History of development

Objectives:

In this lecture we will examine the historical process in which the enterprise of ‘development’ emerged after the Second World War. Firstly, we will try to understand the two main tenets of development theories, i.e., modernization theory and dependency theory, which gained influence in the 1950s and 1960s. Secondly, we will discuss what came after these grand theories in the 1970s and 1980s in the form of basic needs approaches and structural adjustment programmes. Thirdly, we will review the neo-liberal policy agenda (Washington Consensus) during the 1990s and the subsequent formulation of the Millennium Development Goals in the 2000s.

Questions:
1) How do dependency theorists challenge the modernization approaches to development?
2) What are the main aspects of structural adjustment programmes (SAPs) and what are the social effects of SAPs?
3) How does the international community assess the achievement of MDGs and what should come after the MDGs?

Required reading: