

Aid to Developing Countries
INTL 422/522, Spring 2018
T, Th 2-3:20 p.m., 41 Knight Library
[Class website](#)

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The Development Set

*Excuse me, friend, I must catch my jet-
I'm off to join in the Development Set;
My bags are packed, and I've had all my shots,
I have travelers' cheques and pills for the trots.*

*The Development Set is bright and noble,
Our thoughts are deep and our vision global;
Although we move with the better classes,
Our thoughts are always with the masses.*

*In Sheraton hotels in scattered nations,
We damn multinational corporations;
Injustice seems so easy to protest,
In such seething hotbeds of social rest.*

*We discuss malnutrition over steaks
And plan hunger talks during coffee breaks.
Whether Asian floods or African drought,
We face each issue with an open mouth.*

*We bring in consultants whose circumlocution
Raises difficulties for every solution -
Thus guaranteeing continued good eating
By showing the need for another meeting.*

*The language of the Development Set,
Stretches the English alphabet;
We use swell words like 'epigenetic',
'Micro', 'Macro', and 'logarithmic'.*

*Development Set homes are extremely chic,
Full of carvings, curios and draped with batik.
Eye-level photographs subtly assure
That your host is at home with the rich & the poor.*

*Enough of these verses - on with the mission!
Our task is as broad as the human condition!
Just pray to God the biblical promise is true:
The poor ye shall always have with you.*

Ross Coggins

This course examines the history and current realities of international bilateral and multilateral development assistance. After placing globalization and development assistance in an historical context, we will look at different kinds of aid that exists, the debate over what is *to be developed* and *how that should occur*, the project planning and assessment process, the rise in importance of NGOs in the aid arena today, and the challenges of providing effective aid in the future. We also review and critique the current aid emphasis on promoting democratization, civil society and human rights, and pathways to achieve the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). The course culminates in our own aid consortium simulation, where students have the opportunity to experience the decision-making process first-hand. Our emphasis throughout is on the development process and its critics, which could lead to a greater understanding of both the possibilities and the constraints of aid.

We will try to break down into small group discussions as much as possible. Therefore, try to finish all readings prior to the beginning of the segment in which they will be discussed. Readings other than those from the required texts have been kept at a minimum, and are accessible via the course website.

****PLEASE NOTE: MANDATORY CLASS MEETING, FRIDAY JUNE 9TH, 6:30-9 P.M.****

Course Objectives:

1. To understand how the global system of bilateral and multilateral development assistance is structured and functions today, and to assess its effectiveness critically;
2. To understand the historical background to the current system, as well as various orientations towards globalization and development assistance;
3. To gain an awareness of the various actors involved in international development assistance and in the development process, particularly i) the United Nations and its constituent multilateral donor agencies; ii) key bilateral donor agencies (especially JICA and USAID); iii) international non-governmental organizations (INGOs); and iv) local non-governmental organizations (NGOs)
4. To learn specific skills including how a project is envisioned and planned, assessment tools (e.g., RRA and PRA), how to promote participatory development, and standard evaluative methods (e.g., ‘successes, failures and lessons learned’)
5. Develop abilities for working as part of a team, specifically: working together to research a problem; assess needs and priorities collaboratively; contribute collectively to authoring a professional document; making collaborative judgments; and negotiating as a team member.

Course Requirements:

	<u>Percentage of final grade</u>
In-class midterm exam: Tuesday May 9th	30%
Group project (see separate handout)	35%
Essay assignment (will be handed out in class on May 23 rd and is due at final class meeting on Friday June 9 th)	20%
Class participation (e.g., questions/responses that underscore efforts to have read and understood course materials)	15%

For graduate students only: there is no additional requirement, per se, for graduate students. Instead, it is expected that they will be eminently prepared for all in-class discussions and take the lead (or share the lead) in facilitating the smooth operation of the group process in their respective group projects.

Required texts:

- (1) Carothers, Thomas and Diane deGramont *Development Aid Confronts Politics: The Almost Revolution* Carnegie Endowment for International Peace, 2013
- (2) Levy, Brian *Working with the Grain: Integrating Governance and Growth in Development Strategies* Oxford University Press, 2014
- (3) Ramalingam, Ben *Aid on the Edge of Chaos: Rethinking International Cooperation in a Complex World* Oxford University Press, 2015
- (4) UNDP *Human Development Report 2016: Human Development – the Way Ahead* March 21, 2017, accessible via course website (on Requirements page)



Course Outline

WEEK I April 4-6 Introduction to the course, the project process, and development assistance as an issue

Please review the project information (on a separate handout) and ascertain your top three choices for a group you'd like to be in. We will try to finalize the group project list by the end of the first week of classes (thereby underscoring the importance of starting to research this early!). The International Documents librarian joins us on April 6th to discuss strategies for project research.

Required Reading:

Carothers & deGramont, pp. vii-viii, 3-17

Levy, pp. xi-xvi

Ramalingam, pp. ix-xix

HDR 2016, pp. iii-iv, 1-9

WEEK II April 11-13 Historical contexts of globalization and development assistance

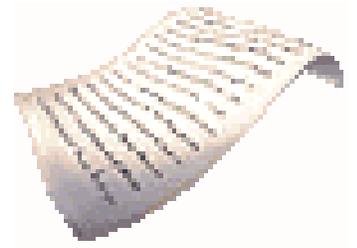
Required Reading:

Carothers & deGramont, pp. 21-54, 55-88, 89-124

Levy, pp. 3-11

Ramalingam, pp. 3-41

*Address by General George C. Marshall, June 5, 1947 (The 'Marshall Plan')
(link via website)



WEEK III April 18-20 The debate over what is to be developed

Required Reading:

Carothers & deGramont, pp. 125-155

Levy, pp. 12-27, 30-44

Ramalingam, pp. 42-73, 74-99

UNDP, pp. 10-21

*Majid Rahnema (ed.) *The Post-Development Reader* Zed Books, 1997: Helena Norberg-Hodge "Learning from Ladakh" pp. 22-29; Ashis Nandy "Colonization of the Mind" pp. 168-178; and Eduardo Galeano "To Be Like Them" pp. 214-222 (links via website)

*United Nations Commission on Human Rights "Human Rights in Development: the Right to Development" (link via website); also see the "Declaration on the Right to Development" (link via website)

Recommended Reading (accessible via the course website):

The current development debate

William Easterly "The Aid Debate is Over" December 26, 2013

Jeffrey Sachs "The Case for Aid" *Foreign Policy* January 21, 2014

WEEKS IV & V

April 25-27,
May 2-4

Major forms of assistance; Methods used in project planning, capacity building, assessment, and safeguards for sustainability; the mandate of the SDGs (Sustainable Development Goals)

EU Aid Explorer: Development Atlas (link via website)

Required Reading:

Carothers & deGramont, pp. 157-194

Levy, pp. 51-69, 72-93, 179-200

Ramalingam, pp. pp. 133-166, 230-236

HDR 2016, pp. pp. 24-47, 50-75, Table I pp. 198-201, Table IV pp. 210-213

Links via website:

*The 2030 Agenda, the SDGs and Human Development

* UN Sustainable Development Goals

* USAID "USAID History"

* USAID "Who we Are" and other links

* CNN "Alarm Bells Ring for Charities as Trump pledges to slash Foreign Aid Budget" March 1, 2017

WEEK VI May 9**In-class mid-term examination****WEEK VI** May 11

Enhancing Aid Effectiveness and Promoting Policy Dialogue

Required Reading:

HDR 2016, pp. 76-81

*Nellie Bristol "Do UN Global Development Goals Matter to the U.S.?" Center for Strategic & International Studies, May 2013 (link via website)

*Laurence Chandy, Brina Seidel and Christine Zhang "Aid Effectiveness in Fragile States: How bad is it and how can it improve?" Brookings Institution, Number 5, December 2016, pp. 1-38 (link via website)

WEEK VII

May 16-18

Democratization, Good Governance, and 'Human Development for Everyone'

Required Reading:

Carothers & deGramont, pp. 195-224

Levy, pp. 119-134, 135-158, 159-178

Ramalingam, pp. 245-271

HDR 2016, pp. 84-102

WEEK VIII

May 23-25

"The Way Ahead"

***Note:** Country reports and donor profiles *due in class* on May 23rd and will be accessible via the course website on May 25th

*Final essay assignment will be handed out May 23rd

Required Reading:

Carothers & deGramont, pp. 225-253

Levy, pp. 203-207

Ramalingam, pp. 272-298, 299-326

HDR 2016, pp. pp. 104-133, 137-160

*Jeff Sachs "Work Needed to hit UN Poverty Goals" Boston Globe October 5, 2016 (link via website)

WEEK IX How does aid work?

May 30-June 1

***Note for May 30th:** Based on additional information they have garnered from the donor profiles, each country group will make a presentation based on their aid needs.

***Note for June 1st:** We will hold our *Aid Consortium Simulation*, an opportunity for donor organizations and countries to meet face-to-face, make bargains and reach some understanding. The consortium will be held in rooms 301, 302 and 303 in the Ford Alumni Center.

Attendance at the Aid Consortium is mandatory

WEEK X Does Aid work? Can Aid work? Critique of Process and Theories

June 6, 8 & 9

***Note:** Donor organizations will report on what percentage of their aid budgets will go to each country, and what was the basis for this decision.

Required Reading:

Carothers & deGramont, pp. 255-284

Levy, pp. 308-323

Ramalingam, pp. 327-356, 357-363

HDR 2016, pp. 162-169

FINAL CLASS MEETING: Friday, June 9th, 6:30 p.m. [Final essay assignment due in class]
Lewis Lounge, 4th floor, Knight Law School, Agate & 15th Street

****Attendance at this class is mandatory***

You are cordially invited to attend the concluding ceremonies of the International Development Assistance Consortium. Participants are requested to bring food and/or beverages from their respective countries. We will have the opportunity to critique the aid process as well as the course.

Note to delegates:

Please keep the time and location confidential, for security concerns