

Global Studies 712: International Trade and Development
Fall 2017
W 2:30-5:20pm
LRW-5001

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Office hours: W 12-2 LRW 2023
(and by appointment)

Overview

The geographical focus of this seminar is variously known as the ‘developing world,’ the ‘global south,’ and the ‘third world.’ Through historical and critical lenses we will examine the ways in which global trade has helped and hindered processes of development, as well as postcolonial, Marxist, and Feminist critiques of the concept of developmentalism itself. The seminar ends with a three week focused study on the relationship between resource extraction and economic, social, and political development.

The goal of this seminar is twofold. First, our aim is to familiarize students with topics, methods, and problems in international development theory and policy. Secondly, we aim to encourage students to develop critical perspectives on the nature of development, its relation to global trade, and power relations in contemporary global political economy.

Meetings will follow a seminar format. After introductory remarks by the professor that will contextualize the day’s readings we will move into participant-led discussion. Students will be assigned facilitation roles and, later, will be asked to make a brief (10-15 minute) presentation based on their final research projects.

Learning Objectives

The specific learning objectives of this course will be:

1. To read, understand, and compare a number of scholarly approaches to globalization and trade from an interdisciplinary perspective;
2. To develop a critical appreciation of globalization’s historical roots, as well as its impact on deeply-rooted inequalities;
3. To introduce participants to a range of contemporary social theory concepts, as well as their global and local applications;
4. To improve and refine writing and research skills through the composition of an article-length final essay;

5. To engender group leadership and discussion skills through presentations and participation.

Assignments

Participation and a final research paper (~25 pages) will comprise assessment for the seminar. Research paper topics will be determined on an individual basis, in consultation with the professor. **A graded research proposal (1-2 pages in length) will be due no later than the 1 November meeting.**

Participation

Assigned seminar facilitation	10%
General contributions to discussion	10%
Research Presentation	25%

Research Paper

Proposal	15%
Final Paper	40%

Email Policy

Effective September 1, 2010, it is the policy of the Faculty of Social Sciences that all e-mail communication sent from students to instructors (including TAs), and from students to staff, must originate from the student's own McMaster University e-mail account. This policy protects confidentiality and confirms the identity of the student. It is the student's responsibility to ensure that communication is sent to the university from a McMaster account. If an instructor becomes aware that a communication has come from an alternate address, the instructor may not reply at his or her discretion

Academic Integrity

Academic dishonesty consists of misrepresentation by deception or by other fraudulent means and can result in serious consequences, e.g. the grade of zero on an assignment, loss of credit with a notation on the transcript (notation reads: "Grade of F assigned for academic dishonesty"), and/or suspension or expulsion from the university. It is your responsibility to understand what constitutes academic dishonesty. For information on the various kinds of academic dishonesty please refer to the Academic Integrity Policy, specifically Appendix 3, located at: <http://www.mcmaster.ca/policy/Students-AcademicStudies>. The following illustrates only three forms of academic dishonesty: 1) Plagiarism, e.g. the submission of work that is not one's own or for which other credit has been obtained. 2) Improper collaboration in group work. 3) Copying or using unauthorized aids in tests and examinations.

Accommodations for Students with Disabilities

Special arrangements can be made for students with disabilities. If you need assistance because of a disability please consult with the Student Accessibility Services (SAS), MUSC Room B107, ext. 29652. Information is also available online, at <http://sas.mcmaster.ca/>. Once you have consulted with a program coordinator, you need to notify me as soon as possible with respect to your accommodation needs.

Course Modification Statement

The instructor and university reserve the right to modify elements of the course during the term. The university may change the dates and deadlines for any or all courses in extreme circumstances. If either type of modification becomes necessary, reasonable notice and communication with the students will be given with explanation and the opportunity to comment on changes. It is the responsibility of the student to check his/her McMaster email and course websites weekly during the term and to note any changes.

Assigned Texts

All assigned texts are available either through the library (where many are available in electronic format), the campus bookstore, or through your own ingenuity. The main texts from which we will be drawing this semester (in the order we'll be working through them):

Michael Todaro & Stephen Smith. 2012. *Economic Development*. New York: Addison-Wesley.

Amryta Sen. 2000. *Development as Freedom*. New York: Anchor Books.

David Harvey. 2007. *A Brief History of Neoliberalism*. New York: Oxford University Press.

Arturo Escobar. 2011. *Encountering Development: The Making and Unmaking of the Third World*. Princeton: Princeton University Press.

James C. Scott. 1999. *Seeing like a State: How Certain Schemes to Improve the Human Condition have Failed*. New Haven: Yale University Press.

Michael L. Ross. 2012. *The Oil Curse: How Petroleum Wealth Shapes the Development of Nations* Princeton: Princeton University Press.

Fernando Coronil. 1997. *The Magical State: Oil, Money, and Modernity in Venezuela*. Chicago: University of Chicago Press.

Timothy Mitchell. 2013. *Carbon Democracy: Political Power in the Age of Oil*. New York: Verso.

Course Schedule

Readings may be adjusted according to the needs of the course.
Students will be consulted and notified with reasonable advance warning should any changes in the schedule be deemed necessary by the instructor.

Part One: Basic Themes of Development Economics

6 September – Introduction to the course

13 September: Fundamentals, I

Michael Todaro & Stephen Smith. 2012. *Economic Development*. New York: Addison-Wesley. Part 1

Further and Suggested Reading:

Keith Griffith. 1999. *Alternative Strategies for Economic Growth*.
New York: St. Martin's Press.

*You may also be interested in viewing the miniseries
Commanding Heights: The Battle for the World Economy
(based on a book of the same name)
available on youtube.com

20 September: Fundamentals, II

Todaro & Smith part 2, chs 5, 8, 10, 11 (skim rest according to your interest)

You'll also want to familiarize yourself with the United Nations' "Millennium Development Goals," available at <http://www.un.org/millenniumgoals/>

27 September: Development with a Human Face

Amryta Sen. 2000. *Development as Freedom*. New York: Anchor Books. Intro, Chs. 1-3, 5-8, 12.

Further and Suggested Reading:

Jeffery Sachs. 2015. *The Age of Sustainable Development*.
New York: Columbia University Press

Japhy Wilson. 2014. *Jeffery Sachs: The Strange Case of Dr. Shock and Mr. Aid*.
New York: Verso Press

4 October: Neoliberalization and After

David Harvey. 2007. *A Brief History of Neoliberalism*. New York: Oxford University Press.

Further and Suggested Reading:

Wendy Brown. 2015. *Undoing the Demos: Neoliberalism's Stealth Revolution*.
New York: Zone Books.

11 October: Reading Week, No Class

Part Two: Critical Approaches to Developmentalism

18 October: Developmentalism as a Civilizational Discourse

Arturo Escobar. 2011. *Encountering Development: The Making and Unmaking of the Third World*. Chs. 1, 2, 6 (skim the rest according to your interest)

Suggested and Further Reading:

Vijay Prashad. 2014. *The Poorer Nations: A Possible History of the Global South*.
New York: Verso.

María Josefina Saldaña Portillo. 2003. *The Revolutionary Imagination in the Americas and the Age of Development*. Durham: Duke University Press.

25 October: The Limits of 'High Modernist Developmentalism'

James C. Scott. 1999. *Seeing like a State: How Certain Schemes to Improve the Human Condition have Failed*. New Haven: Yale University Press. Parts 1, 2. Students will choose one of chs. 6-8, ch.10.

Suggested and Further Reading:

Naomi Klein. 2015. *This Changes Everything: Capitalism vs. The Climate*.
New York: Simon & Schuster.

1 November: Development & the Environment – Feminist Critiques

Lata Narayanaswamy. 2014. NGOs and Feminisms in Development: Interrogating the 'Southern Women's NGO.' *Geography Compass* 8(8): 576-589.

Isha Ray. 2007. Women, Water, and Development. *Annual Review of Environment and Resources* 32: 421-449.

Regina Cochrane. 2014. Climate Change, *Buen Vivir*, and the Dialectic of Enlightenment: Toward a Feminist Critical Philosophy of Climate Justice. *Hypatia* 29(3): 576-598.

Suggested and Further Reading:
INCITE!: Women of Color against Violence, eds. 2009
The Revolution will not be Funded: Beyond the Non-Profit Industrial Complex
Boston: South End Press

8 November: No Class

Suggested:

Darwin's Nightmare (Hubert Sauper, 2004)

Part Three: Oil and Development

15 November: The Resource Curse and its Skeptics

Michael L. Ross. 2012. *The Oil Curse: How Petroleum Wealth Shapes the Development of Nations* Princeton: Princeton University Press.

Michael Watts. 2004. Resource Curse?: Governmentality, Oil, and Power in the Niger Delta, Nigeria. *Geopolitics* 9(1): 50-80.

Suggested and Further Reading:

Terry Lynn Karl. 1999. The Perils of the Petro-State: Reflections of the Paradox of Plenty. *Journal of International Affairs* 53(1): 31-48.

Abdelrahman Munif. 1989. *Cities of Salt*. New York: Vintage Books

22 November: The 'Dutch Disease' *avant la lettre* – the case of Venezuela

Fernando Coronil. 1997. *The Magical State: Oil, Money, and Modernity in Venezuela*. Chicago: University of Chicago Press.

Suggested and Further Reading:

Miguel Tinker Salas. 2009. *The Enduring Legacy: Oil, Culture, and Society in Venezuela*

Durham: Duke University Press.

29 November: Oil and Political Development

Timothy Mitchell. 2013. *Carbon Democracy: Political Power in the Age of Oil*. New York: Verso.

6 December

Research Presentations

15 December

**Final Papers Due (via email)
No later than 5 pm**