Introduction

Course description
This lecture series will introduce students to basic theories and approaches in international development. We will begin by examining how development has been defined, measured, and approached by the development community. This is followed by the review of classical theories of development that examine the roles of the market and the state in promoting development. We will try particularly to understand theories about modernization and underdevelopment, the two major currents of thought that explore the causes of why nations stay poor. We will then look at development actors, i.e., foreign donors, aid recipients, international financial institutions, the United Nations, multinational corporations, and civil society organizations. Lastly, we will discuss some of the current issues in international development: environment, rural and urban development, and health. By the end of this course, students will be expected to demonstrate their understanding of the evolution of development theories as well as their ability to articulate their views concerning current development issues.

Weekly lectures
1) Introduction: what is development?
2) History of development
3) Theories of development
4) Post-development and alternatives to development
5) Gender and development
6) Globalization and development
7) The state, development agencies, and bilateral aid
8) Multilateral actors in development
9) Civil society and development
10) Environment and development
11) Rural development
12-15) Social Research Methods

References


Course Evaluation

Term paper (70%) and contribution to classroom discussions (30%)