Gender and Development

Objectives:
Women used to be viewed as simple recipients of social assistance in earlier development programs up until the 1980s. Since then, debates surrounding women have undergone many changes. In this lecture we will explore the historical and theoretical foundations of the field of ‘women, gender, and development’ and examine key concepts and debates. By the end of this lecture, students will understand how the question of gender in international development is fundamentally related to power relations concerning other minority groups.

Questions:
1) Why is it claimed that development can no longer ignore women?
2) How do gender relations influence the feminization of poverty?
3) How could the ‘mainstreaming gender equality’ approach improve power-sharing between the sexes in a sustainable development project?

Required reading: