

International History

Academic year 2020-2021

History and Development

HI099- Autumn- 6 ECTS

Course Description

This course looks at the origins, context and practices of development from a historical perspective. It locates the beginning of international development in colonial times and examines how ideas of economic progress and social welfare evolved from imperial settings to the UN system. The course will examine relevant episodes in the conceptualization of international development such as interwar planning and social engineering both in liberal and non-liberal contexts, and cold war modernizing missions and green revolutions. It will look at national and international development schemes and critically examine the role played by international organizations in promoting technical assistance and development expertise. The goal of this course is to make students familiar with a wide range of literature within the currently flourishing field of development history and make them familiar with the historical trajectory of modern development ideas.

> PROFESSOR

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> ASSISTANT

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[Office hours](#)

Syllabus

Course Structure

Requirements and Assessment

1. Seminar participation (25%)

Students are expected to attend each seminar and regularly participate in discussions. It is essential that you read the readings. For each week you will read 1 of the required readings and 1 of the suggested readings listed in the syllabus.

2. Reading Reflection (20%)

For each week (starting week 3-12), 1 student will submit a reading reflection based on all the readings of that particular week (750- 1000 words). This will take the form of a short critique of the readings (key points, particular methodology used, conclusions, strengths and limitations, also compared with other readings) followed by up to 3 questions for class discussion. The reflections should be sent to the TA and will be posted on moodle the day before class at 10 am. Students should be prepared to say a few words about their reflection at the beginning of class.

3. Term Paper (50%)

The final term paper should be related to one of the themes raised during the class. Papers should be approximately 3000 words in length (this includes footnotes but not the bibliography). You are expected to think independently about your possible research question for the term paper, but you should consult with me once you have proposals in mind. You should have a proposal by week 9 (Monday, 9 November, 10 am) , which you will submit to me and to my teaching assistant in written form by email. The proposal should include a provisional title, an abstract and (optional) bibliography, length: 1- 2 pages. Guidance will be given in class. The final paper (**due on Tuesday, December 29, midnight**) should demonstrate an understanding of the class content and the readings and an ability to analyze them critically and to make connections between them. Alternatively, students may also focus on a primary document (historical source) by embedding its analysis into the class readings. Attention will be paid to clarity of expression and appropriate use of terminology. Plagiarism in any form will not be tolerated.

Readings: All of the required readings and some of the suggested readings will be available electronically. In addition, relevant books will be held on reserve in the library.

Technology in the classroom: phones (and headphones) must be put away during class and laptops can be used for taking notes only.

General Bibliography:

Frederick Cooper and Randall Packard (eds), *International Development and the Social Sciences: Essays on the History and Politics of Knowledge* (Berkeley: 1998).

Nick Cullather, *The Hungry World: America's Cold War Battle against Poverty in Asia* (Cambridge Mass., 2010).

Ernesto Escobar, *Encountering Development: The Making and Unmaking of the Third World* (Princeton, 1995).

James Ferguson, *The Antipolitics Machine: Development, Depoliticization and Bureaucratic Power in the Third World* (Cambridge, 1990).

Joseph Hodge, *Triumph of the Expert: Agrarian Doctrines of Development and the Legacies of British Colonialism* (Athens: Ohio, 2007).

Timothy Mitchell, *Rule of Experts: Egypt, Technopolitics, Modernity* (Berkeley, CA, 2002).

Sandrine Kott et Joëlle Droux (eds.), *Globalizing Social Rights: The International Labour Organization and Beyond*, Londres, Palgrave Macmillan, 2013

Julia Tischler, *Light and Power for a Multiracial Nation. The Kariba Dam Scheme in the Central African Federation* (New York: Palgrave Macmillan, 2013).

Michelle Murphy, *The Economization of Life* (Durham & London, 2017).

Gilbert Rist, *The History of Development: From Western Origins to Global Faith, new ed., rev. and expanded* (New York, 2002). (French: *Le développement : histoire d'une croyance occidentale* (Paris, 2013, 4ième edition).

Walter Rodney, *How Europe Underdeveloped Africa* (London, 1972).

Wolfgang Sachs, ed., *The Development Dictionary: A Guide to Knowledge as Power* (London, 1992).

James Scott, *Seeing like a State: How Certain Schemes to Improve the Human Condition Have Failed* (New Haven, 1998).

Patrick Sharma Robert McNamara & Other War. *The World Bank and International Development* (Philadelphia: University of Pennsylvania Press, 2017)

Amy Stapels, *The Birth of Development. How the World Bank, Food and Agriculture Organization, and World Health Organization Changed the World, 1945-1965* (Kent, OH., 2007).

Helen Tilley, *Africa as a Living Laboratory: Empire, Development, and the Problem of Scientific Knowledge, 1870-1950* (Chicago, 2011).

Corinna Unger, Marc Frey and Sönke Kunkel, *International Organizations and Development, 1945-1990* (Basingstoke, 2014).

Suzanne Moon, *Technology and Ethical Idealism: A History of Development in the Netherlands East Indies* (Leiden: CNWS, 2007).

SCHEDULE

WEEK 1 / 15 September: INTRODUCTION: COURSE PRESENTATION, INSTRUCTIONS, ASSIGNMENTS

No readings: Please review the Course Moodle Page and come prepared with any questions about the syllabus

WEEK 2 / 22 September: DEVELOPMENT AS HISTORY: TRENDS, METHODS, ARCHIVES, CONCEPTS

Required readings:

Frederick Cooper, *Writing the History of Development* *Journal of Modern European History*, 8, 1 (2010): 5-23.

Suggested reading:

Arturo Escobar, *Power and Visibility: Development and the Invention and Management of the Third World* *Cultural Anthropology* 3 (1988): 428-43.

Philipp H. Lepenies, *An Inquiry into the Roots of the Modern Concept of Development*, *Contributions to the History of Concepts* 4 (2008): 202-225.

Woolcock et al., *How and Why Does History Matter for Development Policy?* *The Journal of Development Studies*, 47,1 (2009): 70-96.

WEEK 3 / 29 September: IMPERIAL FOUNDATIONS: FROM IMPROVEMENTS TO CIVILIZING MISSIONS

Required readings:

Michael Adas, *Machines as the Measure of Men: Science, Technology and Ideologies of Western Dominance* (Cornell University Press, 2014), 2nd edition (->chapter 4: Attributes of the Dominant: Scientific and Technological Foundations of the Civilizing Mission)

Suggested reading:

Grant, Kevin, *A Civilised Savagery. Britain and the New Slaverries in Africa, 1884-1926* (New York, 2005), Chapter 2: Bodies and Souls: Evangelicalism and Human Rights in the Congo Reform Campaign, 1884-1913.

Helen Tilley, *Africa as a Living Laboratory: Empire, Development and the Problem of Scientific Knowledge, 1870. 1950* (Chicago, 2011): 55-64.

Pedersen, Susan *The Maternalist Moment in British Colonial Policy: The Controversy Over Child Slavery in Hong Kong, 1917. 1941* *Past and Present*, 171 (May 2001), 163.

WEEK 4 / 6 October: THE RISE OF EXPERTISE: COLONIAL SCIENCE, TECHNOLOGY, AND SOCIAL ORDER

Presentation by Phd student Michele Sollai

Required readings:

William Beinart, Karen Brown, Daniel Gilfoyle, "Experts and Expertise in Colonial Africa Reconsidered: Science and the Interpretation of Knowledge", *African Affairs*, v. 108, no. 432 (2009): 413-433.

Suggested reading:

Monica van Beusekom, "Disjunctures in Theory and Practice: Making Sense of Change in Agricultural Development at the Office du Niger, 1920-1960", *Journal of African History*, v. 41 (2000): 79-99

Suzanne Moon "The Emergence of Technological Development and the Question of Native Identity in the Netherlands East Indies", *The Journal of Southeast Asian Studies*, 36, 2 (2005): 191-206.

Laura Ann Twagira, "*Robot Farmers and Cosmopolitan Workers: Technological Masculinity and Agricultural Development in the French Soudan (Mali), 1945*", *Gender & History* 26, 3 (2014): 459-77.

WEEK 5 / 13 October: DOMESTIC DEVELOPMENT: INTERWAR PLANNING & HIGH MODERNITY IN EUROPE AND THE MIDDLE EAST

Required readings:

Raluca Musat, "Prototypes of Modern Living: Planning, Sociology and the Model Village in Interwar Romania", *Social History* 40 (2015):157-184.

Suggested reading:

F. Caprotti, "Destructive Creation: Fascist Urban Planning, Architecture and the New Towns in the Pontine Marshes", *Journal of Historical Geography* 33 (2007): 651-679.

Liesbeth van de Grift, L. "On New Land a New Society: Internal Colonization in the Netherlands, 1918-1940", *Contemporary European History*, 22, 4 (2013) : 609-626.

Jacob Norris, "Development and Disappointment: Arab Approaches to Economic Development in Mandate Palestine", in Cyrus Shayegh and Andrew Arsan, *The Routledge Handbook of the History of the Middle East Mandates* (New York, 2015): 275-90.

WEEK 6 / 20 OCTOBER TUTORIAL ON ESSAY WRITING

WEEK 7 / 27 October: PHILANTHROCAPITALISM & THE ROLE OF PHILANTHROPIC FOUNDATIONS IN DEVELOPMENT POLICY

Required readings:

Anne-Emanuelle Birn, 'Philanthrocapitalism, Past and Present: The Rockefeller Foundation, the Gates Foundation, and the Setting(s) of the International/Global Health Agenda,' *Hypothesis*, 2014, 12 (1): 1-27.

Suggested reading:

Ludovic Tournes, 'La Fondation Rockefeller et la naissance de l'universalisme philanthropique Américain' *Critique Internationale*, 35, 2007, pp. 173-4.

Deborah Fitzgerald, 'Exporting American Agriculture: the Rockefeller Foundation in Mexico, 1943-1953' *Social Studies of Science*, 16, 3, 1986, pp. 459-60.

Inderjeet Parmar, *Foundations of the American century: the Ford, Carnegie, and Rockefeller Foundations and the Rise of American Power*, New York: Columbia University Press, 2012. (Chapter of your Choice)

WEEK 8 / 3 November : WAR AS A LABORATORY FOR DEVELOPMENT: RELIEF, REHABILITATION, RECONSTRUCTION IN THE 1940S

Required readings:

Jessica Reinisch, 'Auntie UNRRA at a Crossroad' *Past and Present* 218 (Supplement 8), (2013): 70-97.

Suggested reading:

Katerina Gardikas, 'Relief Work and Malaria in Greece, 1943-1947' *Journal of Contemporary History* 43 (2008): 493-505

F. Snowden, 'Latina Province, 1944-1950,' *Journal of Contemporary History* 43 (2008): 509-526.

Rana Mitter, 'Imperialism, Transnationalism, and the Reconstruction of Post-war China: UNRRA in China, 1944-7' *Past and Present*, Supplement 8 (2013): 51-69.

WEEK 9 / 10 November : THE ECONOMIZATION OF LIFE: MODERNIZATION DISCOURSE AND THE ROLE OF INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATIONS

MONDAY 9 NOVEMBER, 10 AM : ASSIGNMENT DUE: Outline for research paper, including title, abstract and (optional) bibliography, maximum 2 pages.

Required reading:

Michelle Murphy, *The Economization of Life* (Durham & London, 2017). Introduction and chapter of your choice.

Suggested readings:

Daniel Speich, 'The Use of Global Abstractions: National Income Accounting in the Period of Imperial Decline' *Journal of Global History*, 6, (2011): 7-28.

Daniel Maul, 'Help them Move the ILO Way: The International Labor Organization and the Modernization Discourse in the Era of Decolonization and the Cold War' *Diplomatic History*, 33, 3 (2009): 387-404.

Amalia Ribi Forclaz, 'From Reconstruction to Development: The Food and Agriculture Organization and the Conceptualization of Rural Welfare' *International History Review*, September 2017.

WEEK 10 / 17 November : THE BIRTH OF THE THIRD WORLD & AND THE PROBLEMATIZATION OF HEALTH IN LATIN AMERICA

Part of this session will be dedicated to discussing your research paper outlines and to answer any questions

Required reading:

Marcus Cueto, 'International Health, the Early Cold War and Latin America' *Canadian Bulletin of Medical History* 25, 1 (2008): 17-41.

Suggested readings:

Birn, Anne-Emmanuelle 'Uruguay on the World Stage. How Child Health became an International Priority' *American Journal of Public Health*, 2005, pp. 1506-1517

Corinne Pernet, 'Unicef et la lutte contre la malnutrition en Amérique centrale dans les années 1950 : entre coopération et compétition' *Relations internationales*, 2 (2015) : 27-42.

Jason Pribilsky, 'Development and the Indian Problem in the Cold War Andes: Indigenismo, Science, and Modernization in the Making of the Cornell-Peru Project at Vicos' *Diplomatic History* 33, 3 (2009): 405-426.

WEEK 11 / 24 November : THE WAR ON HUNGER AND GREEN REVOLUTIONS IN INDIA AND SOUTHEAST ASIA

Required reading:

Nick Cullather, *Miracles of Modernization: The Green Revolution and the Apotheosis of Technology* *Diplomatic History*, 28, 2 (2004): 227-254.

Suggested readings:

David C. Engerman, *Learning from the East: Soviet Experts and India in the Era of Competitive Coexistence*, *Comparative Studies of South Asia, Africa and the Middle East* 33, no. 2 (2013): 227-38.

Nicole Sackley, *The Village as a Cold War Site: Experts, Development and the History of Rural Reconstruction* *Journal of Global History* 6, no. 3 (2011): 481-504.
doi:10.1017/S1740022811000428.

WEEK 12 / 1 December : FINANCING DEVELOPMENT : THE WORLD BANK, REGIONAL ACTORS, AND THE POLITICAL ECONOMY OF INFRASTRUCTURE PROJECTS

Required reading:

Julia Tischler, *Cementing Uneven Development: The Central African Federation and the Kariba Dam Scheme* *Journal of Southern African Studies*, 40:5, 1047-1064.

Suggested readings:

Vincent Legendijk, *Streams of Knowledge: River Development Knowledge and the TVA on the River Mekong*, *History and Technology*, 35:3 (2019), 316-337.

Ngair Woods, *The Globalizers. The IMF, the World Bank, and their Borrowers* (Ithaca, London: Cornell University Press, 2006) , chapter 6.

Patrick Sharma, *The United States, the World Bank, and the Challenges of International Development in the 1970s*, *Diplomatic History* 37:3 (2013): 572-604;

WEEK 13/ 8 December: THE END OF DEVELOPMENT OR THE RISE OF NEW PARADIGMS IN DEVELOPMENT COOPERATION?

FILM : DEAD DUNKEYS FEAR NO HYIENAS (JOAQIM DEMMER, 2017)

E. Easterly, *The White Man's Burden: Why the West's Efforts to Aid the Rest Have Done So Much Ill and So Little Good* (New York, 2006).

Vivien Foster, *Building Bridges: China's Growing Role as Infrastructure Financier for Sub-Saharan Africa* (New York: World Bank Publications, 2009).

Robert Kaplan, *The Coming Anarchy: Shattering the Dreams of the Post-Cold War* (New York, 2000).

Serge Latouche, *Survivre au développement. De la décolonisation de l'imaginaire économique à la construction d'une société alternative* (Paris, 2004).

Week 14/ 15 December No Class / EXTRA OFFICE HOURS

FINAL ESSAY DUE TUESDAY DECEMBER 29, MIDNIGHT (3000 words)