Institute for the Study of International Development  
McGill University  
Fall 2018  

INTD 200  
**Lecture: Introduction to International Development**  
(3 credits)  

**Class Times**  
Mondays, Wednesdays, and Fridays 9:35-10:25  

Please note that weekly lectures will be held only on Wednesdays and Fridays once conference sessions commence in the third week (the week of September 17).  

**Lecture Hall**  
Stewart Biology Building STBIO S1/4  

**Instructor**  
Kazue Takamura  
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Office Hours: Thursdays 14:00-16:00  

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**Course Description**  
This introductory course is designed to familiarize students with key theories, approaches, ideas, actors, issues, and critiques that are integral to international development. The course is divided into two main sections. The first part of the course (Weeks 1-6) will cover the macro picture of international development. In the first week, we will discuss broad issues, goals, and dilemmas that are at the core of international development. In the second and third weeks, we will begin with colonialism as key historical background to development; then we will explore major theories of development, including modernization theory, neoliberalism, civil society and democracy, the developmental state, and human development. In the fourth week, we will address the emerging critiques of development, Post-Development discourse, as well as
debates regarding development statistics. In the fifth and sixth weeks, we will examine one of the most central development dilemmas, the tension between state sovereignty and human rights. We will look at the tension through the lenses of responsibility to protect, indigenous justice, border control, and statelessness.

The second part of the course (Weeks 8-13) will look at a wide variety of development issues with a strong emphasis on globalization, gender, systemic inequalities, and human rights. These issues include: microfinance, feminization of labor, mass atrocities and transitional justice, indigenous rights, culture and health, global health crises, climate politics, mining extraction, nutrition, food insecurity, migrant rights, and refugee crises.

During the course of the semester, we will invite practitioners and scholars who are directly involved in specific development issues. Through dialogue with a wide range of guest speakers, we will gain first-hand insight and perspectives on key development problems. By the end of the course, students should be familiar with the historical background, concepts, theories, complexities, debates, and controversies that are part of the broad field of international development.

**Required course materials**

One textbook will be available for purchase in the McGill Bookstore. A copy of the textbook will be put on reserve in the McLennan library.


2. Required readings on MyCourses
   Additional required readings available on the Internet or as electronic journals at the McGill library will be made available to you through MyCourses.

**Course Requirements:**

1. **Class participation**

   Students are expected to come to class having done the required readings beforehand in order to engage with the topics and key ideas in the lectures. Please note that the lectures are not recorded for this course. However, powerpoint slides will be provided after the lectures.

2. **Conferences**

   Conferences begin in the third week (the week of September 17) of the semester. Students are required to sign up for one of the conference groups via Minerva and attend it throughout the term. We will announce when the online conference registration will be available. Please note that attendance of these weekly conferences is mandatory.

   Conference structure:
   The primary goal of conferences is to facilitate an engaged and thoughtful discussion of development issues based on the lectures and weekly readings. The format provides you with
an opportunity to participate actively in class and to deepen your understanding of theory and practice in the field of international development. In the first four conference sessions (Weeks 3 & 4) we will mainly review key development ideas, norms, theories, and approaches. These sessions are meant to facilitate students’ understanding of the macro picture of development. From the week of October 22 (Week 8), we will begin group presentations in conferences (see the section on “group presentation” below).

Active Conference participation:
Conference grading will be based on your attendance as well as your active participation. In order to ensure your active participation, we highly encourage you to identify at least five keywords based on weekly readings prior to the conference meeting. Your TA will ask your keywords in the beginning of each conference meeting.

Points for the group presentation are separate from the conference points. Students are required to participate consistently and thoughtfully throughout the semester. If a conference is missed because of illness, a doctor’s note must be provided to the TA.

Please note that there will be no conferences in the weeks of October 1 (Week 5), October 8 (Week 6), and October 15 (Week 7) due to the Quebec Election, Thanksgiving Day, and the midterm exam.

3. Group oral presentation
Students are required to make an oral presentation in conference by working in a group comprised of 4-5 people. Each group is assigned to a specific week to discuss the given theme of that week. Within that week, students will choose a case study to deepen the analysis of that week’s particular theme. The central goal of this group exercise is to facilitate and deepen our understanding of actual development issues and practice. We will begin this exercise from the week of October 22 (Week 8).

Requirements of the group presentation
(a) Topic:
Each group has the freedom to choose a case study that engages with the given weekly theme. For example, if your group presents on the theme of the environment, you could discuss the effects of water pollution on China’s rural poor. However, you must integrate some of the broader points/ideas addressed in assigned readings or in lectures.

(b) Analysis:
To demonstrate a solid understanding of the given case study, each group must address the following four macro questions: (1) why is this development issue significant? (2) what are the main variables/factors that affect the issue? (3) who are the key development actors and what are their roles? (4) what are your policy recommendations, if any? In order to visualize the contextual complexities of the given development issue, the analysis should be done based on a regional or a country case study. Each group should integrate relevant academic and non-academic sources (including course readings) in the analysis.

(c) Format:
Each week, we will have one group presenting in conference. Each group will have 15-20 minutes (not exceeding 20 minutes) to present. After the presentation, we will proceed to a 10
minute Q&A and further class discussion over the issue. Your group is required to provide a powerpoint presentation (or an equivalent format) to your conference TA by 5pm the day before the conference meeting.

(d) Discussion questions and class interaction (discussion questions)
Each group should prepare at least two discussion questions during the presentation. Your discussion question could be a debate or an overarching question that engages with the presentation theme. Group members should interact with the audience through deepening discussion questions.

(e) Division of labor
In order to ensure equal group participation, your group should clarify the division of labor among the group members in the beginning of the presentation. Each member should play a clear role in the group presentation.

(f) Post-presentation comments
Students are required to submit post-presentation comments (individual) in 500-600 words after the group presentation. You should discuss your main role in the group as well as your additional reflections on the specific development theme from the presentation. For example, you could address critical issues/dilemmas that you would like to further elaborate. You could also discuss certain questions that you could not include in the presentation. You must submit the post-presentation comments to your TA by 11:59pm on the same day of the presentation. Your comments will count for 3% of the total presentation grade.

(g) Scheduling:
In the first conference meeting, we will discuss and clarify the arrangement of this exercise, including weekly topics, group members, and presentation schedule. This group exercise will count for 15% of course credit including the post-presentation comments. You are also highly encouraged to talk to your TA in order to deepen your understanding of the specific issues and dilemmas in development practice.

4. Midterm in-class exam

The midterm exam will be scheduled in class on Friday, October 19. The exam is a combination of short answers and identification questions. The exam questions will focus on concepts discussed between week 2 and week 6. Each identification must be explained in at least two to three paragraphs. Potential identification questions will be given in class. Further details will be announced in class. A review session will be offered on Wednesday, October 17.

If you are unable to take the midterm exam due to illness, you must inform Professor Takamura prior to the exam and must then provide an official medical note. Failure to notify of your absence prior to the exam will result in a “0” for the midterm. Only medical problems will be considered legitimate excuses for taking the makeup exam. Only one makeup midterm exam date will then be scheduled about one week after the midterm exam.

*Re-grading policy for the midterm exam:
Please respect the following procedures concerning any re-grading of the midterm exam.
1. If it is an obvious and simple error in grading, please talk directly to your conference TA and show your TA your exam.

2. If your request for a re-grade involves more substantive issues, then you must explain in writing the matter for which you are requesting a re-grade. In your written document, you must provide a substantive explanation as to why you believe you deserve more points. This document must be provided to Professor Takamura during office hours. Please note that any re-grade will entail a re-assessment of the whole exam, which can mean that the grade of the exam may go up or down. Please also note that you must hand in a document requesting a re-grade no later than 2 weeks after your exam has been returned to you.

4. In-class quizzes (between week 5 and week 13)
Students will be given a total of ten in-class quizzes between week 5 and week 13. Each quiz is based on a specific lecture. Students are required to take the quiz during the lecture. The details will be announced in class.

5. Final take-home research paper
Students must write a final research paper based on an empirical development issue in 2,100 – 2,400 words excluding the bibliography (about 7-8 double-spaced pages, Times New Roman) due on Friday, December 14th. Your final research paper should engage with one of the broader development dilemmas that are discussed during the semester. The details will be announced in class on October 31.

Title and an abstract
Students must submit the title of one’s essay and an abstract discussing the main ideas of the paper in 250-300 words. You must submit the title and an abstract in a PDF format by Friday, November 30 (11:59pm) via MyCourses. Please note that the submission of the title and an abstract counts for 3% of the final take-home paper grade.

Submission (Friday, December 14)
The due date for the final take-home essay is Friday, December 14 by 11:59pm. Submit your final essay via MyCourses. The document format should be in a PDF file.

Grade Distribution:
10% Conference participation
15% Group presentation (including post-presentation comments in 500-600 words)
25% Midterm exam
5% In-class quizzes (a total of 10 quizzes)
45% Take-home final research paper (including the title and an abstract in 250-300 words)

Plagiarism:
McGill University values academic integrity. Therefore, all students must understand the meaning and consequences of cheating, plagiarism and other academic offences under the
Code of Student Conduct and Disciplinary Procedures (see www.mcgill.ca/students/srr/honest/ for more information)

L'université McGill attache une haute importance à l'honnêteté académique. Il incombe par conséquent à tous les étudiants de comprendre ce que l'on entend par tricherie, plagiat et autres infractions académiques, ainsi que les conséquences que peuvent avoir de telles actions, selon le Code de conduite de l'étudiant et des procédures disciplinaires (pour de plus amples renseignements, veuillez consulter le site www.mcgill.ca/students/srr/honest/).

Policy on Languages:

In accord with McGill University's Charter of Students’ Rights, students in this course have the right to submit in English or in French any written work that is to be graded.

Conformément à la Charte des droits de l'étudiant de l'Université McGill, chaque étudiant a le droit de soumettre en français ou en anglais tout travail écrit devant être noté (sauf dans le cas des cours dont l’un des objets est la maîtrise d'une langue)

Course Evaluations:

End-of-course evaluations are one of the ways that McGill works towards maintaining and improving the quality of courses and the student’s learning experience. You will be notified by e-mail when the evaluations are available on Mercury, the online course evaluation system. Please note that a minimum number of responses must be received for results to be available to students.

General Information

If you have a hearing, visual and mobility impairment, please contact the instructor immediately (in advance of any evaluations or other class requirements).

N.B.

In the event of extraordinary circumstances beyond the University's control, the content and/or evaluation scheme in this course is subject to change.

Key Dates
- Conferences begin in the week of September 17 (week 3)
- In-class quizzes begin in the week of October 1 (week 5)
- Review session: Wednesday, October 17 (week 7)
- Midterm in-class exam: Friday, October 19 (week 7)
- Group oral presentations begin in the week of October 22 (week 8)
- Final take-home essay title and an abstract due: Friday, November 30
- Final take-home essay due: Friday, December 14
**Course Schedule**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Theme</th>
<th>Lecturer</th>
<th>Conference</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Week 1: Introduction</strong></td>
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<td>No Conferences</td>
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<tr>
<td>September 5 (Wednesday)</td>
<td>Introduction</td>
<td>Takamura</td>
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<tr>
<td>September 7 (Friday)</td>
<td>What is &quot;Development&quot;?</td>
<td>Takamura</td>
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<td><strong>Week 2: Theories of Development 1</strong></td>
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<td>No Conferences</td>
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<tr>
<td>September 10 (Monday)</td>
<td>Colonialism</td>
<td>Takamura</td>
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<td>September 12 (Wednesday)</td>
<td>Development Theories: Modernization and Neoliberalism</td>
<td>Takamura</td>
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<tr>
<td>September 14 (Friday)</td>
<td>Civil Society and Democracy</td>
<td>Takamura</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Week 3: Theories of Development 2</strong></td>
<td><em>Conferences will begin this week</em></td>
<td></td>
<td>Conference #1: Development Theories</td>
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<tr>
<td>September 19 (Wednesday)</td>
<td>The Developmental State: Strong State and Equality</td>
<td>Erik Martinez Kuhonta</td>
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<tr>
<td>September 21 (Friday)</td>
<td>Human Development</td>
<td>Takamura</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Week 4: Emerging Critiques</strong></td>
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<td>Conference #2: Development Theories</td>
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<tr>
<td>September 26 (Wednesday)</td>
<td>Post-Development Discourse</td>
<td>Takamura</td>
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<tr>
<td>September 28 (Friday)</td>
<td>Politics of Numbers</td>
<td>Takamura</td>
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<td><strong>Week 5: Sovereignty vs. Human Rights 1</strong></td>
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<td>No Conferences</td>
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<tr>
<td>October 3 (Wednesday)</td>
<td>Responsibility to Protect</td>
<td>Takamura</td>
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<tr>
<td>October 5 (Friday)</td>
<td>Indigenous Justice</td>
<td>Kenneth Deer</td>
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<td><strong>Week 6: Sovereignty vs. Human Rights 2</strong></td>
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<td>No Conferences</td>
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<tr>
<td>October 10 (Wednesday)</td>
<td>Territorial Sovereign State System</td>
<td>Takamura</td>
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<td>October 12 (Friday)</td>
<td>Right to Nationality</td>
<td>Takamura</td>
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<td><strong>Week 7: Midterm Exam</strong></td>
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<td>No Conferences</td>
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<tr>
<td>October 17 (Wednesday)</td>
<td>Review Session</td>
<td>Takamura</td>
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<td>October 19 (Friday)</td>
<td>Midterm in-class exam</td>
<td>Takamura</td>
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<td><strong>Week 8: Gender</strong></td>
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<td>October 24 (Wednesday)</td>
<td>Gender and Development</td>
<td>Takamura</td>
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<td>October 26 (Friday)</td>
<td>Feminization of Labor</td>
<td>Takamura</td>
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<td><strong>Week 9: Transitional Justice</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>October 31 (Wednesday)</td>
<td>Mass Atrocities and Transitional Justice</td>
<td>Takamura</td>
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<td>November 2 (Friday)</td>
<td>Canadian Truth and Reconciliation Commission</td>
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<td><strong>Week 10: Health</strong></td>
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<td>November 7 (Wednesday)</td>
<td>Health and Culture</td>
<td>Takamura</td>
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<tr>
<td>November 9 (Friday)</td>
<td>Health and Justice</td>
<td>TBA</td>
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<td><strong>Week 11: Environmental Crises</strong></td>
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<td>November 14 (Wednesday)</td>
<td>Environmental Acivism</td>
<td>Takamura</td>
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<td>November 16 (Friday)</td>
<td>Mining and Indigenous Justice</td>
<td>Steven Schnoor</td>
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<td><strong>Week 12: Food Security</strong></td>
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<td>November 21 (Wednesday)</td>
<td>Politics of Nutrition</td>
<td>Takamura</td>
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<tr>
<td>November 23 (Friday)</td>
<td>Food Insecurity and Displacement</td>
<td>Takamura</td>
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<td><strong>Week 13: Humanitarianism</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>November 28 (Wednesday)</td>
<td>Mass Atrocities and Transitional Justice</td>
<td>Takamura</td>
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<tr>
<td>November 30 (Friday)</td>
<td>Canadian Truth and Reconciliation Commission</td>
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COURSE OUTLINE

WEEK 1: INTRODUCTION

Goal: Introduce the macro picture of the study of international development, including key definitions, measurements, actors, and approaches. We will interrogate what development is, who defines it, and why and how the study of development matters. We will also discuss moral dilemmas that are at the core of contemporary international development.

Wednesday, September 5
Week 1-1. Introduction: Orientation

Introduce the main learning goals of the course. We will clarify the key structure of the course, including course schedule, assignments, readings, conference requirements, as well as other logistical matters.

Friday, September 7
Week 1-2. What is Development?

Readings:

WEEK 2: THEORIES OF DEVELOPMENT

Monday, September 10
Week 2-1. Colonialism: Long-Lasting Hegemony?

Readings:

Optional:

**Wednesday, September 12**
**Week 2-2. Development Theories: Modernization and Neoliberalism**

Readings:

Optional:

**Friday, September 14**
**Week 2-3. Civil Society and Democracy**

Readings:


**WEEK 3: THEORIES OF DEVELOPMENT 2**

**Wednesday, September 19**
**Week 3-1. The Developmental State**

*Guest Lecturer: Erik Martinez Kuhonta, Department of Political Science, McGill University*

Readings:

**Friday, September 21**
**Week 3-2. Human Development**

Readings:


Optional:

**WEEK 4: EMERGING CRITIQUES**

*Wednesday, September 26*

**Week 4-1. Post-Development Discourse**

Readings:


*Friday, September 28*

**Week 4-2. Politics of Numbers**

Readings:


Optional:


**WEEK 5: SOVEREIGNTY VS. HUMAN RIGHTS 1**

*Wednesday, October 3*

**Week 5-1. Responsibility to Protect**

Readings:


Optional:


*Friday, October 5*

**Week 5-2. Indigenous Justice**

**Guest Speaker: Kenneth Deer, Secretary of the Mohawk Nation at Kahnawake**

Readings:


Optional:

WEEK 6: SOVEREIGNTY VS. HUMAN RIGHTS 2

Wednesday, October 10
Week 6-1. Territorial Sovereign State System
Readings:

Friday, October 12
Week 6-2. Right to Nationality
Readings:

Film screening: TBA

WEEK 7: MIDTERM EXAM

Wednesday, October 17
Review Session

Friday, October 19
Midterm in-class exam

WEEK 8: GENDER AND DEVELOPMENT

Wednesday, October 24
Week 8-1. Gender and Development
Readings:

Optional:

Wednesday, October 26
Week 8-2. Feminization of Labor
Readings:

Optional:

WEEK 9: TRANSITIONAL JUSTICE

Wednesday, October 31
Week 9-1. Mass Atrocities and Transitional Justice

Readings:

Friday, November 2
Week 9-2. Canadian Truth and Reconciliation Commission

WEEK 10: HEALTH

Wednesday, November 7
Week 10-1. Health and Culture

Readings:


Friday, November 9
Week 10-2. Health and Justice

Readings:

WEEK 11: ENVIRONMENTAL CRISES

Wednesday, November 14
Week 10-1. Environmental Activism
Readings:

**Friday, November 16**  
**Week 11-2. Mining and Indigenous Justice in Latin America**  
**Guest Lecturer: Steven Schnoor, Concordia University**

Readings:


**WEEK 12: FOOD SECURITY**

**Wednesday, November 21**  
**Week 12-1. Politics of Nutrition**

Readings:

**Friday, November 23**  
**Week 12-2. Food Insecurity and Displacement**

Readings:

**WEEK 13: HUMANITARIANISM**

**Wednesday, November 28**  
**Week 13-1. Human Rights of Migrants**

Readings:

Friday, November 30
Week 13-2. Refugee Crises and the Role of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR)
Guest Lecturer: Denise Otis, Legal Office, UNHCR Canada

Readings:

WEEK 14: CONCLUSION

Tuesday, December 4
Week 14: Conclusion