

INTA 2050. INTRODUCTION TO GLOBAL DEVELOPMENT

Fall 2023

MW 9:30-10:45, Weber SST III 2

There are no prerequisites for this course

This course fulfills the Social Science requirement at Georgia Tech

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

Office Hours: Virtual, by appointment

Teaching Assistant: Samyuktha Sundararajan (ssundararajan9@gatech.edu)

Description

Global Development is a dynamic and multidisciplinary field that focuses on reducing poverty and inequality and improving the socio-economic wellbeing of citizens across the globe. This course provides an introduction to the field. The course will be divided into three parts: in the first part, students will spend time unpacking concepts and definitions related to global development. In the second part, they will gain an understanding of the main theories of development. In the third part, they will learn about the role that various actors, such as aid agencies, NGOs and national states, play in the field of development. Students will examine these topics through the lens of key development debates in the academic literature, paired with illustrations from real-world cases. This course will leave students with a better understanding of both the conceptual and practical aspects of global development, and will prepare them for more advanced courses in the field.

Pre-Requisites

There are no prerequisites for this course. This course fulfills the social science requirement at Georgia Tech and is a required course for the Global Development Minor.

Course Goals and Learning Outcomes

Upon successful completion of the course, you should be able to:

- describe the key economic, social and political factors that shape the socio-economic wellbeing of citizens
- use your knowledge of international affairs to address issues of immediate international concern relating to global development (Problem-Solving in International Affairs):
 - demonstrate an understanding of key concepts in global development
 - characterize the key obstacles to economic development
 - assess different approaches and frameworks for understanding and addressing key issues in global development
- become more aware of the diversity of cultural and ethical systems in the world (Cultural and Ethical awareness)
 - describe the challenges relating to development experienced by countries and regions across the globe
- express arguments clearly both in written and oral form; and work in small groups in a way that demonstrates both respect for your colleagues and efficient collaboration towards shared goals. (Professional Development.)

Course Requirements and Grading

Assignment	Due Dates	Percentage of Overall Grade
Worksheets x 15	Weekly (in class)	30%
Exam 1	Wednesday, September 20	20%
Exam 2	Wednesday, October 25	20%
Final Exam	Monday, December 12	30%

Description of Graded Components

1. Worksheets. Every week, at least one class will include a worksheet addressing the day's material. Together, the worksheets will comprise 30% of your final grade (2% each).
2. Exam 1 will cover the material addressed during the first part of the course. More details will be provided one week before the exam. The exam will account for 20% of the final grade.
3. Exam 2 will cover material addressed during the first two parts of the course. More details will be provided one week before the exam. The exam will account for 20% of the final grade.
4. Final Exam. Students will be required to write two essays for the final exam. Possible questions for the essays will be provided on Wednesday, November 29. The final exam will account for 30% of your final grade.

Grading Scale

Your final grade will be assigned as a letter grade according to the following scale:

A	90-100%
B	80-89%
C	70-79%
D	65-69%
F	0-64%

Policy for Late Assignments

Late assignments are strongly discouraged, except in the event of an illness or emergency (documentation will be requested). Any major scheduling conflicts – including those that arise due to participation in “approved Institute activities” – should be discussed with the professor at least two weeks before the assignment due date. The penalty for assignments turned in less than 24 hours late is a 20% grade reduction. No assignments turned in over 24 hours late will be accepted.

Course Materials

- Course Readings. Copies of all assigned book chapters and articles will be made available electronically on Canvas.
- Course Website. I will be using the Course's Canvas Page quite extensively throughout the semester. On the Canvas page, you should be able to access important information about the course including but not limited to the most updated version of the syllabus, course

announcements, and all required reading material. I will also use the Canvas page to record grades. Please make sure to check the Canvas system regularly so you do not miss important course information.

Feedback and contact with the faculty

- Virtual Office Hours. I am available to meet with you during virtual office hours to answer any questions you may have or to discuss any aspect of the course. If you would like to meet, please send me an email and I will make the necessary arrangements.
- Email Policy. Email is the best way to contact me outside of class. However, note that I will often be unable to respond to email inquiries outside of regular working hours, so please keep this in mind when anticipating response times.

Academic Integrity

Academic dishonesty in the form of cheating or plagiarism will not be tolerated. According to the Georgia Tech Student Affairs Policy, “Plagiarism” is the act of appropriating the literary composition of another, or parts of passages of their writings, and passing them off as your own products. It involves the deliberate use of any outside source without proper acknowledgment. For information on Georgia Tech's Academic Honor Code, please visit

<http://www.catalog.gatech.edu/policies/honor-code/>

<http://www.catalog.gatech.edu/rules/18/>

Any student suspected of cheating or plagiarizing on a quiz, exam, or assignment will be reported to the Office of Student Integrity.

Accommodations for Individuals with Disabilities.

If you are a student with learning needs that require special accommodation, contact the Office of Disability Services (often referred to as ADAPTS) to discuss your special needs and obtain an accommodations letter. If you would like to discuss your learning needs, please email me as soon as possible to set up a time to do so.

Student-Faculty Expectations

At Georgia Tech we believe that faculty and the student body must continually strive for an atmosphere of mutual respect, acknowledgement, and responsibility. I encourage you to remain committed to the ideals of Georgia Tech.

Week		Topic	Readings
CONCEPTS AND MEASUREMENTS			
Week 1 August 21-27	M	Introduction: Three central questions	
	W	Colonialism and the roots of the field of development	Haslam et al. (eds). <i>Introduction to International Development: Approaches, actors and issues</i> . Canada: Oxford University Press, 2012. (read pp. 29 – 42)
Week 2 August 28 – September 3	M	The Cold War, capitalist development and economic growth	Truman, H. “Inaugural Address,” January 20, 1949 Mujica, J. “Statement, General Assembly of the United Nations,” September 24, 2013. Read/listen at: http://gadebate.un.org/68/uruguay “Keeping up with the Karumes.” <i>The Economist</i> , October 29, 2015. Kennedy, B. “Speech at the University of Kansas,” March 18, 1968.
	W	Poverty and Inequality	“Relative poverty vs. absolute poverty.” <i>endPoverty</i> , November 9, 2022. Alkire, S. “What is the Multidimensional Poverty Index?” <i>Oxford Conversations</i> , 2022. Watch at: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=AG4KOrzhYsY Lowery, A. “Stockton’s Basic Income Experiment Pays Off.” <i>The Atlantic</i> , March 3, 2021. UN News, “Rising inequality affecting more than two-thirds of the globe, but it’s not inevitable: new UNreport,” January 21, 2020.
Week 3 September 4 – 10	M	NO CLASS – INSTITUTE HOLIDAY	
	W	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) Greenhalgh, J. and Selena Simmons-Duffin. “Life expectancy in the U.S. continues to drop, driven by COVID-19,” <i>NPR</i> , August 31, 2022.

Week 4 September 11 – 17	M	Sustainable Development and the SDGs	Newport, D. “Sustainability’s new rules, 50 years old.” November 18, 2014. Read at: http://davenewportblog.blogspot.com/2013/11/sustainabilitys-new-rules-50-yrs-old.html Roy, J. “Bangladesh Really Is a Climate Success Story.” <i>The Atlantic</i>, October 9, 2021. “Assessing development goals: the good, the bad and the hideous.” <i>The Economist</i>, March 28, 2015.
	W	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. “Paul Kagame, feted and feared.” <i>The Economist</i>, July 15, 2017.
Week 5 September 18 – 24	M	Happiness	Brooks, D. “Different cultures define happiness differently.” <i>The Atlantic</i> , July 15, 2021.
	W	Exam #1	
THEORIES OF DEVELOPMENT			
Week 6 September 25 – October 1	M	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)
	W	Application and Critique of Modernization Theory	PBS, “Land Rush.” Watch at: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=O_pKnP-2mOQ Easterly, W. "Introduction" in <i>Tyranny of Experts</i>, New York, NY: Basic Books, 2013
Week 7 October 2 – 8	M	Dependency Theory: Tenets	Valenzuela, J. and Valenzuela, A. “Modernization and Dependency: Alternative Perspectives in the Study of Latin American Development,” <i>Comparative Politics</i> 10(4), 1978.
	W	Application and Critique of Dependency Theory	Rodney, W. <i>How Europe Underdeveloped Africa</i>. Howard University Press, Washington D.C., 1974. (read pp. 13-28) “Firestone and the Warlord,” <i>Frontline</i>, 2014. Watch at: https://www.pbs.org/video/frontline-firestone-and-warlord/ Amsden, A. "Taiwan's economic history: A case of etatism and a challenge to dependency theory," <i>Modern</i>

			<i>China</i>, 5(3), 1990. (read pp. 341-343 and 367-372). Velasco, Andres. "Dependency Theory a Generation Later," October 2002.
Week 8 October 9-15	M	NO CLASS – INSTITUTE HOLIDAY	
	W	Critique of Statism and the Tenets of Neoliberalism	Portes, A. "Neoliberalism and the Sociology of Development: Emerging Trends and Unanticipated Facts." <i>Population and Development Review</i> 23 (2), 1997 (read pp. 229-239, rest optional)
Week 9 October 16– 22	M	Applications and Critique of Neoliberalism	Estache, A. and J. Carbajo. "Designing Toll Road Concessions – Lessons from Argentina." World Bank. Baugadinova et al. "How to reform in 3 months... Azerbaijan registers businesses faster by setting-up a one-stop shop." World Bank. Fjelsted, K. "Madagascar trade." World Bank. 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	Post-Development Theory	Hickel, J. "Essay: The Death of International Development," <i>Red Pepper</i> (February 2015). (read pp. 1-6) Escobar, A. "The making and remaking of the Third World through Development," in eds. Rahnema, M. and Victoria Bawtree, <i>The Post-Development Reader</i>, Zed Books, 1997 (pp. 85 – 93)
Week 10 October 23 – 29	M	Application and Critique of Post- Development	"Rise Up and Care." Watch at: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=W51BsasAx8I&feature=youtu.be 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. McGregor, Andrew. "New Possibilities? Shifts in Post-Development Theory and Practice." <i>Geography Compass</i> 3, no. 5 (September 1, 2009). (read pp. 1688 – 1695)

	W	Exam # 2	
THE COLLECTIVE ACTORS			
Week 11 October 30 – November 5	M	The State	Haslam et al. (eds). <i>Introduction to International Development: Approaches, actors and issues</i> . Canada: Oxford University Press, 2012. (read pp. 127 – 140)
	W	Failed States	<i>The Economist</i>. "From chaos, order; Rebuilding failed states," March 5, 2005. <i>The Economist</i>, "Conquering Chaos: How states fail and how to rebuild them," January 7, 2017. Geglia, B. and Nulia, A. "A private government in Honduras moves forward." <i>NACLA</i>, February 15, 2021. Brustein, J. "A Private Tech City Opens for Business in Honduras." <i>Bloomberg</i>, March 27, 2021.
Week 12 November 6 – 12	M	Civil society, NGOs and micro enterprises	Immerwahr, D. <i>Thinking Small: The United States and the lure of community development</i>. Harvard University Press, 2015. (read Introduction) Georgia Tech Puerto Rico Planning Studio. <i>Final Report: Augmenting the impact of community organizations</i>. Spring 2022.
	W	The perils of development from below	Sanyal, B. "The Myth of Development from Below" (read pp. 1-10)
Week 13 November 13 – 19	M	Official Development Assistance (ODA) and Multilateralism	<i>The Economist</i>, "Aid agencies of the future: poverty, geography and the double dilemma," June 3, 2013. Costa, K. et al. "New Development Bank is BRICS' best card," <i>Financial Times</i>, September 5, 2017. Jones, B. and Malcorra, S. "It's now time to focus on multilateralism." <i>Brookings Institute</i>, April 19, 2021. "All Roads Lead to China: The Belt and Road Initiative, Explained" <i>Frontline</i>, June 26, 2019.
	W	Business (MNCs)	Amsden, A. "National companies or foreign affiliates: Whose contribution to growth is greater?" <i>Perspectives on topical foreign direct investment issues</i>, 60, February 13, 2012. Niemi, Wayne. "The Next Chapter: How to Incorporate Labor Rights Needs" in <i>Footwear News</i>, 60 (38),

			September 27, 2004.
Week 15 Thanksgiving Break	M	NO CLASS	
	W	HOLIDAY	
Week 16 November 27– December 3	M	Reinventing Globalization	“Chain Reaction.” <i>The Economist</i> , June 16, 2022. “The great Teslification.” <i>The Economist</i> , June 12, 2022.
	W	Wrap-Up	