

PUBPOL 674
Economic and Social Development of Cuba

January 7 – Feb. 18, 2003
Wednesday 4:00-7:00
Lorch 473

Prof. Katherine Terrell
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This two-credit seven course is open to all graduate students interested in understanding the evolution of Cuba's economic, political and social institutions and policies. We will begin with an overview of Cuba's history: the colonial period and important events from independence to 1959. However, most of the course will focus on the different phases of Castro's revolution in the 1960-2003 period, when we examine both domestic policy (economic and social) and international relations. The goal is to evaluate Cuba's progress in socio-economic development during the 1960-2003 periods and produce a report which will be distributed to all the donors to the Cuba trip.

Grades will be based on class participation and presentations, participation in the final policy paper/report and a final take-home exam, due Monday, February 16.

Week 1 (Monday, Jan 12): History (1500-1959)

During the first class we will read about Cuba 's history from the colonial period until Fidel Castro came into power. We should examine the society: Who were the different groups that inhabited this island making up the people of today (i.e., indigenous people, colonizers, immigrants)? Politics/Government/International Relations: How Cuba gained its independence from Spain . What forces brought Fidel Castro into power? Cuban-American relations in 1950s? Relations with Latin American countries? Economy: What was the economic base? Growth of GDP/capita? Exports? Poverty/inequality.

Perez, Louis A. (1995)“The Eclipse of Old Cuba,” Chap. 10 in *Cuba: Between Reform and Revolution* , 2 ed, pp. 276-312

Suchliki, James (1997) *Cuba: From Columbus to Castro and Beyond* , 4 ed .
following chapters:

Chap. 3: The Emerging Colony, 21-31 (10 pages) (overview of the early Colonial period)

Chap. 5: The Rise of King Sugar, 40-49 (9 pages) (the economics of the colonial agricultural base)

Chap. 7: The “Ever Faithful Colony” Rebels, 64-84 (20 pages) (opposition to Spain and Marti)

Chap. 11: Background to Revolution, 132-152 (20 pages) (1952-59, discontent to Revolution)

The Platt Amendment, 1903: <http://www.mtholyoke.edu/acad/intrel/platt.htm>

Supplementary Readings:

Scott, Rebecca J. (1985) Chap. 1: "Sugar and Slavery," *Slave Emancipation in Cuba*, pp. 3-41.

Simons, Geoff (1996) Chap. 3: The Slave Society, *Cuba: From Conquistador to Castro*, pp. 96-127

Students in charge of readings and class presentation: Norm Bishara, Lisa Langdon, Krishan Jhalani, Greg Hansen

Week 2 (Wed., Jan. 14): First Thirty Years of Socialism (1960-1990)

We should get an understanding of Marxism and how it was implemented in Cuba. What changes were made in economic and social sectors? International relations with Russia, US, Latin America. Important political issues. Impact of the US embargo.

Marxism and Socio-Economic Development

Richard L. Harris (1988) "[Marxism and the Transition to Socialism in Latin America](#)," *Latin American Perspectives*, Vol. 15, No. 1, Transition to Socialism. (Winter, 1988), pp. 7-53. Stable URL: <http://links.jstor.org/sici?sici=0094-582X%28198824%2915%3A1%3C7%3AMATTTS%3E2.0.CO%3B2-J>

Eckstein, Susan (1986) "[The Impact of the Cuban Revolution: A Comparative Perspective](#)" (in *The Achievements of Revolutions*) *Comparative Studies in Society and History*, Vol. 28, No. 3, pp. 502-534. Stable URL: <http://links.jstor.org/sici?sici=0010-4175%28198607%2928%3A3%3C502%3ATIOTCR%3E2.0.CO%3B2-A>

Foreign Relations

Wright, Thomas C. (2001) "U.S. responses to revolution" Chapter 4 in *Latin America in the era of the Cuban Revolution*. Praeger Publishers: Westport, Connecticut, London. (16 pages)

Katz, Mark N. (1983) [The Soviet-Cuban Connection](#) (in *Cuba between the Superpowers*) *International Security*, Vol. 8, No. 1, pp. 88-112. Stable URL: <http://links.jstor.org/sici?sici=0162-2889%28198322%298%3A1%3C88%3ATSC%3E2.0.CO%3B2-4>

Walters, Robert S. (1966) [Soviet Economic Aid to Cuba: 1959-1964](#) *International Affairs (Royal Institute of International Affairs 1944-)*, Vol. 42, No. 1, pp. 74-86. Stable URL: <http://links.jstor.org/sici?sici=0020-5850%28196601%2942%3A1%3C74%3ASEATC1%3E2.0.CO%3B2-Q>

Thompson, Frank (2002) "Cuba Case Study," in Michael P. Todaro and Stephen C. Smith. *Economic Development*. 8th edition, Addison-Wesley. (4 pages) http://wps.aw.com/aw_todarosmit_econdevelp_8/0,6111,284582-,00.html

Supplementary Readings

Dominguez, Jorge I. (1997) [U.S.-Cuban Relations: From the Cold War to the Colder War](#) *Journal of Interamerican Studies and World Affairs* , Vol. 39, No. 3, pp. 49-75. Stable URL: <http://links.jstor.org/sici?sici=0022-1937%28199723%2939%3A3%3C49%3AURFTCW%3E2.0.CO%3B2-C>

- **Video** : “The Last Days of the Revolution” (60 minutes)
- **Guest Speaker: Frank Thompson**, Department of Economics, University of Michigan
- Students in charge of readings and class presentation: Sebastian Anapolsky, Matt Wells, Liyun Wu

Week 3 (Jan. 21): 1990-present: Focus on the Economy (“Transition”)

During this week we will look at the changes in the economy with the collapse of the Soviet Union and subsequent introduction of market force (tourist sector development). Evolution of the GDP, GDP/capita, exports, etc.

Economist Intelligence Unit (EIU) *Cuba Country Report* , August 2003 (27 pp)
Monreal, Pedro (ed.) (2002) *Development Prospect in Cuba : An Agenda in the Making* , School of Advanced Studies, University of London. The following chapters:
Introduction: Monreal, Pedro "Racing Once Again to Catch Up", pp. 1-6.
Chapter 1: Monreal, Pedro “Export Substitution Reindustrialization in Cuba: Development Strategies Revisited”, pp 9-30.
Chapter 2: Carranza, Julio “The Cuban Economy during the 1990s: A Brief Assessment of a Critical Decade”, pp. 30-46.
Chapter 3: Pérez, Omar Everleny “Foreign Direct Investment in Cuba : Recent Experience and Prospects,” pp. 47-68.
Chapter 6: de Miranda, Mauricio "Domestic Markets and the Development Prospects of Cuba", pp. 119-136. Chapter 7: Brundinius, Claes "Industrial Upgrading and Human Capital in Cuba.
Mesa-Lago, Carmelo (2003) “The Slowdown in the Cuban Economy in 2003-2003: External Causes or Domestic Malaise?” unpublished paper.
“The Americas: Bitter Pills Cuba's Economy” *The Economist* , June 15, 2002.
“Blossoming” *The Economist* , February 11, 1995.
“The Americas: The disaster is now “irrevocable,” Cuba's Economy *The Economist* , July 6, 2002.
“The Americas: Dolarized Revolution; Cuba's Economy,” *The Economist* , Aug. 3, 2003.

Supplemental Reading:

Monreal, Pedro (ed.) (2002) *Development Prospect in Cuba : An Agenda in the Making* , School of Advanced Studies, University of London. Chapter 9: Vazquez, Julio Diaz “Markets and Reforms in China, Vietnam and Cuba” pp. 187-204.

- **Guest Speaker: Professor Carmelo Mesa-Lago**, University of Florida International, 4:00-5:30 in WDI Seminar Room
- Students in charge of readings and class presentation: Luis Castro, Julie Granof, Chris Reinstadtler

Week 4 (Jan. 28): the Environment and Agriculture

*During this class we will discuss what were the internal and external conditions that facilitated the transition to sustainable agriculture in Cuba . In what ways have Cuba 's environmental policies and agricultural policies become inextricably linked? How has the **movement toward environmental protection and sustainable agriculture allowed for more social equity to develop? How has the Cuban government balanced economic development with environmental protection?***

Sinclair, Minor and Martha Thompson. (2001) Cuba Going Against the Grain: Agricultural Crisis and Transformation. Oxfam America (53 pp)

<http://www.oxfamamerica.org/publications/art1164.html>

Funes, Fernando, Luis Garcia, Martin Bourque, Nilda Perez, and Peter Rosset (Eds.). (2001) *Sustainable Agriculture and Resistance* . Food First Books: Oakland, CA. Chapters 3, 4, 13

David Collis (1995) "Environmental Implications of Cuba's Economic Crisis" The Caribbean Project, Programs in International Affairs Trinity College, Washington, DC.

<http://www.trinitydc.edu/academics/depts/Interdisc/International/caribbean%20briefings/EnvironmentalImplications.pdf>

Supplemental Reading:

UNDP Cuba: Portfolio Highlights 1992-2001 (Focus on Related Projects)

- Video: The Greening of the Revolution -- Cuban perspective of maintaining the environment through sustainable agriculture (30 minutes)
- *Guest Speaker: Ivette Perfecto*, SNRE, University of Michigan, will talk about the basis of the sustainable agriculture, scientific changes and how it effects environment. (60 minutes)
- Students in charge of readings and class presentation: Dan Poux, Brenda Lin

Week 5 (Feb. 4): Social Policy and Poverty

Class will focus on evaluating the education and health systems developed under socialism and assess the degree of poverty. (80 pages of reading)

Gasperini, Lavinia (2000) "The Cuban Educational System: Lessons and Dilemmas," World Bank Country Study, July.

<http://www1.worldbank.org/education/globaleducationreform/pdf/cuba.pdf>

Erikson, Dan Annie Lord and Peter Wolf (2002) "Cuba's Social Services: A Review of Education, Health and Sanitation," Inter-American Dialogue for the 2004 World Development Report. http://econ.worldbank.org/files/30599_3_.pdf

Garfield, R., and S. Santana (1997) "The Impact of the economic crisis and the US embargo on health in Cuba," *American Journal of Public Health* , 87(1): 15-20.

<http://www.ajph.org/cgi/content/abstract/87/1/15>

Brundenius, Claes (2002) " Cuba : the Retreat From Entitlement," Chap. 16 in Abel, Christopher and Colin Lewi (ed.) *Exclusion and Engagement: Social Policy in Latin America* , pp.331-348.

Supplemental Reading

Sweeney, John (1996) "Seven Days in Havana : How Castro's market socialism works" <http://proquest.umi.com/pqdweb?index=0&did=000000010220108&SrchMode=1&sid=2&Fmt=3&VInst=PROD&VType=PQD&RQT=309&VName=PQD&TS=1069873522&lientId=17822>

- **Video** : "Forging Ahead for the Future" -- Education project in Pinar del Rio (27 mins)
- Students in charge of presenting readings: Jackie Tan, Bria Barker, Diego Stacy

Week 6 (Feb. 11): Urban Development/ Human Rights/Government

URBAN DEVELOPMENT

Roberto Segre, Mario Coyula, and Joseph L. Sacrpaci (1997) "The Hope and Reality of Socialist Housing". In *Havana: Two Faces of the Antillean Metropolis* " Wiley. (31 pages)

Andrew Farncombe and Rafael Betancourt "Canada Contributes to Sustainable Urban Development in Cuba: Revitalization of el Parque Metropolitano de La Habana"(9 pages) <http://www.globalexchange.org/countries/cuba/sustainable/metroPark.html>

Cuba: Preventing Poverty through Sustainable Development at Community Level. Human Development Program at the Local Level (PDHL) (7 pages)

<http://www.undp.org/rblac/wssd/documents/cuba.PDF>

HUMAN RIGHTS

2003 Human Rights Watch Report <http://hrw.org/wr2k3/americas5.html>

Hernandez Article from ReVista on "Democracy and Latin American"

Reporters without Borders "Cuba: the State of Press Freedom"
Lopez - "Civil Society and Repression"

GOVERNMENT

Ferrer, Jorge. 1994. Interview. Section on opinions of Cubans and electoral process in Cuba. Available at: <http://www.umich.edu/~jonshill/ferrer.htm>

Lopez, Juan J. 2002. *Democracy Delayed: The Case of Castro's Cuba*. Baltimore, MD: The Johns Hopkins University Press. Specific chapters and pages TBA.

Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Government of Cuba. (No date given.) Section on "Characteristic of the Cuban political and electoral system" (sic) section of "Cuban Political and Electoral System." Published on the world-wide web at: http://www.cubaminrex.cu/English/Focus_On/Cuban%20political%20and%20electoral%20system%20.htm

- **Video:** Voices from the Island of Freedom (Czech documentary)
- Students in charge of readings: Stephanie James, Jon Shill, Lipi Saikia

Week 7 (Feb. 18): Gender issues/Sports/Culture-Literature/Religion

Gender Issues:

Bunck, Julie Marie (1994) "Fidel Castro and the Quest for a Revolutionary Culture in Cuba," Chap. 3 in *Castro and the Goal of Sexual Equality*. Penn State University, p.87 – 124. (ISBN: 0271010878)

Literature :

Cristina García (ed.) *Cubanismo! The Vintage Book of Contemporary Cuban Literature*,

Martí, José, "Love in the City" from *War Diaries* , p.3 – 10

Carpentier, Alejo, "Journey Back to the Source", p.81 – 97

Arenas, Reinaldo, "Before Night Falls" , p.263 – 282

Religion :

Kirk, John M., "Toward a Rapprochement" Chapter 8 in *Between God and the Party* , p.172 - 178

"The Beginnings of Dialogue, 1979 – 1987," Chapter 7 in *Between God and the Party* p. 162 - 171

"Afro-Cuban Religions," in *The Regla de Ocha* p. 17 – 39

Sports :

Pettavino, Paula J. and GERALYN Pye (1994) "Sport in Cuba: Castro's Last Stand," in *Studies in Latin American Popular Culture*. Chapter 13, pp. 165 - 184

Sports Illustrated . May 15, 1995. Vol 82, Iss 19. pg 60 - 75

<http://proquest.umi.com/pqdlink?index=19&did=000000001812360&SrchMode=1&sid=1&Fmt=3&VInst=PROD&VType=PQD&RQT=309&VName=PQD&TS=1070294825&clientId=17822>

Supplemental Reading :

An exclusive interview with Harry Belafonte on Cuba. Sandra Levinson. November 25, 2003.

- **Guest Speaker: Ruth Behar** Department of Anthropology, University of Michigan
- Students in charge of class: Priya Naik, Aaron Skrocki, Matt Jacobs