

Erling Berge, 22 august 2006

SOS3508 Resource management: Institutions and institutional design

Based on contributions from political science, neo-institutional economics, sociology, anthropology, biology, history, and philosophy the goal of the class is to understand better how variations in formal and informal institutions affect economic and social development in general and in particular the sustainable use of resources. Today redesigning institutions to improve on the sustainability of resource use is a primary concern for most governments at all levels.

The class will be thought in English if anyone so wishes.

Participants are expected to write a book review, make an oral presentation and write a term paper:

1. Book review

Write a book review of one of the books Diamond 2005, Easterly 2001 or de Soto 2000.

The book review can be maximum 600 words.

The book review ought to be done no later than 13 September.

2. Oral presentation

Make an oral presentation in class (10-20 min) of an article **not on the list of required readings**. For example taken from Hanna, Folke and Mäler 1996, Berge and Stenseth 1998, Goodin 1996, or Williamson 1996.

The presentation ought to be held no later than 11 October

3. Term paper

Write a term paper on some topic from the class readings or discussions. It is expected to be some 5600-7500 words or 15-20 pages and should in addition to required readings utilise readings from outside the required reading list. In writing the term paper you should follow the standard given by http://www.svt.ntnu.no/iss/studentinfo/vitenskapelig_form_og_stil.pdf (in Norwegian)

Deadline for term paper is 24 November.

Room and time:		
D117, Dragvoll, Building 9 Level 4, Wednesdays at 1215-1600 starting 23 August		
		THEME
1	23 Aug	Introduction to the problems of environmental degradation and socio-economic development: Diamond, de Soto, Easterly
2	30 Aug	Institutional theory, a survey: Scott, Luhmann,
3	6 Sep	Some notes on property rights to nature: Schlager&Ostrom, Ensminger
4	13 Sep	Institutional analysis: Ostrom Ch 1-2
5	20 Sep	Institutional analysis: Ostrom Ch 3-4
6	27 Sep	The construction of social reality: culture, formal vs. informal institutions: Searle
7	4 Oct	The customary foundation of institutions: Douglas
8	11 Oct	The process of economic change: North Ch 1-6
9	18 Oct	
10	25 Oct	A grammar of institutions, Ostrom Ch 5
11	1 Nov	Classification of rules: Ostrom Ch 6-7
12	8 Nov	Using the rules: Ostrom Ch 8-9
13	15 Nov	The dynamics of change: North Ch 7-13
	24 Nov	Term paper due

Required reading (pensum):

- Diamond, Jared 2005, *Collapse: How Societies Choose to Fail or Succeed*, Viking, New York (Read Prologue, from part 2 ch 6-8, from part 3 ch 10&13, and all of part 4)
- Douglas, Mary 1987, *How Institutions Think*, Routledge & Kegan Paul, London
- Easterly, William 2001, *The Elusive Quest for Growth*, MIT Press, Cambridge, (Read chapters 1 & 3)
- Hanna, Susan, Carl Folke & Karl-Göran Mäler (eds.) 1996, *Rights to Nature*, Island Press, Washington, (Read chapters 7 & 9)
- Luhmann, N. 1985, *A sociological theory of law*, Routledge and Kegan Paul, London, (Read Introduction & chapter 1, Classical beginnings of the sociology of law)
- North, Douglass C. 2005, *Understanding the Process of Economic Change*, Princeton UP, Princeton
- Ostrom, Elinor 2005, *Understanding Institutional Diversity*, Princeton University Press, Princeton
- Scott, W Richard 1995, *Institutions and Organisations*, Sage, London. (Read chapters 1-6.)
- Searle, John R. 1995, *The Construction of Social Reality*, The Free Press, New York, (Read chapters 1-6.)
- de Soto, Hernando 2000, *The Mystery of Capital*, Basic Books, New York.

Lectures are in general (but not exclusively) based on the books on the list of required reading. Reading of the texts on the reading list except those by Diamond, Easterly and de Soto will cover the required reading. The books by Diamond, Easterly and de Soto should be read for inspiration rather than examination. After the introductory texts you might want to read Scott and Luhmann to get to know the early approaches to institutional theory in sociology, economics, and other social sciences. The central texts are the books by Douglas, North, Searle, and Ostrom. Chapters in Hanna & al. supply supplementary perspectives.

Up to 40% of the required reading can be replaced by other relevant readings according to the student's choice.

Suggestions for further relevant readings (annen anbefalt litteratur):

From books on the required reading list those chapters not on the list of required readings are of course relevant as additional reading

Some papers found at Erling Berge's homepage < <http://www.sv.ntnu.no/iss/Erling.Berge/>>

- Berge, Erling and Nils Chr. Stenseth (eds) 1998, *Law and the Governance of Renewable Resources*, Oakland, ICS Press
- Crosby, Alfred W. 1993, *Ecological Imperialism: The Biological Expansion of Europe, 900-1900*, Cambridge UP, Cambridge.
- Fagan, Brian 2004, *The Long Summer: How Climate Changed Civilization*, Basic Books, New York.
- Fagan, Brian 2000, *How Climate Made History: 1300-1850*, Basic Books, New York.
- Goodin, Robert E. (ed.) 1996 *The Theory of Institutional Design*, Cambridge UP, Cambridge.
- North, Douglass C. & Robert P. Thomas 1973, *The Rise of the Western World: A New Economic History*, Cambridge UP, New York.
- North, Douglass C. 1990, *Institutions, Institutional Change and Economic Performance*, Cambridge UP, Cambridge.
- Ostrom, Elinor 1990, *Governing the Commons: The Evolution of Institutions for Collective Action*, Cambridge UP, Cambridge
- Peters, B. Guy 2005 *Institutional Theory in Political Science The New Institutionalism*", Second Edition, continuum, London
- Schmid, A Allen 2004 *Conflict and Cooperation. Institutional and Behavioral Economics*. Basil Blackwell, Oxford.
- Williamson, Oliver E. 1996 *The Mechanisms of Governance*, Oxford University Press.

Useful web-links

<http://www.iasep.org/>

<http://www.desotowatch.net/>

<http://legalempowerment.undp.org/>