

The American University  
School of International Service  
International Development Program

**33.637.003/004: International Development**

209A

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**Course Description**

This is the basic introductory course to the international development field. The purpose of this course is to explore and critically evaluate the basic assumptions underlying the major competing theories and visions of international development; to examine how these theories and visions currently influence development institutions, programs and policies; and to examine ways to attempt to evaluate in a more empirical fashion some of the propositions that emerge from these theories. Since development activities typically produce costs as well as benefits, which tend to be distributed unevenly, students are also expected to be able to identify the likely effects of development policies and programs, with particular attention to such issues as class, ethnicity and gender. Finally, the ultimate goal of the course is to enable students to begin to view development problems from a number of viewpoints simultaneously, in order to create original and more effective strategies for change.

**Course Requirements**

1. **Analytical essays (100%)**: Three analytical essays of no more than 8 pages each will be assigned. These will be due at approximately 5-week intervals throughout the semester. The essays will require a thorough knowledge of the readings, and the ability to integrate the ideas of the authors in a concrete fashion. Essays 1 and 2 each counts as 30% of the final grade. **Third essay counts as 40% of total grade.**
2. **Participation**: Active and thoughtful participation is encouraged. While no special credit is given to participation, it will be a factor that is considered in borderline cases in determining the final grade.

**PLEASE NOTE! No incompletes allowed in this course. Late papers will be penalized severely!**

## **Required Readings:**

All of the following are available for purchase in the bookstore. (\$) To be purchased.

\$Cheru, **Readings in International Development** (2006)

\$ Martin Khor, **Rethinking Globalization** (2001)

\$ Robert Chambers, **Rural Development: putting the last first**, Longman (1983).

\$John Rapley, *Understanding Development*, (Reinner, 2002)

\$ Edwards and Gaventa, *Global Citizen Action* (Reinner)

\$Cheru, *African Renaissance: Roadmaps to the Challenge of Globalization* (ZED, 2003)

\$ Mittelman and Pasha, (1997) *Out From Underdevelopment Revisited* (St. Martin Press)

\$ Martinussen et al., *AID: Understanding International Cooperation*, (Zed, 2003).

\$ World Bank, *Urban Policy and Economic Development*, (World Bank 1991)

\$ Caroline Thomas, *Global Governance, Development and Human Security* (2000)

## COURSE OUTLINE

### **I. CONCEPTUALIZING THE "DEVELOPMENT PROBLEM"**

#### **August 31 Introduction to the Course. Visioning International Development**

Slides: "What is Development?"

Readings:

-Hardin, Garrett. "The Case against Helping the Poor", in (ID Reader)

-Maddison, Angus "The World Economy: A Millennial Perspective", in (ID Reader)

-Simon, Julian "Why Do We Still Think Babies Create Poverty?" **Washington Post (Oct.13, 1985)**, in (ID Reader)

-Wade, Robert Hunter "The Rising Inequality of World Income Distribution", in (ID Reader)

#### **September 7 Keeping Score: How is Development Measured?**

Readings:

-Chambers, **Rural Development**, Chapters 1 and 2

-Cheru, Fantu, **African Renaissance**, Chapter 1

-Cobb, C et al. "If GDP is up, why is America down?" *Atlantic Monthly*, October 1995, in (ID Reader)

-Edwards, M., "How do countries grow? It's the Polity, stupid!" in (ID Reader)

-Meadows, D. "Quality of Life", *Earth 88: Changing Geographic Perspectives*, (1989), in (ID Reader)

- Passé-Smith, John T, "The Persistence of the Gap between Rich and Poor Countries", in (ID Reader)

- Passé-Smith, John T, “Could It Be that The Whole World is Already Rich?”, in (ID Reader).
- Rapley, J. *Understanding Development*, Chapter 1
- Rock, Michael “Twenty-five years of Economic Development Revisited”, in (ID Reader)
- Thomas, C, *Global Governance*, Chapters 1 and 2

## II. CREATING THE "DEVELOPMENT SYSTEM": THE POLITICAL ECONOMY OF THE POST WORLD WAR II ERA

September 14 **Contending Perspectives: Modernization Theory, the cold war and the ideology of domination**

(1) The evolution of development policy and the Bretton Woods System, 1945-80

Readings:

- Adams, N. *Worlds Apart*, Chapter 2, "Establishing the Post-World Economic Order", and Chapter 3, "Post-war Decolonization and the rise of the Development Issue" (In reserve- ID office). NOTE 2 hrs. Limit
- Martinussen and Pederson, *AID: Understanding International cooperation*, Chapters 1-3
- Mittelman and Pasha, "Resources of Received Ideas about the Third World", Part I, Introduction & Part II, 2, pp. 31-48
- Singer, Hans "The Bretton Woods System: Historical Perspectives", **Third World Economics**, Aug. 1993, in (ID Reader)
- Thomas, C, Global *Governance*, Chapter 3

(2) Classical Economics, Modernization & Culturalist Paradigms

Readings:

- Granato Jim et al., “The effects of cultural values on economic development”, in (ID Reader)
- Harrison, L. "Underdevelopment is a State of Mind", in (ID Reader)
- Lewis, Oscar “The Culture of Poverty”, in (ID Reader)
- McClelland, David C., "The Achievement Motive in Economic Growth", in (ID Reader)
- Rostow, W.W “The Five Stages of Growth”, in (ID Reader)

Case Studies:

- Mittelman & Pasha, Ch.5, "The Conventional Route, Joining Global Capitalism: Track 1, Brazil”

September 21 **Foreign Aid and the Creation of the Development Industry: ‘civilizing the natives’ or controlling their destiny?**

Readings:

- Mancur Olson Jr, "Big Bills left on the Sidewalk: Why Some Nations Are Rich and Others Poor", in (ID Reader)
- Maren, Michael, "The Food-Aid Racket", *Harper's*, August 1993, in (ID Reader)
- Martinussen & Engberg-Pedersen, *Aid: understanding international cooperation*, Chapters 4-13
- Mittelman and Pasha, "Received Ideas and International Institutions," Ch.2, pp.49-79
- Shapiro, Isaac "Trends in U.S. Development Aid and the Current Budget Debate", Center on Budget and Policy Priorities, (May 9, 2000), in (ID Reader)

September 28 **The Challenge to 'Imperialism' and Modernization Theory: The Evolution of Marxist, Dependency and World Systems Paradigms**

Readings:

- Adams, N. *Worlds Apart*, Ch.4/5 (On reserve in ID Office). NOTE 2 hrs. Limit
- Cardoso, Henrique and E. Faletto, "'Dependency and Underdevelopment in Latin America", in (ID Reader)
- Kentor, Jeffrey "The Long-Term Effects of Foreign Investment Dependence on Economic Growth, 1940-1990", in (ID Reader)
- Wallerstein, Immanuel "World Inequality", in (ID Reader)
- Dos Santos, Theotonio, "The Structure of Dependence", in (ID Reader)
- Mittelman & Pasha, Ch.3, "Back to the 19th Century for New Ideas", pp.80-103.

Case Studies:

- Mittelman & Pasha, Ch.7, "The Exit Option: China under and after Mao", pp.154-178.

October 5 **The State and Development: Rural poverty and the agrarian crisis**

Readings:

- Bates, Robert, "Governments and Agricultural Markets in Africa", in (ID Reader)
- Chambers, **Rural Development** (whole book)
- Cheru, Fantu, African **Renaissance**, Agriculture, Chapter 4
- Muller, Edward N and Mitchell A. Seligson, "Inequality and insurgency", in (ID Reader)
- Przeworski, Adam and Fernando Limongi, "Political Regimes and Economic Growth", in (ID Reader)

-Rapley, J. *Understanding Development*, Chapter 2

October 12 **The State and Development: Urban Development Perspective**

Readings:

- Birdsall and Sabot, "Inequality as a Constraint on Growth in Latin America", in (ID Reader)
- Cheru, **African Renaissance**, Chapter 6: The Urban-rural interface
- Lipton, Michael, "Urban Bias and Inequality", in (ID Reader)
- Subramanian, Arvind "Mauritius: A Case Study", in (ID Reader).
- Vining, Daniel, "The Growth of Core Regions", in (ID Reader)
- World Bank, **Urban Policy and Economic Development** (whole book)

October 19 **The "Asian Miracles" (NICs) and why their experience cannot be replicated!**

Readings:

- Bello and Rosenfeld, "The Rise and Crisis of the Dragon Economies", in (ID Reader)
- Broad and Cavanagh, "No More NICs", in (ID Reader)
- Cheru, Fantu, **African Renaissance: Education**, Chapter 3,
- Cristobal, Kay, "Why East Asia Overtook Latin America", in (ID Reader).
- Fishlow et al., Miracle or Design? Lessons from the East Asian Experience (on reserve in ID Office).NOTE 2 hrs. Limit
- Kahn, Herman, "The Confucian Ethic and Economic Growth", in (ID Reader)
- Krugman, Paul "The Myth of Asia's Miracle", in (ID Reader)
- Mittelman & Pasha, Ch.6, "Joining Global Capitalism: Track 2, the Asian Nics", pp.130-153
- Sachs, Jeffrey, "The IMF and the Asian Flu", *The American Prospect*, (March-April 1998) in (ID Reader)

Recommended:

World Bank, The East Asian Miracle: Economic Growth and Public Policy (Oxford, 1993)

**III: CONTRADICTIONS OF THE 1980s: NORTHERN CONSERVATISM  
AND THE SOUTH IN RETREAT**

October 26 **The Debt Crisis the new "orthodoxy" of structural adjustment and disciplinary neo-liberalism**

Readings:

- Cheru and Gill, "Structural Adjustment and the G-7", in (ID Reader)
- ODI, "Poor Country Debt: A never-Ending Story?" in (ID Reader)
- ODI, "Aid and Political Reform", in (ID Reader)
- ODI, "Rethinking the role of Multilateral Development Banks", in (ID Reader)
- ODI, "Does the IMF Really Help Developing Countries?" in (ID Reader)
- ODI, "Adjustment in Africa: Lessons from Ghana", in (ID Reader)
- Rapley, J. *Understanding Development*, Chapter 3 and 4
- Thomas, C, *Global Governance*, Chapters 4 & 5
- Turshen, Meredith, "The Impact of Economic Reforms on Women's Health in Africa", in (ID Reader)
- United Nations, "Debt Situation of the Developing Countries as at mid-2000", September 2000, in (ID Reader)
- UN Commission on Human Rights, Economic, Social and Cultural Rights", E/CN.4/1999. /50 in (ID Reader)
- UNECA, "African Alternative Framework to Structural Adjustment", in (ID Reader)
- UNRISD, "Structural Adjustment in a Changing World", in (ID Reader)

Recommended Reading:

- \*Cornea, Giovanni, et. al., *Adjustment with a Human Face*. (Oxford/Clarendon 1987).

November 2 **Democracy and Development: The 'Missing Middle'**

Readings:

- Cheru, **African Renaissance**, (Chapter 2: on democracy)
- Cheru, **African Renaissance**, (Chapter 7: on conflict prevention)
- Weede, Erich "Some New Evidence on Correlates of Political Violence: Income Inequality, Regime Repressiveness and Economic Development" in (ID Reader)

Recommended Reading:

- UNDP, **Human Development Report 2002 (On Governance)**

November 9 **The Politics of Trade and Investment: Winners and Losers in Developing Countries**

Readings:

- Broad and Cavanagh, "Beyond the Myths of Rio": A New American Agenda for the Environment" in (ID Reader)
- Cheru, **African Renaissance**: (Chapter 5: on regional integration)
- Durning, A. "Mobilizing at the Grassroots", in (ID Reader)
- Gehring, Thomas, "The WTO and Standard Setting Institutions", in (ID Reader)
- Serageldin & Barrett, "Ethics and Spiritual Values: Promoting Environmentally Sustainable Development" in (ID Reader)
- UNECA, "The Doha Round and African Development" in (ID Reader)

**IV: GLOBALIZATION: OPPORTUNITIES AND CONSTRAINTS**

November 16 **Globalization and Marginalization: The South at the Beginning of a New Millennium**

Readings:

- Barber, D. "Jihad vs McWorld", in (ID Reader)
- Dollar and Kraay, "Spreading the Wealth", in (ID Reader)
- Fukuyama, F. "The End of History", *The National Interest*, no. 16, Summer 1989 in (ID Reader)
- Kaplan, Robert. "The Coming Anarchy", *Atlantic Monthly*, February 1994 in (ID Reader)
- Khor, Martin, Rethinking **Globalization**, (Whole book)
- Huntington, Sam. "The Clash of Civilizations", **Foreign Affairs**, Vol.72, No.3 (Summer 1993), in (ID Reader)
- Mazur, Jay, "Labor's New Internationalism", in (ID Reader)
- Mittelman, Ch. 11: "How Does Globalization Really Work?" in (ID Reader)
- Rapley, J. **Understanding Development**, Chapter 5

November 30 **Speaking Truth to Power: Resistance to Globalization and the Growth of the "anti-development" movement in the South, 1980-1990**

- (a) The environmental movement/indigenous people's movement
- (b) Democratization from "below".
- (c) The Informal Sector
- (d) The Women's movement

Readings:

- Cheru, Fantu, "The Silent Revolution and the Weapons of the Weak: Transformation and Innovation from Below", in (ID Reader)
- Chomsky, Noam, "The Struggle for Democracy in a Changed World", *Review of African Political Economy*, No.50.1 (1991), in (ID Reader)
- Edwards and Gavinta, **Global Citizen Action**, (finish whole book)
- Matthews, Jessica "Power Shift", **Foreign Affairs**, in (ID Reader)
- Menkhaus, Ken, "Somalia: Political Order in a Stateless Society" in (ID Reader)
- Thomas, C, **Global Governance**, Chapter 6

December 7 **Promoting Sustainable Human Development**

Readings:

- Adams, Nassau, "What Future for the Developing World?" Ch.8
- Lele, S.M, "Sustainable Development: A Critical Review" in (ID Reader)
- Mittelman & Pasha, Ch.9, "The Big Question: What Works in the Third World?" pp.217-243
- Rapley, J. **Understanding Development**, Chapter 7 and Conclusion
- Seligson, Mitchell, A. "Inequality in a Global Perspective: Directions for Further Research", in (ID Reader)
- Thomas, C, **Global Governance**, Chapter 7