

Capstone Seminar: Critical Issues in Global Development

INST 4853.001
Spring 2013
MW 2-3.20 pm
Classroom: Sage 355

Instructor: Özlem Altıok
Office: GAB 468
Email: Ozlem.Altiok@unt.edu
Office hours: W 3.30-4.30, and by appointment

Course Description and Objectives

Why are some countries more “developed” than others? How has development been practiced historically? What perspectives and debates dominate development theory and practice today?

This capstone seminar is required for students who declare International Development as their area of concentration. It is designed primarily for International Studies majors in their senior year. The seminar explores the competing perspectives that address the social, economic and political aspects of development. The course also surveys several challenges facing both high-income and lower-income countries in the 21 century. These challenges include globalization; ecological impact and climate change; international debt crisis; corruption; women's empowerment; and international migrants and refugees.

Grading and Assignments at a glance:

Attendance and participation 10 %
Summary essay: 15% due date depends (see below)
Midterm: Monday, March 4 25%
Country report: due by midnight on Sunday, April 21 via Turnitin: 25%
Final exam: on Friday, May 10 1.30-3.30 pm in regular classroom 25%

Grading scale: I will use numerical scores, which will translate into letter grades as follows:

A (91-100); B (81-90); C (70-80); D (60-69); F (<60)

Please keep records of your attendance and performance on assignments. I will *not* tell you how many absences you have accumulated in the middle of the semester; *you* should know that. I will also *not* calculate “where you stand, and what you need to get on the final to get a B.” Again, if you keep track of your own performance, you will know that.

Expectations and requirements

1. Attendance and Participation: 10%

You must attend class regularly, and be on time. You may not miss more than two classes without a legitimate and documented excuse. If there are circumstances that prevent you from regular participation (e.g. travel related to work or a family emergency) talk to me early on, and we will make arrangements. For instance, I will ask that you submit extra work to make up for what you miss.

You should read or view the assigned material and be prepared to answer questions in class. The detailed schedule of readings is at the end of this syllabus.

2. Summary essay 15 %

Every week, four or five students will be leading discussion on that week's readings. Each of these discussants will write a two-page summary (750-1000 words) of the readings for that day and email it to me at Ozlem.Altiok@unt.edu by noon on Sunday (for those leading discussion on Monday) and by noon on Tuesday for Wednesday. At the end of your summary, you must pose 2 or 3 critical/important questions that the reading raises for students, scholars and practitioners in the development field.

Your summary essay must be analytical in the sense that it should

- i) demonstrate that you engaged with the arguments presented in the material, and that you can talk intelligently about the strength and weaknesses of those arguments;
- ii) tie back to other readings and class discussions, and to the larger question of what development is, and why (and by what criteria) some countries are considered more developed than others.

Last, but certainly not least, these essays should use proper English, and be free of spelling and grammar errors. Please. That only four or five people are submitting short papers each week does not mean that only those four students are expected to talk that week. In fact, all students are expected to respond to the discussion questions raised by the discussants.

3. Midterm Exam 25% on Monday March 4, 2013.

4. Country report 25 % due April 21, 2013

Each student should select a country and write a report of 10 (double-spaced) pages to be submitted via Turnitin by midnight on April 21, 2013. The report should explore the main development challenges that the country faces. I encourage you to pick a country that is of interest to you – either one whose language you are studying, one you have plans to visit, one located in a region where you hope to work, etc. If you pick the Congo, for e.g. you will need to discuss the history of “development” of that country perhaps dating back to the 19th century. You may benefit from consulting this syllabus for relevant readings. For what specific challenges the Democratic Republic of Congo faces *today*, you will need to read country reports by the United Nations Development Program, the World Bank, human rights organizations, aid organizations, the US State Department, etcetera.

Please do not submit a summary of one organization's report on the country. I am interested in a synthesis of several different reports, and your perspective on the challenges faced by that country. What do *you* think are the biggest challenges? What do *you* think must be prioritized based on what you learned in this class, and through your research?

You should end your paper with policy recommendations for either the US State Department or an intergovernmental organization such as the UN. We will discuss guidelines for this paper in the first few weeks of class.

5. Final Exam 25% on Friday, May 10, 2013

The final, like the midterm exam, will test your knowledge of assigned readings, and class lectures, including guest lectures. The final exam will be cumulative, but the weight (about 75% of total available points) will be on material covered after Spring Break.

Office Hours

I will be in my office (GAB 468) between 3.30 and 4.30 pm on Wednesdays. Alternatively, you can email me for an appointment. In addition, if you email me with your questions I will make every effort to answer them within two business days. As a general rule, do NOT wait until the last day to ask me a question about an assignment or exam.

Academic Honesty

Trust and honesty are central for learning to occur, and I hope that you do not need a reminder about that. However, in the interest of making expectations clear let me state that I will not tolerate academic dishonesty. Please be aware that you commit plagiarism if you:

- 1) reproduce verbatim (or almost verbatim) another author's words, without using quotation marks and/or without providing a citation; or
- 2) use another's ideas (even if you don't use their precise words) without providing citation.

I adhere to and enforce UNT's policy on academic integrity (cheating, plagiarism, forgery, fabrication, facilitating academic dishonesty and sabotage). You should review the policy (UNT Policy Manual Section 18.1.16), which may be located at http://policy.unt.edu/sites/default/files/untpolicy/pdf/7-Student_Affairs-Academic_Integrity.pdf I will address violations of academic integrity in this course in compliance with the penalties and procedures laid out in this policy. APPEALS: Students may appeal any decision under this policy by following the procedures laid down in the UNT Policy Manual Section 18.1.16 “Student Standards of Academic Integrity.”

Disability Accommodations

The University of North Texas makes reasonable academic accommodation for students with disabilities. Students seeking accommodation must first register with the Office of Disability Accommodation (ODA) to verify their eligibility. If a disability is verified, the ODA will provide you with an accommodation letter to be delivered to faculty to

begin a private discussion regarding your specific needs in a course. You may request accommodations at any time, however, ODA notices of accommodation should be provided as early as possible in the semester to avoid any delay in implementation. Note that students must obtain a new letter of accommodation for every semester and must meet with each faculty member prior to implementation in each class. For additional information see the Office of Disability Accommodation website at <http://www.unt.edu/oda>. You may also contact them by phone at 940.565.4323.

UNT Writing Lab

If writing is not your *forte*, and you want to produce well-organized, well-written papers for this class or others (as you should) take advantage of the the Writing Lab on campus <http://www.unt.edu/writinglab/>

Revisions to this syllabus

Last, but not least, it is your responsibility to attend class and to follow Blackboard announcements to keep abreast of any changes to the reading schedule or assignments.

I may revise the schedule depending on class discussions, contemporary developments, changes that might be necessary to accommodate a guest lecturer's schedule. I will give you notice of such changes (ideally) at least a few days in advance.

Required texts

Philip McMichael. 2011. *Development and Social Change: A Global Perspective* (you must purchase this)

Jeffrey Sachs. 2005. UN Millennium Project *Investing in Development: A Practical Plan to Achieve the Millennium Development Goals* (New York, NY: United Nations, 2005) (find online)

In addition, several chapters will be posted on Blackboard; these are marked by a (Bb) on the list below. Several other reports and articles can be found using www.google.com/scholar ; these are also indicated below (find online). For the articles published in peer-reviewed journals that are not readily available online, you will need to use the UNT Library's electronic resources; these are marked (find using UNT's e-resources).

Weekly readings are listed below. Read them in the order they are listed please. What is above the space indicate Monday's readings; what is below must be completed by Wednesday (also indicated by "W").

Unless I announce otherwise, you are NOT required to view the films listed on the syllabus on your own. I will show some of these in class. Others are there as reference that will complement assigned readings. That said, you are welcome to explore these and other films as they *will* help you learn.

Weekly Reading Schedule

January 14 (M): Introduction to the course

Monday, I will introduce the course, and lay out my expectations for the semester.

For Wednesday:

King Leopold's Ghost (selected pages on Blackboard – Bb from here on)

Bob Corbett. "Why is Haiti so Poor?" (find this online)

Women and poverty in contemporary Haiti <http://pulitzercenter.org/blog/untold-stories/little-girl-lost-haiti-rape-hiv-women-poverty>

Brief story on HIV in Haiti <http://pulitzercenter.org/articles/haiti-earthquake-women-battle-hiv-aids>

Film: King Leopold's Ghost (for rent on YouTube); The Greatest Silence: rape in the Congo; Romero (VHS at UNT Media Library)

January 21 (M): Theories of international development

No class on Monday in honor and memory of Martin Luther King Jr.

Wednesday (W from now on): Rostow. The Stages of Economic Growth: A Noncommunist Manifesto. 1960, summary available at <http://www.mtholyoke.edu/acad/intrel/ipe/rostow.htm>

Philip McMichael. 2011. Chapter 1: Development: Theory and Reality in *Development and Social Change: A Global*

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Perspective (your textbook)

The World Bank. 2000. "New Directions in Development Theory," in *Entering the 21st Century: World Development Report 2000*. Washington, DC: pp. 13-30. (find online)

Optional: Skip ahead to February 25 reading by Shirin Rai in *The Women, Gender and Development Reader (WGD)*

January 28 (M): Millennium Development Goals: promise and limits

Philip McMichael. 2011. Chapter 1 (if you have not yet done so) and Chapter 2.

W: McMichael. Ch. 3. The Development Project: international framework (pages 55-66 only)

Jeffrey Sachs. 2005. UN Millennium Project *Investing in Development: A Practical Plan to Achieve the Millennium Development Goals* Chapter 1.

February 4 (M): Industrialization, debt, export-oriented growth, and structural adjustment

McMichael. Ch. 4 Globalizing Developments, pp. 80-99, and 104-109.

W: Vincent Ferraro and Melissa Rosser. 1994. Global Debt and Third World Development in *World Security: Challenges for a New Century*, edited by Michael Klare and Daniel Thomas. pp. 332-355 (find this online)

Films: *Continent on the Move*. *China Blue*.

Countermovements: Read about the *Jubilee* movement <http://www.jubileeusa.org/home.html>

February 11 (M): Global trade and institutions

McMichael. Ch. 5 Instituting the Globalization Project and Ch. 6 The Globalization Project in Practice.

Video: *Globalization is Good*. And the Big Sell Out. Watch these documentaries online via UNT's Video on Demand (VoD)

W: Joseph Stiglitz. *Making Globalization Work*. (Bb)

Jeffrey Sachs. 2005. UN Millennium Project *Investing in Development: A Practical Plan to Achieve the Millennium Development Goals* Chapter 14: A Global breakthrough in trade

Films: *Globalization is good*. *The Big Sell Out*. 1-800- INDIA

February 18 (M): Paradoxes of development: persistent poverty and social inequality

Jeffrey Sachs. 2005. UN Millennium Project *Investing in Development: A Practical Plan to Achieve the Millennium Development Goals* Chapter 10: Africa's special needs.

World Bank Social Development Department. Brief titled "Linking Gender, Environment and Poverty for Sustainable Development." January 2012. ESW-Gender-Poverty-Development.pdf (find this 8 page summary-NOT the full report-online)

Frances More Lappe *et al.* 1998. *World Hunger: Twelve Myths*. Pages 1-14 and 25-40. (Bb) See all twelve myths that the book debunks at <http://www.foodfirst.org/pubs/backgrdrs/1998/s98v5n3.html>

W: New York Times on World Bank's latest policy brief (March 2012)

http://www.nytimes.com/2012/03/07/world/extreme-poverty-down-despite-recession-world-bank-data-show.html?_r=2& Make sure you read the policy brief by the World Bank linked in that New York Times story)

THEN read Robin Broad and John Cavanagh March 12, 2012

<http://triplecrisis.com/what-do-the-new-world-bank-poverty-statistics-really-tell-us/>

Films: *Voices of the Poor* see The World Bank's website for several short videos that the WB produced recently.

February 25 (M): Feminist critiques of development

The Women, Gender and Development Reader (WGD) Reading #1 (Shirin Rai) and Reading #3 (on Bb)

Patricia Fernandez Kelly. 2011. "Maquiladoras: the view from the inside" in WGD, pp. 225-236.

W: What is National Income Accounting? How is GDP Calculated?

<http://www.econport.org/content/handbook/NatIncAccount>

Julia Wartenburg. 2010. What is Wrong with the GDP? Global Women's Project. (find this online)

Lourdes Beneria. 1992. Accounting for Women's Work: the progress of two decades. Reading #16 in WGD (Bb)

Film: *Who's Counting?* Available through UNT Media Library Video on Demand (VoD); Maquilapolis.

March 4 (M): Markets, gender inequality and micro-credit

Sabine Alkire *et al.* 2012. "The Women's Empowerment in Agriculture Index." *International Food Policy Research Institute*. Read pages 1-12 on definition of women's empowerment and how it might be measured. (find online)
Mohammad Yunus. Sacrificing microcredit for megaprofits. *The New York Times*. January 14, 2011.
Littlefield *et al.* 2003. Is Microfinance an effective strategy to reach Millennium Development Goals? (find this online)
What is micro-credit? http://library.thinkquest.org/05aug/00282/econ_credit.htm

W: Visvanathan and Yoder. 2011. "Women and Microcredit: A Critical Introduction" in WGD, pp. 47-54.
Walden Bello. 2006. Microcredit, Macro Problems <http://www.commondreams.org/views06/1015-23.htm>
<http://www.worldchanging.com/archives/006254.html> [read the comments at the bottom also]

SPRING BREAK March 11-17

March 18 (M): Agriculture and ecological critiques of development

McMichael. Ch. 3. pages 67- 80 and Ch. 4 pages 99-104.
Maria Mies. The Myth of Catching up Development. (Bb.)
Robert W. Kates *et al.* 2005. What is Sustainable Development. Environment: Science and Policy for Sustainable Development. Vol.47 No.3, pp. 8-21. (find online)

W: Frances More Lappe. 1998. "Myth 5: The Green Revolution is the Answer" in *World Hunger* (pages 58-85 on Bb)
Olivier De Schutter. 2011. Agro-ecology and the Right to Food. Report to the U.N. Human Rights Council by the Special Rapporteur on Food (find this online)
Film: Seeds of Plenty, Seeds of Sorrow (VoD) and Norman Borlaug (father of the Green Revolution) video on YouTube.

Some global countermovements: read on your own about the World Social Forum (formed in opposition to the World Economic Forum), and La Via Campesina (network of farmers around the world), See also McMichael. Chapter 7 (pages 182-212 only), Ch. 8 and 10.

****REQUIRED:** Attend the public talk by Dr. Sasha Kramer, cofounder of SOIL in Haiti www.oursoil.org on Thursday, March 21 at 7 pm in the Silver Eagle Suite in the Union.**

March 25 (M): Development in a resource-constrained world?

Some basics of global climate change: <http://climate.nasa.gov/>
Facing the Consequences. *The Economist*. November 25, 2010 <http://www.economist.com/node/17572735>
On climate change and agriculture, 2012.
<http://www.ids.ac.uk/news/time-for-a-rethink-getting-smart-about-politics-on-climate-change-and-agriculture>
Climate Change Policy Brief. 2011. Download the brief in .pdf from:
<http://www.genderlinks.org.za/article/policy-brief-gender-climate-change-and-sustainable-development-2011-08-09>

W: National Geographic. Saudi Arabia stakes a claim on the Nile
<http://news.nationalgeographic.com/news/2012/12/121217-saudi-arabia-water-grabs-ethiopia/>
Isha Ray. 2007. Women, Water and Development. *Annual Review of Environmental Resources*. 32:421-449. (UNT e-resources)
Patricia Glazebrook. 2011. Women and Climate Change: A Case-Study from Northeast Ghana (Bb)
Very short video: 300 Years of Fossil Fuels in 300 Seconds (find on Youtube)
Guest Lecture: Energy and climate change: linking the local and the global
Environmental movements close to home: read about the Tar Sands Blockade.

April 1 (M): Bad governance, corruption and development

Human Development Report. 2002. United Nations Development Programme (UNDP). Chapters 1 and 2 (pp. 13-54)
<http://hdr.undp.org/en/reports/global/hdr2002/>
Mick Moore. 2001. "Political Underdevelopment: What Causes Bad Governance?" *Public Management Review*, Vol. 3 (2001) No. 3, pp. 385-418 (find online or via UNT Library e-resources)

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April 1st continued

Wednesday: Andrei Schleifer and Robert Vishny. 1993. "Corruption" *The Quarterly Journal of Economics* (UNT e-resources)
Elizabeth Harrison. 2007. "Corruption" *Development in Practice*. Vol. 17. No 4/5 August 2007. (UNT Library e-resources)
Huairou Commission and UNDP. 2012. "Seeing Beyond the State: Grassroots Women's Perspectives on Corruption and anti-Corruption." Read the Executive Summary, pp.1-8.

Peruse only: Clemens Breisenger *et al.* 2012. Beyond the Arab Awakening: Policies and Investments for Poverty Reduction and Food Security. *International Food Policy Research Institute*. (find online, see 1-17 for the main arguments)

April 8 (M): Democracy, culture and development

Philippe C. Schmitter and Terry Lynn Karl, "What Democracy Is...and Is Not," *Journal of Democracy* (Summer 1991) (find online or via UNT Library e-resources)

Larry Diamond, "Universal Democracy" *Policy Review*, June 2003 (find online or via UNT Library e-resources)

Amartya Sen. 1999. Democracy as a Universal Value. *Journal of Democracy* 10.3 (1999) 3-17 (UNT e-resources)

Howard Zinn. Speech: Second Thoughts on the First Amendment (Bb, you might be able to hear the speech archived at www.alternativeradio.org an independent radio station based in Boulder, Colorado)

W: Huntington, Samuel. 1993. "The Clash of Civilizations?" *Foreign Affairs* 72(2) (Find using UNT Library e-resources)

Ronald Inglehart and Pippa Norris. March/April 2003. "The True Clash of Civilizations," *Foreign Policy* (UNT Library e-resources).

April 15 (M): Development aid

J. Sachs. 2005. *Investing in Development: A Practical Plan to Achieve the Millennium Development Goals* Chapters 13 and 17.

PERUSE: UNDP. Chapter 5 titled "Official Development Assistance" in *Towards Human Resilience: Sustaining MDG progress in an age of economic uncertainty* (find report online)

E. Anderson and H. Waddington. 2007. "Aid and the Millennium Development Goal Poverty Target: How Much is Required and How Should it be Allocated," *Oxford Development Studies*, Vol. 35, No. 1 (2007), pp. 1-31.

Frances More Lappe. 1998. "Myth 10: More U.S. Aid will help the hungry" in *World Hunger* (pages 129-146 on Bb)

W: Naomi Hossain & Mick Moore. 2002. "Arguing for the Poor: Elites and Poverty in Developing Countries", *IDS Working Paper*, No. 148. (find online)

Catherine Agg. 2006. "Winners or Losers?: NGOs in the Current Aid Paradigm," *Development*, Vol. 49, No. 2 (2006), pp. 15-21. (find via UNT Library e-resources)

Ro Wyman and Bill Wyman. November 11, 2010. "The deadly consequences of niche aid in Africa." *Harvard Business Review* http://blogs.hbr.org/cs/2010/11/the_deadly_consequences_of_nic.html

April 22 (M): Migration and development

Douglas Massey. 1999. "International migration at the dawn of the twenty-first century: the role of the state" *Population and Development Review*. Vol. 25 No. 2 : 303-322. (find using UNT's e-resources)

D. Massey *et al.* 1998. "Labor migration in the Gulf system" in *Worlds in Motion* 133-159 (Bb).

W: Barbara Ehrenreich and Arlie Russell Hochschild. 2003. *Global Woman: Nannies, Maids, and Sex Workers in the New Economy*. pages 1-13 and 15-38 (Bb).

Godfrey *et al.* 2004. "Women Migrant Workers in Kuwait." *Gender and Migration in Arab States: The Case of Domestic Workers*. Simel Esim and Monica Smith (eds). International Labor Organization (ILO): 41-62. (find this report online)
Human Development Report. UNDP. Overcoming barriers: Human mobility and development. 2009. Ch. 4 (online)

April 29 (M): Refugees: displaced by development, underdevelopment, and war

Nicholas Van Hear. 1998. "Introduction" in *New Diasporas*. Pages 1-12. (Bb)

Human Development Report. 2009. Chapter 3, esp. 3.5.1, 3.5.2 and 3.5.3. (same report as previous week's - find online)

W: Refugees today: Syrian, Palestinian, Iraqi and Afghan refugees in the Middle East. Readings TBA.

Good resources: UNHCR and International Migration Organization. Specifically on developments in the Middle East, with critical coverage of political developments see Jadaliyya.

Guest lecture: Refugees and asylum seekers in North Texas (tentative)

Final exam: May 10, 2013 from 1.30-3.30 pm.