/MG417.html>.
- Mehdi, Parvizi Amineh. The resource curse: oil based development in Central Asia. International Institute of Asian Studies. Available online https://www.iias.asia/sites/default/files/2020-11/IIAS_NL42_27.pdf
- Medina, L., Abdih, Y. (2013). "Measuring the Informal Economy in the Caucasus and Central Asia". United States: INTERNATIONAL MONETARY FUND Working paper WP/13/37.
- Pomfret, R. W. T. (1994). "What Can Other Economies in Transition Learn from China?". Australia: Centre for International Economic Studies, University of Adelaide.
- Pomfret, R. W. T. (2002). *Constructing a Market Economy: Diverse Paths from Central Planning in Asia and Europe*. United Kingdom: Edward Elgar.
- Pomfret, R. (2014). *The Economies of Central Asia*. United States: Princeton University Press.
- Pomfret, R. (2019). *The Central Asian Economies in the Twenty-First Century: Paving a New Silk Road*. United Kingdom: Princeton University Press.
- Pomfret, R. (2020). *The Central Asian Economies Since Independence*. United States: Princeton University Press.
- Auty, M. Richard. (2001). Reforming Resource-Abundant Transition Economies: Kazakhstan and Uzbekistan in Ed book titled Resource Abundance and Economic Development. United Kingdom: OUP Oxford.
- Rumer, B. Z. (2016). *Central Asia at the End of the Transition*. United Kingdom: Taylor & Francis.
- Routledge Handbook of Contemporary Central Asia*. (2021). United Kingdom: Taylor & Francis.
- Sanghera, B., Satybaldieva, E. (2021). *Rentier Capitalism and Its Discontents: Power, Morality and Resistance in Central Asia*. Switzerland: Springer International Publishing.
- Connecting Central Asia with Economic Centers*. (2016). Japan: Brookings Institution Press.
- Institutional Reform in Central Asia: Politico-economic Challenges*. (2013). United Kingdom: Routledge.
- Spechler, M. C. (2008). *The Political Economy of Reform in Central Asia: Uzbekistan Under Authoritarianism*. (n.p.): Taylor & Francis.
- Spechler, M. C., Ahrens, J., Hoen, H. W. (2017). *State Capitalism in Eurasia*. Singapore: World Scientific Publishing Company.
- Spechler, M. C., Spechler, D. R. (2019). *Putin and His Neighbours: Russia's Policies Toward Eurasia*. United States: Lexington Books.

Stark Manuel and Joachim Ahrens. (2012). “Economic reform and institutional change in Central Asia: Towards a new model of the developmental state?”, *Forschungspapiere Research papers*. No 2012/05.

Svejnar, Jan. (Winter 2002). “Transition Economies: Performance and Challenges”, *Journal of Economic Perspectives*—Volume 16, Number 1—Winter 2002—Pages 3–28.
Available online: <https://pubs.aeaweb.org/doi/pdfplus/10.1257/0895330027058>

Stanley, Fischer. and Alan Gelb. (1991). “Issues in Socialist Economy Reform,” *Journal of Economic Perspectives*, Vol. 5 (Fall), pp. 91-105.

Stanley Fischer and Ratna Sahay. (April 2000). “The Transition Economies After Ten Years”. NBER Working Paper No. 7664. Available online https://www.nber.org/system/files/working_papers/w7664/w7664.pdf

“Transition Economies: An IMF Perspective on Progress and Prospects”. IMF Working Paper. November 3, 2000. <https://www.imf.org/external/np/exr/ib/2000/110300.htm>

Vassiliev, A. (2013). *Central Asia: Political and Economic Challenges in the Post-Soviet Era*. United Kingdom: Saqi. (Few Chapters)