

COURSE DETAIL

INSTITUTIONS OF GOVERNMENT AND DEVELOPMENT

Country

Netherlands

Host Institution

Leiden University College

Program(s)

Leiden University College

UCEAP Course Level

Upper Division

UCEAP Subject Area(s)

Political Science

UCEAP Course Number

100

UCEAP Course Suffix**UCEAP Official Title**

INSTITUTIONS OF GOVERNMENT AND DEVELOPMENT

UCEAP Transcript Title

INSTITUTION GOV&DEV

UCEAP Quarter Units

6.00

UCEAP Semester Units

4.00

Course Description

Global challenges are nearly all at some level issues of governance and development. This course considers the following questions: Why are some countries poor while others are wealthy? Why do well-established seemingly well-functioning countries not tackle serious challenges like climate change more aggressively? Why are human rights enforced by governments in some countries, while not in others? Why are some diverse communities pacific and cooperative, while others are divisive and violent? This course aims to provide students with a foundational understanding of how to tackle these questions. This course does this by introducing students to the institutional perspective, which focuses on the formal and informal rules that structure human interaction. Development of communities across time provides strong testable inferences about the origins of problems. More importantly, perhaps, the institutional perspective suggests an avenue by which we can look for solutions to these challenges because many institutions are of intentional human design, and thus can be designed differently. In other cases, a scientific understanding of the constraints facing human individuals may not point the way to solutions, but at least suggest which solutions are unlikely to work or worse, may have less desirable consequences.

Language(s) of Instruction

English

Host Institution Course Number

8001GED13Y

Host Institution Course Title

INSTITUTIONS OF GOVERNMENT AND DEVELOPMENT

Host Institution Campus

Host Institution Faculty

Host Institution Degree

Host Institution Department

Governance, Economics, and Development

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