

# Introduction to International Development and Cooperation

Prof. Cuz Potter

Graduate School of International Studies  
Korea University  
Spring 2017

## Course: Introduction to International Development and Cooperation

Course Number: IRC070  
Lecture: Wednesdays, 14:00–16:45  
Location: ISH423

### Contact info

Office: 522 International Studies Hall  
Email: [cuzpotter@korea.ac.kr](mailto:cuzpotter@korea.ac.kr)  
Phone: 3290-2427  
Office Hours: Fridays 2:30–4:00pm or by appointment

### TA contact info

TA: Yeji Lee  
Office: TA room, 321 International Studies Hall  
Email: [yeji2224@korea.ac.kr](mailto:yeji2224@korea.ac.kr)

## 1 Introduction

As the course title implies, Introduction to International Development and Cooperation is designed to provide a foundation for more advanced studies of international development and cooperation. Learning goals will be pursued through intensive reading assignments and hands-on investigation and research on four topics. First, students will interrogate the histories and theories of international development and cooperation. Second, students will develop a familiarity with the concepts and evolution of development and its variants, including sustainable development, economic development, human development and capabilities, and post-development. Third, they will investigate the emergence and functioning of international organizations involved in coordinating global cooperation. Finally, students will explore a selection of compelling contemporary issues in international development and cooperation.

## 2 Objectives

By the end of this course, students will be knowledgeable on:

1. A broad range of theoretical perspectives on development, including both those that are widely accepted and those that are contentious.
2. An understanding of the global framework for cooperation.
3. Selected foundational readings that inform contemporary theories of development.
4. Basic use of spreadsheets to analyze common data about development.
5. Sustainable Development Goals and indicators.

### 3 Course Requirements

- Great consideration has been given to what readings are assigned. As such, you are expected to have completed all the readings assigned prior to our class meetings. Do not expect that you can complete the readings assigned in one night simply because there are only two chapters or a few articles to read. The readings can be dense and take time to get through.
- You will write a one-page Reaction Paper (RP) on the assigned readings for each of the 9 out of the 12 weeks for which there are readings. The RP is due electronically *by 10am on the day of the class in which we will discuss those readings*. This allows you to choose which weeks to write a reflection paper. I will drop the lowest score, thereby counting only the top eight. If you write more than the required number, I will grade only the first ones submitted. The papers will not be graded with a letter grade, but will be allocated zero, one, two, or three points depending on how actively your paper engages the material. Late papers will receive zero points, as the purpose of this assignment is to ensure that you have something to contribute in class.

The paper should usually be 350–500 words (about one page single-spaced). You should include a word count in each submission.

As these brief papers are intended to facilitate class discussion, you can use them in a variety of ways. For example, in addition to analyzing the readings, you can use the Reaction Paper (RP) to ask for clarification about any aspect of the readings you did not fully understand or to express an opinion about one or more of the readings. RPs should not be summaries of the readings; they should be reactions to the readings. In general, I would advise you to focus the RP on only one of the readings assigned for each week. RPs should be clearly written, spell-checked, and grammatically correct.

- There will be midterm and final examinations.
- You will submit a group paper that summarizes trends in global poverty as determined through your analysis and plotting of data from the WDI database.
- You will create a simple group video presentation on a predetermined question using data and self-generated graphs from the WDI database. The video will be roughly 10–12 minutes long and may be in any style or format your group prefers. You will also submit a PDF copy of the graphs you use in your presentation. These exercises will be based on the current Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) indicators, which can be downloaded here: <https://unstats.un.org/sdgs/indicators/Official%20List%20of%20Proposed%20SDG%20Indicators.pdf>. Specific topics are listed at the end of the syllabus.

### 4 Grading

Weights	
25%	Midterm exam
25%	Final exam
24%	Response Papers
13%	Group paper
13%	Group presentation video

**Note:** I will also offer a *Bullshit Bonus* of two points to the student who first identifies my deliberate attempt to lie to you about reading content.

### 5 Required texts

There are no required texts for this course. All readings will be available as a reader at 공문화사 and online through Blackboard.

You may consider purchasing the following books, as they will be drawn on as background.

- H.W. Arndt. 1987. *Economic Development: The History of an Idea*. Chicago: The University of Chicago Press.
- Arturo Escobar. 1995. *Encountering Development: The Making and Unmaking of the Third World*. Princeton: Princeton University Press.
- Richard Peet et al. 2009. *Theories of Development: Contentions, Arguments, Alternatives*. Second. New York: The Guilford Press.
- Gilbert Rist. 1997. *The History of Development: From Western Origins to Global Faith*. New York: Zed Books Ltd.

## 6 Schedule of Topics and Reading

*Please note that this schedule may be subject to minor alterations.*

Suggested reading: Peet and Hartwick, part one.

### **Week 1 (March 8): Introduction and development as a problematic**

### **Week 2 (March 15): From colonialism to Point Four and poverty**

1. Vladimir Ilyich Lenin. 1963. "Selected Works." Chap. Imperialism, the Highest Stage of Capitalism, 667–766. Moscow: Progress Publishers, chapters 4 through 7. Available through the [Marxists Internet Archive](#).
2. Bartolomé de las Casas. 1992. *A short account of the destruction of the Indies*. Translated by Nigel Griffin. Penguin classics. Penguin Books. ISBN: 9780141912691, selections.
3. Eduardo Galeano. 1997. *Open Veins of Latin America: Five Centuries of the Pillage of a Continent*. 25th Anniversary Edition. Translated by Cedric Belfrage. Monthly Review Press, 59–83.
4. Walter Rodney. 1982. *How Europe Underdeveloped Africa*. Washington, DC: Howard University Press, 95–113 and 135–146.

*Reflection questions:*

How are the Galeano and Rodney readings connected? According to Lenin, what drove imperialism? Do we still see imperialist practices today?

### **Week 3 (March 22): Measuring poverty**

**Note: If possible, bring a laptop to this class.**

1. John Iceland. 2006. *Poverty in America: A Handbook*. Second. University of California Press, chapters 2 and 3.
2. Anonymous. 2004. *More or less equal?* [http://www.economist.com/businessfinance/economicsfocus/displaystory.cfm?story\\_id=E1\\_NVSTJGD](http://www.economist.com/businessfinance/economicsfocus/displaystory.cfm?story_id=E1_NVSTJGD).
3. Martin Ravallion. 2004. "Pessimistic on poverty?" *The Economist* (). [http://www.economist.com/businessfinance/economicsfocus/displaystory.cfm?story\\_id=E1\\_NVSTJGD](http://www.economist.com/businessfinance/economicsfocus/displaystory.cfm?story_id=E1_NVSTJGD).
4. Angus Deaton. 2002. "Is World Poverty Falling?" *Finance and Development* 39, no. 2 (): 4–7.

*Reflection questions:*

How do we discern between the deserving and undeserving poor today? How do absolute and relative poverty measures differ? Why does the method of data collection and analysis matter for understanding poverty?

### **Week 4 (March 29): State, society, and market, the World War II debates**

**Note: SDG1 poverty trend assignment due before class.**

1. Friedrich von Hayek. 1944. *The Road to Serfdom*. London: George Routledge / Sons, chapters 3, 4, and 5.
2. Karl Mannheim. 1954. *Man and Society in an Age of Reconstruction*. New York: Harcourt, Brace & Co., Inc., selections.
3. Karl Polanyi. 1944. *The Great Transformation*. Boston: Beacon Press, chapter 6.
4. John Maynard Keynes. 1963. "Economic Possibilities for our Grandchildren." In *Essays in Persuasion*, 358–373. New York: W.W. Norton.

*Reflection questions:*

What is each author's view of planning and markets? What is Polanyi's *double movement*? What does Keynes's essay suggest about economic growth?

**Week 5 (April 5): Institutional framework**

Note: Student video on SDG4.

1. Sarah Babb. 2009. *Behind the Development Banks: Washington Politics, World Poverty, and the Wealth of Nations*. Chicago: University of Chicago Press, chapter 1.
2. United Nations. 1948. *Universal Declaration of Human Rights*. HTTP: <http://www.un.org/en/universal-declaration-human-rights/>.
3. Martha Craven Nussbaum. 2011. *Creating Capabilities: The Human Development Approach*. Cambridge: Belknap Press, chapters 1–3.

*Reflection questions:*

Where does power lie in the development banks? Whose interests do they serve? How do human rights and capabilities differ? Do they have the same philosophical foundation?

**Week 6 (April 12): Early development economics**

Note: Student video on SDG9.

1. Adam Smith. 1863. *An Inquiry into the Nature and Causes of the Wealth of Nations*. Edinburgh: Adam / Charles Black, Book 1, chapters 1 through 3.
2. P.N. Rosenstein-Rodan. 1943. "Problems of Industrialisation of Eastern and South-Eastern Europe." *Economic Journal* 53 (210/211): 202–211.
3. Albert O. Hirschman. 1958. *The Strategy of Economic Development*. New Haven: Yale University Press, chapters 3 and 4.
4. Ragnar Nurkse. 1952. "Some International Aspects of the Problem of Economic Development." *The American Economic Review* 42 (2): 571–583.

*Reflection questions:*

How does the division of labor drive economic growth, according to Smith? How does Rosenstein-Rodan's idea of how to foster growth differ from that of Hirschman and Nurkse? How does Nurkse's vicious circle work?

**Week 7 (April 19): Modernization**

1. Helena Norberg-Hodge. 2009. *Ancient Futures: Lessons from Ladakh for a Globalizing World*. San Francisco: Sierra Club Books, chapters 2, 4, 6 and 7.
2. W.W. Rostow. 1964. "The Takeoff into Self-Sustained Growth." In *Social Change: Sources, Patterns, and Consequences*, edited by Amitai Etzioni et al., 275–290. New York: Basic Books.

3. Jeffrey D. Sachs. 2005. *The End of Poverty: Economic Possibilities for Our Time*. New York: Penguin Books, chapter 2.
4. Helena Norberg-Hodge. 2009. *Ancient Futures: Lessons from Ladakh for a Globalizing World*. San Francisco: Sierra Club Books, chapters 8–14.

Suggested reading:

1. Anthony Giddens. 1990. *The consequences of modernity*. Stanford, Calif.: Stanford University Press, chapter 1.

*Reflection questions:*

In what ways does Ladakhi society change as it modernizes? Are these changes positive or negative? In what ways do Rostow and Sachs agree or disagree?

**Week 8: (April 26): Midterm exam**

**Week 9 (May 3): Holiday. No class.**

**Week 10 (May 10): Marxist theories of development**

Note: Student video on SDG6.

1. Kwame Nkrumah. 1965. *Neo-Colonialism: The Last Stage of Imperialism*. New York: International Publishers, introduction, chapters 1–4 and 1.
2. Julius K. Nyerere. 1968. “Ujamaa—The Basis of African Socialism.” Chap. 1 in *Ujamaa: Essays on Socialism*, 1–13. London: Oxford University Press.

*Reflection questions:*

What is neoimperialism? How does Nyerere’s African socialism respond to neoimperialism? Was the perception of neoimperialism just an illusion? Do we see neoimperialist tendencies today?

**Week 11 (May 17): Why nations fail**

Note: Student video on SDG3.

1. Hernando de Soto. 2000. *The mystery of capital : why capitalism triumphs in the West and fails everywhere else*. New York: Basic Books, chapter 3.
2. Paul Collier. 2007. *The Bottom Billion: Why the Poor Countries Are Failing and What Can Be Done About It*. New York: Oxford University Press, chapters 2–5.

*Reflection questions:*

What is dead capital? Why is it dead? What brings dead capital back to life? Can you think of examples of countries that escaped Collier’s poverty traps? If so, how did they escape?

**Week 12 (May 24): Aid and other solutions**

Note: Student video on SDG10.

1. Jeffrey D. Sachs. 2005. *The End of Poverty: Economic Possibilities for Our Time*. New York: Penguin Books, chapters 13 and 14.
2. William Easterley. 2006. *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: The Penguin Press, chapters 1 and 2.
3. Dambisa Moyo. 2009. *Dead Aid: Why Aid is Not Working and How There is a Better Way for Africa*. New York: Farrar, Straus / Giroux, chapter 4.

*Reflection questions:*

How do Sachs's ideas reflect those of Rosenstein-Rodan? Why does Easterley think such large-scale efforts are doomed to failure? How do his ideas reflect those of Hayek or Mannheim? Does Moyo agree with Easterley?

**Week 13 (May 31): Neoliberal solutions**

Note: Student video on SDG8.

1. R. Glenn Hubbard et al. 2009. *The Aid Trap: Hard Truths About Ending Poverty*. New York: Columbia University Press, chapters 2 and 4.
2. C.K. Prahalad. 2005. *The Fortune at the Bottom of the Pyramid*. Upper Saddle River: Wharton School Publishing, chapter 1.
3. John Williamson. 1990. "What Washington Means by Policy Reform." Chap. 2 in *Latin American Adjustment: How Much Has Happened?*, edited by John Williamson, 7–20. Washington, D.C.: Institute for International Economics.
4. Jonathan Glennie. 2008. *The Trouble with Aid: Why Less Could Mean More for Africa*. New York: Zed Books, chapter 4.

*Reflection questions:*

Is the development problem fundamentally one of aid crowding out small business? What is the Washington Consensus? How do conditionalities impede development?

**Week 14 (June 7): Sustainability**

Note: Student video on SDG7.

1. Garrett Hardin. 1968. "The Tragedy of the Commons." *Science* 162, no. 3859 (): 1243–1248. doi:[10.1080/19390450903037302](https://doi.org/10.1080/19390450903037302).
2. Brian Walker et al. 2006. *Resilience Thinking: Sustaining Ecosystems and People in a Changing World*. London: Island Press, selections.
3. Elinor Ostrom. 1990. *Governing the Commons: The Evolution of Institutions for Collective Action*. 1st ed. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press. ISBN: 0521371015,0521405998, chapters 1 and 3.
4. Michael Goldman. 2006. *Imperial Nature: The World Bank and Struggles for Social Justice in the Age of Globalization*. Yale Agrarian Studies Series. New Haven: Yale University Press, chapter 5.

*Reflection questions:*

What is the difference between sustainability and resilience? Does the tragedy of the commons reflect historical precedent? Is it a modern problem? According to Goldman, how do institutional constraints undermine the effectiveness of sustainability initiatives?

**Week 15 (June 14): Post-development**

1. Marshall Sahlins. 1972. *Stone Age Economics*. New York: Aldine-Atherton, Inc., chapter 1.
2. Gustavo Esteva et al. 1998. *Grassroots Post-Modernism: Remaking the Soil of Cultures*. New York: Zed Books, chapters 1 and 2.
3. Klaus Schwab. 2016. *The Fourth Industrial Revolution*. Geneva: World Economic Forum, selections.

*Reflection questions:*

Were sedentary lifestyles really an improvement? What does it mean to think of development locally? How should we approach development in the coming fourth industrial revolution?

**Week 16 (June 21): Final exam**

## 7 Video topics

1. SDG3 (Health): Describe trends in maternal, infant, and suicide mortality.
2. SDG4 (Education): Describe trends in educational attainment by age and sex.
3. SDG6 (Water and sanitation): Describe trends in access to clean water and sanitation.
4. SDG7 (Energy): Describe trends in access to electricity and energy sources.
5. SDG8 (Employment): Describe trends in employment by age and sex, including children and self-employment.
6. SDG9 (Industry): Describe employment and GDP trends in primary goods, manufacturing, and services.
7. SDG10 (Inequality): Compare trends in aid flows and remittances.