Political Science 4105A
Selected Problems of Development in the Global South
Wednesdays 11:35 am to 2:25 pm
Location: Consult Carleton Central

Instructor: Professor Laura Macdonald
Office: C669 Loeb Building
Phone: 613-520 2600 x 2771
Email address: Laura_Macdonald@carleton.ca
Office Hours: Tuesdays 2:45 to 4:30 pm (or by appointment)

Course Description:

This seminar course is designed to examine issues and problems related to international development in the context of a rapidly changing global political economy. Standard conceptions of what development means and of how it can be achieved (or whether it is in fact desirable at all) are currently being reexamined in the context of the failure of the so-called Washington consensus, successive financial crises, the rise of the BRICS (Brazil, Russia, India, China and South Africa), the onset of global environmental crises and so on. The course evaluates various forms of intervention or involvement that have been advocated as possible “fixes” to the problems of developing countries.

The course begins with a brief overview of development theory, the crisis of neoliberal policy prescriptions and new thinking in gender and development. We then move on to a survey of the current architecture of the global financial, production and trade systems, and the impact of recent reforms to these systems. Finally, we examine various approaches to addressing ongoing problems of poverty, exploitation and inequality, including micro finance, the extractive sector, migration and remittances, social policy, and NGOs and civil society. We begin by examining more “macro” issues related to the global economy and international organizations, and then move on to more “meso” and then “micro” levels of involvement and intervention. We conclude with a consideration of what we as citizens can do about problems in development.

Objectives:
In this course, students will:

- Gain an understanding of some of the main problems faced by developing countries;
- Develop critical skills to analyze solutions to problems of international development proposed by academics and policy actors;
- Gain an understanding of the role played by diverse actors involved in
international development, including international organizations, states, multinational corporations, NGOs and citizens.

Evaluation Summary:

Weekly Attendance and Participation: 20%
Presentation and paper: 20% (10% for paper and 10% for presentation)
Short Debate presentation: 10%
Essay Proposal: 5% (due October 9th)
Final Essay: 45% (due on-line December 4th)

Discussion of Evaluation Components:

1. Attendance and Participation: Attendance is mandatory. Regular participation and willingness to engage in discussions, based on informed and respectful comments directly related to the readings, is a key component of this 4th-year seminar course. There are between 50-80 pages of reading per week. To get a good grade and grasp of the subject, students need to carefully read the required readings, prepare weekly reading notes, including questions for discussions, and actively participate in discussions. Also note that raising good questions is important as making comments. We will discuss the readings both in small groups and in the class as a whole. Attendance will be recorded but counts for only 1/3 of your participation grade (i.e. 5% of the 15%). Marks will be deducted if you consistently arrive late. Please let me know in advance (in person or by email) if you will be missing a class for urgent reasons (medical or family emergency, etc.).

2. Presentation: Each student will do at least one presentation on one of the course readings. The timing of your presentation will be determined during the class of week 2. The presentation should be 12-15 minutes. In your presentation, you should: summarize the main ideas of that reading; situate the author in broader debates on international development (how do they fit into theoretical and methodological approaches?); present analytical and critical reflections on those readings and what they contribute to the topic of the week, and raise questions for broader class discussion. No more than half of your presentation should be spent summarizing the article’s contents. You will also submit a short critical paper (4-5 pages double spaced), which is due in class the day of your presentation at the beginning of the class, based on your presentation.

3. Debate presentation: In addition to your presentation on a reading, you will also be assigned to make a short presentation as part of a debate that will occur usually in the second half of the class related to the week’s readings. Topics for the debates will be made available on cuLearn by the second week of class.

4. Essay Proposal: You will write a proposal (around 3-4 pages double spaced) on
the topic that of your final essay. The proposal should contain:

- a research question;
- short statement on why this is an interesting and important topic;
- a tentative hypothesis or argument;
- statement on your theoretical approach;
- annotated bibliography - with a paragraph for each source which summarizes the content of the article and indicates how it will be useful for your final paper. You must include a minimum of 6 academic sources.

Topics: You may wish to focus on the development problems faced by a particular country or countries, the approaches of a specific actor (whether a specific bilateral donor or international agency), or you may wish to take a more thematic approach.

Due date: **October 9th** (IN CLASS - AT THE BEGINNING OF CLASS).

5. Final Essay: You will write a research paper (14 -15 pages) on a topic directly related to the course. The topic must be approved in writing (in an email) by the professor by **October 2nd**. We will also discuss your essay topics in class that day so come to class prepared to talk about your ideas. Your sources for the paper may include internet sources but must include at least 6 refereed journal articles, books or book chapters. You must include at least **10-12 sources** in total. The assignment will be graded based on the quality of your writing, research and analysis, the organization of the paper, the depth of research on the topic, and the coherence and originality of your argument. The essay should be posted to CuLearn by 11:55 pm on **December 4th**.

**Late Policy**

Assignments are due on the dates and in the way specified in the course outline. **Late papers will be subject to a penalty of 2% a day not including weekends. This penalty will apply to all papers submitted in the dropbox, even on the due date.** Assignments will not be accepted 10 days after the due date. No retroactive extensions will be permitted. Do not ask for an extension on the due date of the assignment. Exceptions will be made only in those cases of special circumstances, (e.g. illness, bereavement) and where the student has verifiable documentation.

**Policies on Assignments:**

All assignments in this course must be 12 pt font, double-spaced and have standard one-inch margins. They should be free of spelling and grammatical errors. They must include appropriate citations and bibliography. Assignments that do not have any citations from academic sources will be returned to the student ungraded. You must use consistently a recognized citation format (See: [http://www.carleton.ca/sasc/peer-assisted-study-sessions/workshop-handouts/week-ten/writing-resources/citation-styles/](http://www.carleton.ca/sasc/peer-assisted-study-sessions/workshop-handouts/week-ten/writing-resources/citation-styles/)).

**Useful Sources (this is just a starting point):**


Weekly Topics and Readings:

Part I: Debates in International Development: Beyond the Washington Consensus?

Week 1 - September 4th - Introduction: What is Development and how do we get it?


Video: Poto Mitan: Haitian Women Pillars of the Global Ecology (50 min) (269984)

Suggested readings:


**Week 2 - September 11th**

**A) Legacy of Colonialism**


**B) Crisis of Neo-Liberalism and Return of the Developmentalist State?**


**Suggested Readings:**


Leslie Elliott Armijo, The BRICs Countries (Brazil, Russia, India, and China) as Analytic Category: Mirage or Insight? *Asian Perspective* 31(4), 2007,7-42.

**Week 3 - September 18th**

**New Approaches to Gender and Development?**

**Guest speaker: Professor Gopika Solanki, Department of Political Science, Carleton University**


Suggested readings:


Part II: External Actors

Week 4 – September 25th - IMF/World Bank - SAPs, PRSPs, MDGs and SDGs


From the Millennium Development Goals to the Sustainable Development Goals: shifts in purpose, concept, and politics of global goal setting for development, *Gender & Development*, 24:1, 43-52.


**Suggested Readings:**


**Week 5 – October 2nd - Globalization, Trade, and Investment**


**Suggested readings:**


**Week 6 - October 9th - Bilateral Development Assistance**

**Essay Proposal due Today**


**Suggested readings:**


Dambisa Moyo. 2009, *Dead Aid* Chapters 1 – 4


**Part III: Harnessing the Market**

**Week 7 – October 16th - Migration and Development**


Suggested Readings:


FALL BREAK NO CLASSES OCTOBER 21-25TH

**Week 8 – October 30th - Extractivism and Neo-Extractivism**


Suggested Readings:


**Week 9 - November 6th – Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR)**


**Part IV: States and Civil Society**

**Week 10 - November 13th - Social Policy, Care, and Poverty Reduction**


**Suggested Readings:**


**Week 11 – November 20th - NGOs, Social Movements and Civil Society**


Suggested Readings:


Week 12 – November 27th - Canada’s Feminist International Assistance Policy

Guest speaker: Ioanna Sahas Martin, Director, International Assistance Research and Knowledge Division, Strategic Policy Branch, Global Affairs Canada

Required:


Week 13 - December 4th – What Can We Do? Activism and Development


Suggested readings:


Academic Accommodations

Requests for Academic Accommodation
You may need special arrangements to meet your academic obligations during the term. For an accommodation request, the processes are as follows:

Pregnancy obligation
Please contact your instructor with any requests for academic accommodation during the first two weeks of class, or as soon as possible after the need for accommodation is known to exist. For more details, visit the Equity Services website: carleton.ca/equity/wp-content/uploads/Student-Guide-to-Academic-Accommodation.pdf

Religious obligation
Please contact your instructor with any requests for academic accommodation during the first two weeks of class, or as soon as possible after the need for accommodation is known to exist. For more details, visit the Equity Services website: carleton.ca/equity/wp-content/uploads/Student-Guide-to-Academic-Accommodation.pdf

Academic Accommodations for Students with Disabilities
If you have a documented disability requiring academic accommodations in this course, please contact the Paul Menton Centre for Students with Disabilities (PMC) at 613-520-6608 or pmc@carleton.ca for a formal evaluation or contact your PMC coordinator to send your instructor your Letter of Accommodation at the beginning of the term. You must also contact the PMC no later than two weeks before the first in-class scheduled test or exam requiring accommodation (if applicable). After requesting accommodation from PMC, meet with your instructor as soon as possible to ensure accommodation arrangements are made. carleton.ca/pmc

Survivors of Sexual Violence
As a community, Carleton University is committed to maintaining a positive learning, working and living environment where sexual violence will not be tolerated, and is survivors are supported through academic accommodations as per Carleton’s Sexual Violence Policy. For more information about the services available at the university and to obtain information about sexual violence and/or support, visit: carleton.ca/sexual-violence-support

Accommodation for Student Activities
Carleton University recognizes the substantial benefits, both to the individual student and for the university, that result from a student participating in activities beyond the classroom experience. Reasonable accommodation must be provided to students who compete or perform at the national or international level. Please contact your instructor with any requests for academic accommodation during the first two weeks of class, or as soon as possible after the need for accommodation is
known to exist. [https://carleton.ca/senate/wp-content/uploads/Accommodation-for-Student-Activities-1.pdf](https://carleton.ca/senate/wp-content/uploads/Accommodation-for-Student-Activities-1.pdf)

For more information on academic accommodation, please contact the departmental administrator or visit: [students.carleton.ca/course-outline](students.carleton.ca/course-outline)

**Plagiarism**
The University Senate defines plagiarism as “presenting, whether intentional or not, the ideas, expression of ideas or work of others as one’s own.” This can include:

- reproducing or paraphrasing portions of someone else’s published or unpublished material, regardless of the source, and presenting these as one's own without proper citation or reference to the original source;
- submitting a take-home examination, essay, laboratory report or other assignment written, in whole or in part, by someone else;
- using ideas or direct, verbatim quotations, or paraphrased material, concepts, or ideas without appropriate acknowledgment in any academic assignment;
- using another's data or research findings;
- failing to acknowledge sources through the use of proper citations when using another’s works and/or failing to use quotation marks;
- handing in "substantially the same piece of work for academic credit more than once without prior written permission of the course instructor in which the submission occurs.

Plagiarism is a serious offence which cannot be resolved directly with the course's instructor. The Associate Deans of the Faculty conduct a rigorous investigation, including an interview with the student, when an instructor suspects a piece of work has been plagiarized. Penalties are not trivial. They may include a mark of zero for the plagiarized work or a final grade of "F" for the course.

Student or professor materials created for this course (including presentations and posted notes, labs, case studies, assignments and exams) remain the intellectual property of the author(s). They are intended for personal use and may not be reproduced or redistributed without prior written consent of the author(s).

**Submission and Return of Term Work**
Papers must be submitted directly to the instructor according to the instructions in the course outline and will not be date-stamped in the departmental office. Late assignments may be submitted to the drop box in the corridor outside B640 Loeb. Assignments will be retrieved every business day at 4 p.m., stamped with that day's date, and then distributed to the instructor. For essays not returned in class please attach a **stamped, self-addressed envelope** if you wish to have your assignment returned by mail. Final exams are intended solely for the purpose of evaluation and will not be returned.
**Grading**
Standing in a course is determined by the course instructor, subject to the approval of the faculty Dean. Final standing in courses will be shown by alphabetical grades. The system of grades used, with corresponding grade points is:

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<thead>
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<th>Percentage</th>
<th>Letter grade</th>
<th>12-point scale</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
<th>Letter grade</th>
<th>12-point scale</th>
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<tr>
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<td>12</td>
<td>67-69</td>
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**Approval of final grades**
Standing in a course is determined by the course instructor subject to the approval of the Faculty Dean. This means that grades submitted by an instructor may be subject to revision. No grades are final until they have been approved by the Dean.

**Carleton E-mail Accounts**
All email communication to students from the Department of Political Science will be via official Carleton university e-mail accounts and/or cuLearn. As important course and University information is distributed this way, it is the student’s responsibility to monitor their Carleton and cuLearn accounts.

**Carleton Political Science Society**
"The Carleton Political Science Society (CPSS) has made its mission to provide a social environment for politically inclined students and faculty. By hosting social events, including Model Parliament, debates, professional development sessions and more, CPSS aims to involve all political science students at Carleton University. Our mandate is to arrange social and academic activities in order to instill a sense of belonging within the Department and the larger University community. Members can benefit through our networking opportunities, academic engagement initiatives and numerous events which aim to complement both academic and social life at Carleton University. To find out more, visit us on Facebook [https://www.facebook.com/CarletonPoliticalScienceSociety/] and our website [https://carletonpss.com/], or stop by our office in Loeb D688!"

**Official Course Outline**
The course outline posted to the Political Science website is the official course outline.