### Instructor Information

D. Emre Amasyali  
emre.amasyali@mail.mcgill.ca  
Office Hours: Wednesday or Monday  
Office Location:

### TA Information: TBA

### Course Overview:

This is an introductory level course that examines concepts, actors, key debates, and themes of global development. Students will be introduced to a broad range of topics in international development, viewed primarily from the perspective of sociology. The course is divided into two major parts. In the first half of the course we will unpack the concept of development, discuss the roots of the development project, examine theories of development, and identify some key actors in development. The second half of the course is devoted to unpacking specific themes of development that relate to the analysis of social, economic and political experiences of developing countries.

### Learning Outcomes:

On successful completion of this course, a student will be expected to be able to demonstrate:

- An understanding of the changing definitions of development over the course of the twentieth century to the current day;
- A critical understanding of the different ways in which poverty has been understood and the implications of those differences;
• An understanding of the key theories used to explain the diverging the social, economic and political experiences of countries.
• An understanding of the different roles of development actors, and the debates about their role and impact;
• A critical understanding of how individual identities, global processes, and experiences shape poverty and create obstacles and challenges to, and opportunities for, development;
• An ability to used empirically formed analysis to identify the tensions in the literature and academic debates;

**Instructional Method:**

The course has two one hour and 20 minute lectures per week.

**Required Course Materials:**

There is one required textbook for this course and it is available both at McGill Bookstore and the Humanities and Social Sciences Library:


**Evaluation:**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name of Assignment</th>
<th>Due Date</th>
<th>% of final grade</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Midterm Exam</td>
<td>February 26, 2018</td>
<td>35%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Three Response Papers (10% each)</td>
<td>Due throughout the term</td>
<td>30%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Final Exam</td>
<td>TBA</td>
<td>35%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

1) **Response Papers** (3 due throughout, 30% of final grade)
The response papers serve multiple functions in this course. They are designed to encourage you to: 1) keep apace of the readings; 2) attend class; 3) generate notes that can be used to prepare for your exams, and perhaps future sociology courses; 4) compare and contrast the course’s theoretical content with real-world experiences; and 5) formulate, in writing, a cogent viewpoint on key issues addressed by the course.

Response papers will be graded according to a rubric that will be posted on MyCourses, which reflects the following formal requirements. Grading for each of these components is “all or nothing.” No half marks will be granted.

**Formal requirements:**
- Each response paper is composed of **two questions**.
- Answer the questions. Each question will ask you to recapitulate material from the required readings and lectures. The questions will be given to you on **random dates** throughout the term.
- Part (a) of each question requires **one direct quotation** from course material in order to receive a full mark. That quotation needs to be referenced properly.
- For Part (b), you **do not** need to cite the lecturer.
- For Part (c) apply the highlighted concepts to a real-life example. This part of the response gives you the opportunity to consider how theoretical concepts discussed in the class resonate with your personal experience and/or current events. For this section, you **are not** required to cite if you are referencing “common knowledge.” However, if you do draw on outside knowledge (not a requirement), this does need to be probably referenced. This section paves the way for more in-depth class discussions by ensuring that everyone has had an opportunity to think more deeply about material presented in class.
- Use **APA citation** style correctly part (a) and outside sources. Proper referencing is a skill that cannot be practiced enough. We will review APA citation style in class in advance of the due date for the first response paper.
- Follow formatting instructions. Papers must be single-spaced, written in 12pt Times New Roman font, and have standard margins (2.54 cm on all sides). Your name and response paper number must appear at the top of the page. The maximum length of the paper is 1,000 words, all inclusive, i.e. approximately 500 words per question. A sample document illustrating the proper appearance of a response paper will be made available on MyCourses.
Submission:
Response papers must be uploaded to MyCourses by 10:00 am one week after the second question is handed out in class. Since MyCourses occasionally malfunctions, I suggest that you upload your response paper at least 1 hour before the deadline. In the event of a dispute over the submission time/date, you will need to give the instructor an electronic version of the response paper that was last modified (according to document properties) prior to the deadline, in order to prove that your paper could have been submitted on time.

Time requirements:
If you attend lectures and keep up with the weekly required readings, it should normally take you no longer than 30-45 minutes to answer a single question, i.e. 1 – 1.5 hours to complete a whole response paper.

Accommodation:
There is no accommodation for late or missed response papers, and no extensions will be granted. The due date for each response papers is one week after the last (i.e. second) question has been handed out. Please plan ahead now to work around assignments and mid-terms in other courses. For each response paper, you will receive the second question 7 days in advance of the deadline and the first question some time before that date. If you are going to be absent, if you have other commitments around a due date, or if you start to feel under the weather, please complete and submit the response in advance. Given the limited time commitment required for each response (assuming you attend lectures and keep up with readings), it should always be possible to hand in response papers on time or earlier.

2) Midterm & Final Exam (both 35% each of final grade)

The midterm and final exam will cover all readings and lecture material, including videos shown in class. The exam may contain any form of question (e.g. multiple choice, true/false, short answer, essay). Details will be given in class as the each exam approaches.

Attendance

Attendance is strongly encouraged as most of the course materials will be explained more fully in class and some material is covered only in class. Students are responsible for all information provided in lectures, readings, class discussions, movies, etc. If you must miss class, be sure to get notes from one of your fellow students.
**Laptops, cell phones, and other electronic devices**

Research has shown that the use of electronic devices in class reduces comprehension and retention. If you don’t want to take my word for it, have a look at the following article:

https://www.scientificamerican.com/article/a-learning-secret-don-t-take-notes-with-a-laptop/

You are strongly discouraged from using these devices in class. If the use of any such device disrupts the instructor or other students, you may be asked to leave the classroom.

**Email**

To communicate with you I will use mainly e-mail. It is your responsibility to check this e-mail account (or have it forwarded to an account you use more regularly). It is also your responsibility to ensure that I receive any messages from you. I recommend sending messages through MyCourses to ensure your messages to me from a non-McGill account are not mistaken for spam.

E-mail is a piece of formal correspondence and should be treated as a permanent record of communication. I will endeavor to respond to e-mails within 24 hours, but this may not always be possible. Please note that I am generally offline weekdays after 6pm and on weekends. E-mails containing questions that can be answered by referring to this syllabus, or to administrative matters discussed in class (e.g. specifics of assignments, instructions on how best to prepare for the exam) will not receive a response.

**Grade Disputes**

If you want to contest an assignment or exam grade, you are required to submit a one-page explanation about why you think you received an inadequate grade. Be as specific as possible about how you answered the question(s) correctly. You must wait at least 48 hours after receiving your grade to dispute it and submit your written dispute within a week of getting the grade. The course instructor will review your assignment/exam and state reasons for grade adjustment. Please be
advised that a grade dispute could result in a worse grade.

**Language of Submission:**

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. This does not apply to courses in which acquiring proficiency in a language is one of the objectives.

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).

**Academic Integrity:**

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/](http://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/](http://www.mcgill.ca/students/srr/honest/)).

**Copyright:**

Instructor-generated course materials (e.g., handouts, notes, summaries, exam questions, etc.) are protected by law and may not be copied or distributed in any form or in any medium without explicit permission of the instructor. Note that infringements of copyright can be subject to follow up by the University under the Code of Student Conduct and Disciplinary Procedures.
Course Content

PART I: WHAT IS DEVELOPMENT?

Week 1

Introduction (January 8)

Required Reading:

- Course Syllabus

Foundational Development Concepts (January 10)

Required Readings:

- Introduction to International Development, chapter 1

Optional Readings:

PART II: DEVELOPMENT IN HISTORICAL PERSPECTIVE

Week 2

Imperialism and Colonialism (January 15)

Required Readings:

- Introduction to International Development, chapter 2

Additional Readings:


Decolonization and the Emergence of the Project of Development (January 17)

Required Readings:


Additional Readings:

PART III: THEORIES OF DEVELOPMENT

Week 3

Formative Approaches to Development and Social Change (January 22)

Required Readings:

- Smith, Adam. An Inquiry Into the Nature and Causes of the Wealth of Nations, 1776, Bk IV Ch II. [MyCourses]


Modernization Theory and Its Critics (January 24)

Required Readings:

- Introduction to International Development, pp. 45-56


Additional Readings:


Week 4

Underdevelopment, Dependency and World Systems Theories (January 29)

Required Readings:

- Introduction to International Development, pp. 56-64


Additional Readings:


Neoliberal Turn in Development Theory (January 31)

Required Readings:


Additional Readings:

Week 5

Post-Development and Alternatives to Development (February 5)

Required Readings:

- Introduction to International Development, chapter 4

Additional Readings:


Part IV: International Development Actors

NGOs, civil society and social movements (February 7)

Required Readings:

- Introduction to International Development, chapter 12

Optional Readings:

Week 6

The State (February 12)

Required Readings:

• Introduction to International Development, chapter 7

Optional Readings:


Multinational Corporations (February 14)

Guest Lecture by by Angela Kalyta

Required Readings:

• Introduction to International Development, chapter 11

Week 7

The UN and IFIs (February 19)

Required Readings:

• Introduction to International Development, chapter 9 & 10

Revision for Midterm (February 21)
Week 8

In-Class Midterm (February 26)

Part V: Themes of Development in a Neoliberal Age

Globalization and Development (February 28)

Required Readings:


Week 9

Study Break

- NO CLASSES -
Week 10

Debt, Foreign Aid and Development (March 12)

Required Readings:

- Introduction to International Development, chapter 14


Optional Readings:


Technology and Development (March 14)

Required Readings:


Optional Readings:

Week 11

Cultural Dimensions of development (March 19)

Required Readings:

- Introduction to International Development, chapter 26

Optional Readings:


Education and Development (March 21)

Required Readings:

- Introduction to International Development, chapter 21

Optional Readings:

Week 12

Gender and Development (March 26)

Required Readings:

- Introduction to International Development, chapter 4

Optional Readings:


Demography and Social Change (March 28)

Guest Lecture by Dr. Fahad AlNaser

Required Readings:


Optional Readings:

Week 13

Easter Monday (April 2) – No Class

The Environment, Natural Disasters and Development (April 4)

Required Readings:

- Introduction to International Development, chapter 17

Optional Readings:


Week 14

Conflict and Development (April 9)

Required Readings:

- Introduction to International Development, chapter 22

Optional Readings:

- Conflict and Development in Sub-Saharan Africa - Zoe Marriage
Summary of major themes and challenges (April 11)

Week 15

Revision for Final (April 16)