

# INTD 657

## Development Studies Seminar

### Fall 2014

**Fridays: 11:30-2:30 PM**  
**SH688 491 (most weeks)**

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Fri 10-11am. Or by appointment

### Course Description

The purpose of this course is to introduce the students to the study of development issues. We will do so by presenting some basic concepts and literature on development, and then by discussing different approaches from different disciplines (there will be a number of sessions run by guest speakers from different departments). We will also discuss and try to develop your own work and research as the semester advances. This course has two main goals. First, to understand the strengths, weaknesses, and complementarity of multiple development perspectives—according to different disciplines and/or methodologies. Second, to provide a foundation for your research work on international development, either for MA Thesis, research report, or Ph.D chapters.

### Requirements

Participation, short papers, RCT presentation	60%
Final Paper and Presentation	40%

**Participation, Short Papers, RCT presentation:** Your participation grade consists of attendance to the course, active discussion during the seminar sessions, three short analytical papers of 5 double-spaced pages each, and an in-class presentation. You may miss two classes—or parts of two classes—for whatever reason (excused or unexcused) over the course of the semester without incurring any penalty.

Two of the papers will be response papers to a particular seminar session. The response papers should address and critically analyze some of the themes discussed in the readings assigned for the specific week. In the first week of the class, each student will be assigned the weeks for which they have to write these response papers. The papers are due **by 4pm on the Thursday before** the corresponding class session, and they need to be circulated to the whole class, so everyone in the course has a chance to read them before coming to class. It is your responsibility to read the papers that are posted by your colleagues for each week.

The other paper will be based on one of the talks that will take place throughout the semester. ISID has a speaker series that takes place on Thursdays at noon, and there are also speaker series in different Departments (Econ, PolSci, Sociology, etc.). You need to attend and write about one of these talks, focusing on what strikes you most about the issues at hand in the talk you choose to write on and why. You have to briefly summarize the main points of the research presented, but your main task is to address what are the problems and strengths with the presented approach. Is the approach to address the issue reasonable? Are there other approaches that could be taken? We ask that you critically engage the issues at hand. This paper will be **due within the following 4 days after the talk takes place, by midnight.**

The in-class presentation will consist of a 20 minute presentation of one of four applied papers related to a practical issue in development economics, to be presented during lecture 2 of Prof. Chemin in Week 10 (November 7). Note that these papers include some statistical analysis. However, no previous knowledge of statistics is required in this class. These four papers all use the very simple method of a randomized experiment, which will be discussed at length in Lecture 1 (week 4, sep. 26). You will be assigned a paper and a group of 2 to 3 students to perform this task. The four papers are now available in the reading list. A more detailed explanation about the presentation will be given in the course, and you will be given a short questionnaire to help guide you in this process. Grading for the presentation will consist of the two following criteria: 80% on the ability to understand, summarize, and critique the paper, 20% on the quality of the presentation.

**Attendance:** Attendance is included as part of your participation grade. You should also attend at least two of the talks in the speaker series, as you will write responses to one of these talks.

**Final Paper:** The paper for this course (15-20 pages double-spaced) will be due one week after our last seminar session (on December 5<sup>th</sup>). Please submit by email to both instructors. For the final paper you have a couple of options.

**Option 1:** You can use this assignment to work on your research proposal. Ideally, this would be related to your future thesis or MA report, but it does not necessarily have to be. If you choose this option, there are a couple of guidelines you should follow. First, clearly state your research question/project. You should discuss why this question/project

is important, as well as how it will contribute to existing literature. Then, you should present the methods you will use to answer your question. In the process, you should justify why the methods you have chosen are best suited for the research question you are pursuing. This is the preferred option for a final paper.

**Option 2:** However, since this is your first semester in the MA program, we also provide option for you to write a comprehensive literature review on your topic of interest (this option is available thinking of those of you who are still unsure what issues/topics you will research for your theses/reports). Your paper should provide a critical assessment of the research, theoretical underpinnings, and findings of the research under analysis. Make sure to avoid writing simple summaries of existing research.

**Final Paper Presentation:** In the last two weeks of the term we ask students to present their final papers to the class. We will hold half the presentations on Nov 21<sup>nd</sup>, and half on Nov 28<sup>th</sup>. Presentations should be 15-20 minutes each, and we will devote another 15-20 minutes to a Q&A session and suggestions for the final paper. The presentation grade is part of your final paper grade.

**Readings:** To the extent possible, we will post readings that will be discussed in class. Each one of the guest speakers (weeks 5-8) will provide a list of readings. As a result, readings for each week will be posted on MyCourses as soon as we receive them.

**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 <http://www.mcgill.ca/integrity> for more information).

**Special Needs:** If you have a disability, please contact the instructor to arrange a time to discuss your situation. It would be helpful if you contact the Office for Students with Disabilities at 514.398.6009 before you do this.

**Language:** 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. Note that this right applies to ALL written work that is to be graded, from one-word answers to dissertations.

**Course-Evaluations:** End-of-term course evaluations are one of the ways that McGill works towards maintaining and improving the quality of courses and the students' learning experience. You will be notified by e-mail when the evaluations are available on Mercury.

**Note:** In the event of extraordinary circumstances beyond the University's control, the content and/or evaluation scheme in this course is subject to change. **The privilege of additional work will not be granted.**

## Seminar Schedule

### **Week 1. September 5: Introduction to Course. SH688 491**

- No Readings for this week!

*ISID TALK Sept 11<sup>th</sup>. Marie Reny, University of Montreal: "How Authoritarian Regimes Manage Opposition Groups." Arts 160, 12:30pm-2:00pm.*

### **Week 2. September 12: Why a Politics of Development? Manuel Balán**

What Do We Mean By Development? What Ethical Issues Frame the Development Debate? How do we conceive our roles as development policy analysts, practitioners, citizens?

Readings:

- Illich, Ivan. To Hell With Good Intentions.
- Petras, James. Imperialism and NGOs in Latin America. *Monthly Review*.
- Jamieson, Dale. Duties to the Distant: Aid, Assistance, and Intervention in the Developing World. *Journal of Ethics* (2005) 9.
- Edwards, Michael. A World made new through love and reason: What future for 'Development'?
- Wainaina, Binyavanga. How to Write about Africa. *Granta 92: The View from Africa*.
- Hirschman, Albert. The Search for Paradigms as a Hindrance to Understanding. *World Politics*. Vol. 22, No. 3 (Apr. 1970).

### **Week 3. September 19: International Economic System and Development. Manuel Balán**

Readings:

- Fernando Henrique Cardoso. 2009. New Paths: Globalization in Historical Perspective. *Studies in Comparative International Development* 44, 4 (December): 296-317.
- Patrick Heller, Dietrich Rueschemeyer and Richard Snyder. 2009. "Dependency and Development in a Globalized World: Looking Back and Forward." *Studies in Comparative International Development* 44,4 (December) 287-295.
- Atul Kohli. 2009. "Nationalist Versus Dependent Capitalist Development: Alternative Pathways of Asia and Latin America in a Globalized World." *Studies in Comparative International Development* 44, 4, (December): 411-434.
- Erik Wibbels. 2009. "Cores, Peripheries and Contemporary Political Economy." *Studies in Comparative International Development* 44, 4 (December): 441-49.

*ISID TALK Sept. 25: Juan Wang. McGill University: "Corruption in China." Arts 160, 12:30pm-2:00pm.*

### **Week 4. September 26: Foreign Aid and Development. Matthieu Chemin**

- Alesina, Alberto and David Dollar, "[Who Gives Foreign Aid to Whom and Why?](#)", *Journal of Economic Growth*, 5(1), 33-63.

- Optional: Sachs, Jeffrey, 2005, "[The end of poverty : economic possibilities for our time](#)"
- Optional: Easterly, William, 2006, "[The White Man's Burden](#)"
- Gertler, Paul and Simone Boyce (2001), "[An Experiment in Incentive-Based Welfare: The Impact of PROGESA on Health in Mexico](#)".
- Chemin, Matthieu (2014), "Using Informal Risk-Sharing Groups to Extend Formal Health Insurance: Evidence from a Field Experiment", soon available.

**Week 5. October 3: Development in Sociology: Power, Conflict, and Development. Matthew Lange. SH688 491**

- Swiss, Liam, Kathleen Fallon and Giovani Burgos (2012). "Does Critical Mass Matter? Women's Political Representation and Child Health in Developing Countries." *Social Forces* 91(2) 531–558.
- Lange, Matthew and Robert Woodberry. *Missionaries and Ethnic Violence: A Historical Analysis*.
- Barron, Patrick, Rachel Diprose, and Michael Woolcock (2011). *Contesting Development: Participatory Projects and Local Conflict Dynamics in Indonesia*. New Haven: Yale University Press. Chapters 1 and 2.

*ISID TALK Oct 9th: Eric Helleiner, University of Waterloo: "History of International Development and Bretton Woods." Location TBC, 1:00:2-30pm.*

**Week 6. October 10: Development in History. Daviken Studnicki-Gizbert. SH688 491**

- Readings will be posted on MyCourses.

**Week 7. October 17: Development and Humanitarian Issues. Megan Bradley (Political Science, ISID). SH688 491**

What is the relationship between humanitarian crises and development? Do certain categories of people, such as refugees, have particular claims to assistance and protection? How are displacement crises resolved?

- Shacknove, A. (1985) "Who is a refugee". *Ethics* 95(2).
- Malkki, L. (1996) "Speechless emissaries: Refugees, humanitarianism and dehistoricisation". *Cultural Anthropology* 11(3).
- Zetter, R. (1991) "Labelling refugees: Forming and transforming a bureaucratic identity". *Journal of Refugee Studies* 4(1).
- Christensen, A. and Harild, N. (2009) *Forced Displacement: The Development Challenge*. Washington, DC: World Bank. Available at: [http://siteresources.worldbank.org/EXTSOCIALDEVELOPMENT/Resources/244362-1164107274725/3182370-1164201144397/Forced\\_Displacement.pdf](http://siteresources.worldbank.org/EXTSOCIALDEVELOPMENT/Resources/244362-1164107274725/3182370-1164201144397/Forced_Displacement.pdf).
- Bradley, M. (2011) "Unlocking protracted displacement: Central America's "success story" reconsidered," *Refugee Survey Quarterly* 30(4).
- Inter-Agency Standing Committee (IASC) Framework on Durable Solutions for Internally Displaced Persons. Washington, DC: Brookings Institution. Available at:

[http://www.brookings.edu/~media/Research/Files/Reports/2010/4/durable%20solutions/04\\_durable\\_solutions.PDF](http://www.brookings.edu/~media/Research/Files/Reports/2010/4/durable%20solutions/04_durable_solutions.PDF).

**Week 8. October 24: Development in Anthropology. Kregg Hetherington, Concordia University. SH688 491**

- Rudnyckyj, Daromir. 2010. *Spiritual economies: Islam, globalization, and the afterlife of development*. Ithaca: Cornell University Press.

*ISID TALK Oct 30: Emmanuel Raufflet, HEC Montreal: "Fair Trade and Farmer Organizations."* Leacock 232, 12:30:2-00pm.

**Week 9. October 31: Economic Development and Democracy. Manuel Balán**

What is the relationship between economic development and democracy? Is it linear or non-linear? Is it endogenous or exogenous? Does it hold across time periods and regions? What types of causal mechanisms underlie the relationship?

Readings:

- Lipset, Seymour Martin. 1983. *Political Man: The Social Bases of Politics*. William Heinemann Ltd. Ch. 2, pp. 27-63.
- O'Donnell, Guillermo. *Modernization and Bureaucratic Authoritarianism*. (Berkeley, CA: Institute for International Studies, 1973). Chs. 1-2, pp. 1-111.
- Przeworski, Adam, and Fernando Limongi. "Modernization: Theories and Facts." *World Politics*, 49 (January 1997), pp. 155-183.
- Boix, Carles and Susan Stokes. 2003. "Endogenous Democratization." *World Politics* 55 (July): 517-549.
- Boix, Carles. 2011. "Democracy, Development and the International System." *American Political Science Review* 105, 4 (Nov.): 809-828.

**Week 10. November 7: RCTs. Matthieu Chemin**

The four presentations will be on:

- Duflo, Esther and Rema Hanna (2006), "[Monitoring Works: Getting Teachers to Come to School](#)"
- Banerjee, Abhijit, Duflo, Esther, Glennerster Rachel and Cynthia Kinnan, "[The miracle of microfinance? Evidence from a randomized evaluation](#)"
- Miguel, Edward and Michael Kremer, (2004), "[Worms: Identifying Impacts on Education and Health in the Presence of Treatment Externalities](#)", *Econometrica*.
- Karlan Dean and Jonathan Zinman, (2006), "[Observing Unobservables: Identifying Information Asymmetries with a Consumer Credit Field Experiment](#)".

*ISID TALK Nov 13: Gustavo Setrini, NYU: "Mining and Community Relations."* Leacock 232, 12:30:2-00pm.

**Week 11. November 14: Institutions and Development. Matthieu Chemin**

- Acemoglu, Daron; Simon Johnson; James A. Robinson (2001), "[The Colonial Origins of Comparative Development: An Empirical Investigation](#)", *American Economic Review*

- Daron Acemoglu, Simon Johnson, and James A. Robinson (2002), [“Reversal of Fortune: Geography and Institutions in the Making of the Modern World Income Distribution”](#), *The Quarterly Journal of Economics* (2002) 117 (4): 1231-1294
- Optional: Diamond, Jared, “Guns, Germs, and Steel”

**Week 12. November 21. In-class Student Presentations. SH688 491**

- No readings for this week!

*ISID TALK Nov 27: Donald Clarke, Georgetown University: "China's Legal Institutions/Economic Reforms." Leacock 232, 12:30:2-00pm.*

**Week 13. November 28. In-class Student Presentations. SH688 491.**

- No readings for this week!