

INTRODUCTION TO GLOBAL DEVELOPMENT

INTA 2050-A

Fall 2015

Mondays, Wednesdays, Fridays 9:05-9:55

Instructional Center, Room 113

There are no prerequisites for this course

This course fulfills the Social Science and Global Perspective GEN ED requirements at Georgia Tech

Instructor: Alberto Fuentes (alberto.fuentes@inta.gatech.edu)

Office Hours: Wednesdays, 10-12 or by appointment in office 316, Habersham (781 Marietta St)

Overview

This course introduces students to the history, theory and practice of international development. Students will examine the different meanings and objectives of global development, paying particular attention to economic growth, poverty alleviation, inequality reduction, capability enhancement, the defense of human rights and sustainability. They will also learn about competing theories of development, with particular emphasis on modernization, structuralist and neoliberal paradigms. Students will also be introduced to different actors actively involved in the field, such as the state, non-governmental organizations (NGOs), official development assistance (ODA) agencies, and business. Through real-world cases, the course will address the implications of development initiatives and projects for demographic groups in the Global South – including marginalized or vulnerable populations, such as small farmers, indigenous groups, and women – and the environment. This introductory course will prepare students to better understand, assess and participate in the project of global development. Students will also be ready for more advanced courses on development.

Learning Outcomes

Students will be able to:

1. Demonstrate the ability to describe the social, political, and economic forces that influence social behavior
2. Demonstrate the ability to describe the social, political, and economic forces that influence the global system
3. Describe and assess the different goals pursued in international development
4. Understand and critically evaluate some of the prevalent theories in the field
5. Deploy those theories to analyze problems faced by the different actors involved in the project of development
6. Describe how key international financial institutions, states, firms, and civil society organizations are organized and how they frame development issues
7. Use different sources of data to develop cross-country comparisons along various indicators of development

8. Express their arguments clearly and effectively both in written reports and class discussions
9. Work in small groups in a way that demonstrates respect for their colleagues and efficiency in working collaboratively towards projects and goals

Required Text

Haslam, P., Jessica Shafer and Pierre Baudet (eds). *Introduction to International Development: Approaches, actors, and issues*. Canada: Oxford University Press, 2012 (available in bookstore and Amazon.com).

All additional readings will be available on the class website.

Requirements:

- Attendance and Participation (10%): Attendance is required, and students must complete the assigned readings before class in order to participate in class activities. Absences will count against students' participation score.
- Worksheets (15%): Throughout the course, students will participate in different in-class activities, including discussions, small group projects and case analyses. In some of those activities, students will be required to complete written worksheets. There are three possible grades for the worksheets: check plus (✓+), check minus (✓-) and 0. There will be 16 worksheets spread out throughout the semester. The lowest worksheet score will be dropped.
- Quizzes (20%): Students will complete 11 pop quizzes throughout the course. These short quizzes will have two short answer questions related to the readings for the class. The lowest score will be dropped.
- Midterm Exam (15%): The midterm exam will take place on September 26. More details will be provided one week before the exam.
- Essay (20%): On November 6, students will turn in one four-page essay. The questions to motivate the essay will be provided on October 31, one week before the due date.
- Final exam (20%) – The final exam will take place on December 11, from 8:00 – 10:50 a.m. Students will be required to write two essays. Questions for the essays will be provided on December 4.

ADAPTS

The instructor will work with ADAPTS so that all students have an equal opportunity for success. For information on ADAPTS, see <http://www.adapts.gatech.edu/>

Academic integrity and Honor Code

While students are encouraged to work together and collaborate with each other, you should clearly differentiate your work from that of others, including your peers and bibliographical sources. Complete and accurate representation of all direct quotations and paraphrased material is required. Plagiarizing will be addressed in accordance with the Georgia Tech Honor Code (<http://honor.gatech.edu/plugins/content/index.php?id=9>)

Calendar and Reading Assignments

Week		Topic	Readings
CONCEPTS AND MEASUREMENTS			
Week 1 August 17-23	M	Introduction: The three central questions of the course	
	W	The origins of the concept of development I: Colonialism and Imperialism	Haslam et al pp. 29-42
	F	The origins of the concept of development II: capitalism	Truman, H. "Inaugural Address," January 20, 1949 Mujica, J. "Statement, General Assembly of the United Nations," September 24, 2013 (video) (http://gadebate.un.org/68/uruguay)
Week 2 August 24 - 30	M	National production, GDP and growth	Bureau of Economic Analysis, "Output" in <i>Measuring the Economy: A Primer on GDP and the National Income and Product Accounts</i> , U.S. Department of Commerce, September 2007. McArdle, M. "Misleading indicator", <i>The Atlantic</i> , November 2009.
	W	Poverty	Banerjee and Duflo. <i>The economic lives of the poor</i> , October 2006.
	F	Inequality	OXFAM. "Executive Summary" in <i>Even it up: time to end extreme inequality</i> . 2014 (read pp. 4-24).
Week 3 August 31 – September 6	M	Capabilities and human development	Ul-Haq, M. "The human development paradigm in <i>Readings in Human Development</i> . Sakiko Fukuda-Parr and A. K. Shiva Kuma (eds.). Oxford, UK: Oxford University Press, 2003 (read pp. 17-22)
	W	The Millennium Development Goals (MDGs) and beyond	<i>The Economist</i> , "Assessing development goals: the good, the bad and the hideous," March 28, 2015. <i>The Economist</i> , "Development: The 169 Commandments," March 28, 2015.
	F	Human Rights	United Nations. <i>International bill of human rights</i> , 1948. (read Articles 1-30) Kaminer, A. and Sean O'Driscoll. "Workers at NYU's Abu Dhabi site faced harsh conditions" in <i>The New York Times</i> , May 18, 2014.

Week 4 September 7 - 13	M	HOLIDAY	
	W	Gender and development	Haslam et al pp. 86-103.
	F	Sustainability	<i>The Economist</i> . "The price of green," May 9, 1992 Jeremic, V and Jeffrey Sachs, "Global Cooperation," <i>The World Post</i> , March 7, 2014
Week 5 September 14 - 20	M	Guest speaker: Dr. Alex Millman	Cardonna, J. "Is 'progress' good for humanity?"
	W	Happiness	<i>The Economist</i> . "The pursuit of happiness; Bhutan," December 18, 2004 Larmer, B. "Bhutan's Enlightened Experiment," <i>National Geographic</i> , March 2008.
	F	Midterm Exam	
THEORIES OF DEVELOPMENT			
Week 6 September 21 - 27	M	Introduction to theories and the geography of development	Sachs, J. <i>Tropical Underdevelopment</i> . NBER Working Paper 8119, February 2001
	W	Modernization Theory: origins	Haslam et al pp. 52-56
	F	Modernization Theory: Tenets	Gilman, N. <i>Mandarins of the Future: Modernization Theory in Cold War America</i> . The Johns Hopkins University Press, , Baltimore, 2003. (read pp. 1 – 20) Re-read: Truman, H. "Inaugural Address," January 20, 1949 (focus on Point 4)
Week 7 September 28 – October 4	M	Application of Modernization Theory: Pharaonic projects	<i>The Economist</i> . "Power and the Xingu; Energy in Brazil," April 24, 2010 Brown, C. "Kayapo Courage," <i>National Geographic</i> , January 2014 Fajans-Turner, Vanessa. October, 2014 (listen to the interview)
	W	Modernization Theory: A critique	Easterly, W. "Introduction" in <i>Tyranny of Experts</i> , New York, NY: Basic Books, 2013

	F	Colonialism and the origins of Structuralism	Lange, M., J. Mahoney and M. Vom Hau. "Colonialism and Development: A comparative Analysis of Spanish and British Colonies," <i>American Journal of Sociology</i> , 111(5), 2006. (read pp. 1412-1416)
Week 8 October 5 - 11	M	Structuralism: Tenets	Haslam et al pp. 56-58
	W	Structuralism in Latin America and Africa	Frank, A.G. <i>Latin America: Underdevelopment or Revolution</i> . MR, New York, 1969. (read pp. 3-9) Rodney, W. <i>How Europe Underdeveloped Africa</i> . Howard University Press, Washington D.C., 1974. (read pp. 13-28)
	F	Structuralism Theory: A critique	Amsden, A. "Taiwan's economic history: A case of etatisme and a challenge to dependency theory," <i>Modern China</i> , 5(3), 1990.
Week 9 October 12 – 18	M	HOLIDAY	
	W	Critique of Statism and the Tenets of Neoliberalism	Haslam et al pp. 59-62 Williamson, J. "What Washington Means by Policy Reform," in ed. Williamson, J., <i>Latin American Adjustment: How Much has Happened?</i> Peterson Institute for International Economics: Washington D.C., 1990.
	F	The application of neoliberalism in Latin America, Africa and Asia	<i>The Economist</i> . "Reforming Latin America," November 26, 1994.
Week 10 October 19 – 25	M	Neoliberalism: A critique	Rodrik, D. "Goodbye Washington Consensus, Hello Washington Confusion? A review of the World Bank's Economic Growth in the 1990s: Learning from a decade of reform," <i>Journal of Economic Literature</i> , XLIV, 2006. (read pp. 973-977).
	W	Emerging theories: Rational Choice Institutionalism	Rodrik, D. "Goodbye Washington Consensus, Hello Washington Confusion? A review of the World Bank's Economic Growth in the 1990s: Learning from a decade of reform," <i>Journal of Economic Literature</i> , XLIV, 2006. (read pp. 977-980).
	F	Emerging theories: state capacity and the new industrial policy	Haslam et al pp. 62-63 Chang, H. "Africa needs an active industrial policy to sustain its growth," <i>The Guardian</i> , July 15, 2012. ESSAY QUESTION PROVIDED
Week 11 October 26 – November 1	M	Guest Lecturer: Dr. Kirk Bowman	TBD
	W	The Post-Development Critique	Biddle, P. "The problem with little white girls, boys, and voluntourism," <i>Huffington Post</i> , August 5, 2014.

			Kahn, C. "As volunteerism explodes in popularity, who's it helping most," <i>NPR</i> , July 31, 2014.
	F	No class/catch-up	ESSAY DUE
THE COLLECTIVE ACTORS			
Week 12 November 2 – 8	M	The State	Haslam et al pp. 127-140
	W	Failed States	<i>The Economist</i> . "From chaos, order; Rebuilding failed states," March 5, 2005.
	F	Guest Lecture: Dr. Miklaus Fabry	TBD
Week 13 November 9 – 15	M	International Donors and Official Development Assistance (ODA)	Haslam et al pp. 143-156
	W	The United Nations	Allen & Thomas (eds), <i>Poverty and development: Into the 21st Century</i> . United Kingdom: Oxford University Press, 2000. Pp. 199-204
	F	Guest Lecture: Dr. Kimberly Pringle	TBD
Week 14 November 16 – 22	M	Multilateral financial institutions	Haslam et al pp. 159-163
	W	Civil society and NGOs	Haslam et al pp. 217-222 and 227-231
	F	The perils of development from below	Sanyal, B. "The Myth of Development from Below" (read pp. 1-10)
Week 15 November 23 – 29	M	Business (MNCs)	Haslam et al, pp. 197-204 Niemi, Wayne. "The Next Chapter: How to Incorporate Labor Rights Needs" in <i>Footwear News</i> , 60 (38), September 27, 2004
	W	HOLIDAY	
	F	HOLIDAY	
Week 16 November 30 – December 4	M	Guest Lecture: Mr. Scott Merrill	TBD
	W	Wrap-Up	
	F	Final Exam Review	FINAL EXAM QUESTIONS PROVIDED