

PLS 341
Evaluating the explanations of development

	Modernization	Neoliberalism	Geographic determinism	Colonialism*	Dependency	Institutionalism	Capabilities†
Universalistic	Yes	Yes	No (caveat)	No	Yes	No	Yes
Normative	Yes	Yes	No (usually)	No (caveat)	Yes	No (caveat)	Yes
Structural/deterministic	Yes	No	Yes	No	Yes	Yes (usually)	No
Binary-based	Yes	No (caveat)	No	No (caveat)	Yes	No	No
Eurocentric	Yes	Yes	No (debatable)	No	No (debatable)	No (debatable)	No (debatable)
Nation-state-centric	Yes	Complicated	No	No	Yes (caveat)	No	No
Economy-centric	Yes	Yes	No	No	Yes	No	No
Attentive to history	No	No	No	Yes	Ish	Depends	No
Attentive to power relations	No	No	No	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Used as a tool of the powerful	Yes	Yes	No	No	No	No (debatable)	No
Grounded in reality	No	No	Yes (to a degree)	Yes	No	Yes	No
Influential outside academia	Yes	Yes	Somewhat	N/A	Yes	Yes	Yes

* Not really a self-contained explanation of development, but, rather, a historical phenomenon that helps to explain development.

† An approach to understanding development rather than an explanation of development as such; included here for completeness' sake.