

Rural Livelihoods and Food Systems

Syllabus

Prof. Eve Bratman

Summer, 2014 (May 28 – June 21, 2014)

COURSE DESCRIPTION:

This course provides insight into agrarian development theories and practice through the topical lens of food systems. The class investigates specific dynamics of agricultural production, rural labor relations, land use, and economic markets as they intersect with poverty alleviation and food systems in rural areas. The complexities of culture, environment, knowledge production, and social change will be analyzed through a multi-disciplinary approach. Development practice, sustainable food systems and the promotion of rural livelihoods are critically and analytically engaged through course lectures, readings, discussions, and assignments.

A practicum experience is integrated as a 3-credit hour companion to the course. Students should consider this course as compatible with continued coursework with both the Political Ecology of Food and Agriculture and Urban Development courses offered at SIS.

LEARNING OBJECTIVES FOR THE COURSE:

- ✓ Gain a nuanced understanding agrarian development and its relation to food systems in through an integrated political, economic and social analysis.
- ✓ Examine the trajectory of rural development in developed and in developing countries today, and how lessons from developed country experience can (and cannot) be applied to developing countries;
- ✓ Conduct developmental analyses, based a firm grounding in theory and with empirical application to case studies and comparative analysis.
- ✓ Appreciate the key leverage points, root causes, and complex power dynamics behind socio-environmental issues as they pertain to agriculture and rural development.

Evaluation of learning in the course is based on:

Class participation (35%)

Reflection notebook (<10 @ 2-3 page essays) (30%)

In-class presentation (10%)

Final comprehensive essay exam (25%)

REQUIRED TEXTS:

All the readings listed on the syllabus below are required readings. The course will read, in full, the following books, which are required for the course:

Le Breton, Binka. *Where the Road Ends: A Home in the Brazilian Rainforest* (New York: Thomas Dunne Books, 2010).

Lynch, Kenneth. *Rural-Urban Interaction in the Developing World*. (New York: Routledge, 2005).

Li, Tanya Murray. *The Will to Improve*.

ITINERARY:

May 28 – June 30, Fundacao Getulio Vargas, Rio de Janeiro

(Saturday June 31 is a free day in Rio, Sunday June 1 we travel to Iracambi)

June 2 – 6, Iracambi, Minas Gerais

(Weekend in Ouro Preto)

June 9 - 10, Belo Horizonte, Minas Gerais

June 11 – 13, Minas Gerais, Iracambi

(weekend off in Iracambi)

June 15- 20, Minas Gerais, Iracambi

COURSE READINGS:

May 28, 2014, Rio de Janeiro (FGV)

READ:

Shirts, Matthew (1989). Playing Soccer in Brazil: Socrates, Corinthians, and Democracy. *Wilson Quarterly* 13 (2), 119- 123.

McGrath, Sam. (2014) Samba Soccer. *The New Yorker*. 89(44).

Freeman, James. (2014). Raising the Flag over Rio de Janeiro's Favelas: Citizenship and Social Control in the Olympic City. *Journal of Latin American Geography*. 13(1), pp. 7-38

4 pm: **Sports and Society**

Dr. Bernardo Borges Buarque de Hollanda

Bernardo Borges Buarque de Hollanda has a Ph.D. in Social History from PUC-Rio, with a Sandwich Doctorate scholarship at the École des Hautes Études en Sciences Sociales (EHESS-Paris). He is assistant professor at FGV/CPDOC and was a postdoctoral fellow at the Maison des Sciences de L'homme (Paris, 2009), with a grant from the Centre National de la Recherche Scientifique (CNRS), where he developed a comparative research between supporter fans association in Brazil and France.

Thursday, May 29, 2014

READ: Bratman, Eve Z. (2014). “Contradictions of Green Development: Human Rights and Environmental Norms in Light of Belo Monte Dam Activism.” *Journal of Latin American Studies*, 46, pp 261-289.

Cavalcanti, Mariana. 2013. “Threshold markets : the production of real-estate value between the "favela" and the "pavement"” in *Cities from Scratch: poverty and informality in urban Latin America* , edited by Brodwyn Fischer, Bryan McCann, and Javier Auyero. Durham : Duke University Press, 2014, p. 208-237.

11 am: Environmental Development and Brazil

Dr. Eve Bratman and Dr. Rômulo Sampaio

Eve Bratman holds a Ph.D. from American University's School of International Service (2009). She was a Fulbright Scholar in Brazil (2007) and holds a Certificate in Human Rights from the Washington College of Law (2004). She is an assistant professor at SIS. Her major research projects focus on the links between environmental policy, agriculture, and human rights in Brazil and beyond.

Rômulo Smapaio has a Ph.D. & LLM in Environmental Law from Pace University School of Law. He is professor at the FGV Law School (FGV/Direito Rio) and the academic coordinator of the Law and Environment Program at FGV. His research interests include Comparative Environmental Law and Risk Regulation.

2 pm: Urban Studies in Brazil

Dr. Mariana Cavalcanti

Mariana Cavalcanti has a Ph.D. in Anthropology from the University of Chicago. She is assistant professor at FGV/CPDOC, currently working on an ethnography of “favela” consolidation in Rio de Janeiro, in which she examines, from the standpoint of housing and the built environment in

general, the shifting articulations between the commoditization of the city's shantytowns and the territorial spatiality produced by a drug trade centered around the retail sale of cocaine.

Friday, May 30, 2014

READ: USAID's Profile of Land and Resource Rights in Brazil <http://usaidlandtenure.net/brazil>

Saad-Filho, Alberto (2014). Mass Protests under Left Neoliberalism in Brazil, June-July 2013. *Critical Sociology* 39: 657- 669

Montero, Alfred P. Chapters 2, 5, and 6 in *Brazil: Reversal of Fortune*. (Polity Press, 2014).

11am: Brazilian Economic History

André Villela has been an assistant professor at FGV's Graduate School of Economics (FGV/EPGE) since 2002, teaching and doing research in the economic history of Brazil. He is co-author and co-organizer of the book "Economia Brasileira Contemporânea: 1945-2010", published by Campus/Elsevier.

2pm: Introduction to Brazilian Politics

Dr. Fernando Lattman-Weltman

Fernando Lattman-Weltman has been an associate professor at FGV/CPDOC since 1991. He has a Ph.D. in Political Science from IUPERJ, and a M.A. in Sociology and Anthropology from the Federal University of do Rio de Janeiro (UFRJ). He was visiting scholar at New York University (NYU) in 2012, and has published books, chapters and papers on media & politics, political theory, and on Brazilian political institutions, political thought, political elites and mobility.

4pm: Social Inequality in Brazil

Dr. Flavio Alex de Oliveira Carvalhaes

Flavio Carvalhaes has a Ph.D. in Sociology from IESP-UERJ. He was full-time researcher at the Brazilian Center for Social Analysis and Planning (CEBRAP) and is now post-doctoral fellow at FGV/CPDOC. He has experience in the areas of Social Stratification and Inequality, with particular interest in the following topics: life cycle, social inequality, social disparities in health, educational stratification, social class, race relations, income and earnings inequality and quantitative methodology.

June 1, 2014 - Arrival at Iracambi

READ: (by the time we arrive at Iracambi): Le Breton, Binka. *Where the Road Ends: A Home in the Brazilian Rainforest* (entire).

June 2, 2014

Morning: Practicum Overview (with Robin LeBreton). See separate background readings

Afternoon: RLFS. The Basic Problems of Food Systems and Rural Livelihoods

(Nature and features of rural economies. Dimension, dynamics and magnitude of rural population Demographic tradition, Rural-urban-migration. Hunger and dimensions of food systems analysis.)

READ:

Lynch, Kenneth. *Rural – Urban Interaction in the Developing World*. Chapters 1 & 2 pp. 1 – 67.

Chambers, Robert (1995) *Whose Reality Counts: Putting the Last First*. Prentice Hall. Chapter 6 (Chapter 7 is recommended).

Ellis, Frank, and Biggs, Stephen. (2001) Evolving themes in rural development, 1950s-2000. *Development Policy Review* 19 (4) 437-448.

Recommended: Barrett, Christopher and Brent M. Swallow, “Dynamic Poverty Traps and Rural Livelihoods.” in Frank Ellis and H. Ade Freedman, eds. *Rural Livelihoods and Poverty Reduction Policies*, p. 16 – 27.

June 3, 2014

Practicum: Mining (afternoon)

RLFS: Peasant Studies in Theoretical Perspectives (9:00 AM)

Carlson, Allan. 2007. *Third Ways: How Bulgarian Greens, Swedish Housewives, and Beer-Swilling Englishmen Created Family-Centered Economies - And Why They Disappeared*. Excerpt from chapter 3, “Alexander Chayanov and the Theory of Peasant Utopia.” (starts mid-chapter) p. 69-82.

~~Scott, James C. 1998. *Seeing Like a State: How Certain Schemes to Improve the Human Condition Have Failed*. New Haven: Yale University Press, ch. 8, “Taming Nature,” pp. 262-306.~~

Recommended: A.V. Chayanov. 1986. *The Theory of Peasant Economy*. Madison: University of Wisconsin Press, pp. Xi-xxiii, 1-24, 35-117.

June 4, 2014

(Robin out today)

RLFS: Land and Political Relations in Agrarian Systems

Lynch, Kenneth. *Rural-Urban Interaction in the Developing World*. Chapter 3. “Natural Flows”, pp. 68-96.

Bernstein, Henry. 2010. *Class Dynamics and Agrarian Change* (Sterling, VA : Kumarian Press). p. 39-59, 79-100.

Prado, Rosane. 1995. "Small town, Brazil: Heaven and hell of personalism." in Roberto Da Matta and David J. Hess, Eds. *The Brazilian Puzzle: Culture on the Borderlands of the Western World*. New York : Columbia University Press. p. 59-84.

June 5, 2014

Talk with organic farmer (timing TBD)

RLFS: Labor and Farm work Justice

Besky, Sarah. "What is a Plantation?" p. 6-8, "The Twenty-First Century Plantation" pp. 14-18, and Chapter 4, "Fairness" pp.113-135.

Lawrence S. Grossman. 1998. *The Political Ecology of Bananas: Contract Farming, Peasants, and Agrarian Change in the Eastern Caribbean* (Chapel Hill: University of North Carolina Press). pp. 124-207.

Recommended: video, *Roots of Hunger; Roots of Change: Hunger in Senegal*

June 6, 2014

Depart for Ouro Preto, 14:00

RLFS: Land Distribution and Small-Scale Agriculture

Notebook collection #1 (you should have at least 4 entries written – due at 14:00)

Sauer, Sérgio (2009). "Market-led 'agrarian reform' in Brazil: a dream has become a debt burden." *Progress in Development Studies* 9.2 (Apr 2009): 127-140.

Vedeld, Paul et. Al (2012). "Protected areas, poverty and conflicts: A livelihood case study of Mikumi National Park, Tanzania." *Forest Policy and Economics* 21, pp. 20 – 31.

Recommended:

Russett, Bruce. 1964. "Inequality and Instability: The Relation of Land Tenure to Politics." *World Politics* 16: 03 pp. 442-454.

Miguel Carter, 2011. "The Landless Rural Worker's Movement and Democracy in Brazil." *Latin American Research Review* , available from:

http://ggjalliance.org/system/files/Miguel%20Carter%20LARR%20Article%20%282011%29_0%20%281%29.pdf

August 25, 2012. *The Diplomat* "Land Reform Key to Burma's Future."
<http://thediplomat.com/2012/08/25/land-reform-key-to-burmas-future/>

Film: *When the Monsoon Comes*

June 9-10, 2014 (Belo Horizonte) Food Security and Resilient Food Networks

June 9 READ: Francis Moore Lappe, Belo Horizonte chapter.
<http://www.yesmagazine.org/issues/food-for-everyone/the-city-that-ended-hunger>
Belo Horizonte Urban Agriculture law, http://agriculturaurbana.org.br/textos/BH_MG_%20Lei_%2010255_13set2011.pdf

Rocha, Cecilia, and Iara Lessa (2009). "Urban Governance for Food Security: The Alternative Food System of Belo Horizonte, Brazil." *International Planning Studies*, 14:4, pp. 389- 400.

8:30 AM: Visit to community Garden

Lunch: Restaurant Popular

2:00 PM: Guest lecture: Maria Angela, Belo Horizonte Mayor's office, Secretariat for Food Supply.

June 10 – Free morning, Return to Iracambi in afternoon (Time TBC, est. 14:00)

June 11, 2014

Speak with Rosário da Limeira deputy Mayor and former STR leader, 14:00 (in Limeira)

RLFS: Rural Productivity and Food Security

USAID's Issue Brief on Land Tenure and Food Security

<http://usaidlandtenure.net/issue-briefs/land-tenure-and-food-security>

Fan, Shenggen, Brzeska, Joanna, Keyzer, Michiel, and Alex Halsema (2013). "From Subsistence to Profit: Transforming Smallholder Farms." *IFPRI* Washington, DC.
<http://www.ifpri.org/sites/default/files/publications/pr26.pdf>

Goldman, Richard H. "Food and food poverty: Perspectives on distribution." *Social Research*, 66:1 (Spring 1999): 283-304.

Recommended:

Cook, Simon E. Myles J. Fisher, Meike S. Andersson, Jorge Rubiano and Mark Giordano (2009) "Water, food and livelihoods in river basins," *Water International*, 34(1), pp. 13-29.

June 12, 2014

Brazil world cup game (Limeira)

RLFS: "Improvement" and Rural Development

Li, Tanya Murray. 2004. *The Will to Improve* Chapters 2, 4, 5, and 7.

Recommended: Mosse, David. 2005. "Consultant Knowledge." in *Cultivating Development: An Ethnography of Aid Practice* (New York: Pluto Press), pp. 132-156.

June 13, 2014

RLFS: Context Matters: Agricultural Productivity and Neoliberalism

Notebook collection #2 (you should have at least 4 new entries, 8 total)

Watson, Kelly, and Achinelli, Moira. 2008. Context and Contingency: The coffee crisis for conventional small-scale coffee farmers in Brazil. *The Geographical Journal* 17(3), pp. 223 – 234.

Jayne, T.S., Mather, David, and Elliot Mghenyi. (2010). “Principal Challenges Confronting Smallholder Agriculture in Sub-Saharan Africa” *World Development*. 38(10), pp. 1384-1398.

Lilliston, Ben, and Hansten-Kuhn, Karen. 2013. “From Dumping to Volatility: The Lessons of Trade Liberalization for Agriculture.” *Excerpt from UNCTAD Trade and Environment Review 2013* September 19, 2013

http://www.iatp.org/files/2013UNCTAD_IATP_COMMENTARY.pdf

June 16, 2014

PRACTICUM FOCUS DAY

June 17, 2014

Rural Life and Youth conversation with Darlaiza – campfire talk, 20:00 (TBC)

RLFS: The Role of Women in Food Systems and Rural Development

Shiva, Vandana, 2010. “Women in the Food Chain” *Staying Alive: Women, ecology and survival in India* (Zed Books: London). pp. 96-178.

Naotaka Sawada and Vedini Harish Chandra, 2011. “Sustainable Support System for Rural Women Entrepreneurs: Ethiopia.” World Bank Discussion Paper #49, http://siteresources.worldbank.org/INTARD/Resources/Ethiopia_web.pdf

Video: *Man Made Famine*

June 18, 2014

RLFS: Food Futures - CLASS PRESENTATIONS

Notebook Collection #3 (you should have at least 2 new entries)

Presentations should make a focused “pitch” for making a policy or practice-oriented case for an intervention or argument involved in fostering sustainable rural livelihoods and food systems. Ground your presentation in course readings and make an argument that not only explains why doing something is important, but also with audience, scope, and scale in mind. The pitch should

be approximately 5 minutes long, and highly polished in your work. Slides may be used. Be creative!

Grading will be based on clarity, cohesion of argument, strength of evidence, presentation style.

June 19, 2014

Coffee Processing Factory Visit – and public holiday in Brazil

RLFS: Towards Green Agriculture and Food Systems? Paradox and Practice

Koohafkan, Parviz, Miguel A. Altieri and Eric Holt Gimenez. (2012)“Green Agriculture: foundations for biodiverse, resilient and productive agricultural systems.” *International Journal of Agricultural Sustainability*, 10 (1), pp. 61–75.

Guthman, Julie. (2004) *Agrarian Dreams: The Paradox of Organic Farming in California*. Berkeley: University of California Press, 2004. pp. 2-20.

June 20, 2014

RLFS: Final Exam (2 hours long)

And... Practicum wrap-up (FINAL PRESENTATION)