

GLOBAL LAND RIGHTS AND DEVELOPMENT

Responsible Faculty Instructor:

Yinghong Huang 91513
Professor/PhD

Credits: 4

Credits Type:

Cross-registration:

Pre-requisites:

COURSE DESCRIPTION (COURSE VISION):

Land is a fundamental part of socio-economic development. In today's world, land rights are created to support economic growth and improve people's livelihoods. However, different countries develop and adjust their land rights systems in various ways depending on their history, politics, and social needs.

This course explores the land rights systems in key countries such as India, China, the United Kingdom, and the United States. It looks at how these systems have developed over time, how people and societies respond to them, and what experiences or lessons they can learn from one another. The course focuses especially on land reforms and land acquisition for economic development in both developed and developing countries, using real-world examples, laws, and policies as case studies.

The course is designed for undergraduate students from both law and social science backgrounds, offering an interdisciplinary approach to understanding land rights and their role in development.

TEACHING METHODOLOGY:

Lectures; Case studies; Presentations; Guest Lecture; Reading Assignments.

INTENDED LEARNING OUTCOMES:

- To develop a nuanced understanding of land rights in different countries.
- To develop research, analytical, verbal and written communication skills in relation to issues in land rights and land acquisition.
- To develop an ability to relate the right theoretical perspectives with contemporary debates and to present a coherent view/argument on land rights and land acquisition.

READING LIST (upto 10 select readings):

1. Barrington Moore, J. (1966). *Social Origins of Dictatorship and Democracy. Lord and.*
2. Harvey, D., 2004. *A brief history of neoliberalism.* Oxford University Press, USA.

3. Grotius, H. (2012). *Hugo Grotius on the law of war and peace*. Cambridge University Press.
4. Chakravorty, S. (2013). *The price of land: Acquisition, conflict, consequence*. Oxford University Press.
5. Levien, M. (2018). *Dispossession without development: Land grabs in neoliberal India*. Oxford University Press.
6. Balakrishnan, S., 2017. Land-based Financing for Infrastructure. Political Economy of Contemporary India. Cambridge University Press.
7. Ramesh, J., & Khan, M. A. (2015). *Legislating for equity: The making of the 2013 land acquisition law*. Oxford University Press.
8. Ding, C. (2007). Policy and praxis of land acquisition in China. *Land use policy*, 24(1), 1-13.
9. Denyer-Green, B. (2013). *Compulsory purchase and compensation*. Routledge.
10. Andreas, J., Kale, S. S., Levien, M., & Zhang, Q. F. (2020). Rural land dispossession in China and India. *The Journal of Peasant Studies*, 47(6), 1109–1142.

WEEKLY READING PLAN (WEEKLY OUTLINE):

A weekly plan is provided below:

MODULES	WEEK(S)
MODULE 1: WHY LAND IS IMPORTANT <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Showing how land affects social standing, economic opportunities, and social development in modern societies. 	1
MODULE 2: LAND, CLASSES AND POLITICAL REGIMES <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Discussing how rural structural changes shape approaches to modernity in different countries. 	2-3
MODULE 3: LAND REFORMS IN DEVELOPING WORLD <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Exploring how land reforms were planned and carried out in developing countries and regions like South Korea, Taiwan, India, and China. 	4-5
MODULE 4: LAND ACQUISITION: THE LEGAL FRAMEWORK IN DEVELOPED WORLD <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Examining the general doctrine of eminent domain and its origins in developed countries, including the U.K. and the U.S. 	6
MODULE 5: THE KELO CASE: EMINENT DOMAIN IN THE U.S. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Analyzing the <i>Kelo v. New London</i> case to examine the controversies surrounding eminent domain in the U.S. 	7
MIDTERM EXAMINATION	8
MODULE 6: SINGUR AND MAGARPATTA <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Examining and comparing two distinct examples of land 	9-10

acquisition and development in India to illustrate the diversity of practices on the ground.	
MODULE 7: WK AND FOSHAN <ul style="list-style-type: none">Comparing two opposite land acquisition cases in China to explore the vast different practice	11-12
MODULE 8: NEW APPROACHES TO DEVELOPMENT <ul style="list-style-type: none">Examining innovative approaches to development aimed at addressing the current dilemma.	13
REVISION WEEK	Week 14