Course Syllabus

CRD-180 TRANSNATIONAL COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT
Winter 2020                     Professor Luis Eduardo Guarnizo
146 Olson, M.W., 2:10-4:00 PM

This is a Social Science GE course in World Cultures and Writing Experience.

OFFICE HOURS
L.E. Guarnizo: Tuesday 3:00-4:00 PM or by appointment, 2329 Hart Hall;
leguarnizo@ucdavis.edu

Jessica Zlotnicki (TA): Tuesdays 10:00 AM-12:00 PM and by appointment, 2331 Hart Hall;
jzlotnicki@ucdavis.edu

OVERVIEW

International development specialists have conventionally studied through the lens of economic growth and poverty reduction, most especially in rural areas. It has also been understood as an economic-centered, top-down process in the hands of national governments, multilateral financial organizations (such as the World Bank, the International Monetary Fund, and the World Trade Organization), and official international aid agencies from wealthy countries (such as the US Agency for International Development [USAID] and Germany’s Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit [Corporation for International Cooperation] or GIZ).

This economic focus still dominates the field. However, new perspectives emphasize other dimensions of international development, including political participation, democratization, social inclusion, and environmental justice. These perspectives also see international development as something that is being carried out by a far broader array of actors than was previously understood, including international non-governmental organizations, transnational community networks, and loose, transnational networks of activists operating worldwide.

In this course, we will pay special attention to these new perspectives and actors, examining the social, cultural, and political dimensions of international development programs and policies, and the work undertaken by grassroots, non-state, non-corporate actors across borders.

We will use concepts such as polity, national identity, race, ethnicity, gender, class, citizenship, and social change to study how these transnational actors are reshaping community and national development around the world. To do so, we will use examples from societies across the globe.
Specifically, we will critically review, analyze, and discuss:

1. The epistemological roots of some of today’s development theories and agendas.
2. Influential development theories and official policies from the post-World War II period to today, as introduced by social scientists, multilateral financial institutions, and non-governmental organizations.
3. The contributions offered by the emerging field of transnational studies, including theoretical discussions of and empirical research into development in the Americas, Asia, and Africa;
4. The transnational socioeconomic, political, and cultural practices of non-state actors (international non-governmental organizations, migrant grassroots organizations, networks of activists, etc.) and their impact on development in the global South.

We will also explore:

1. The effects of free-market policies on socioeconomic inequality at the national and global levels.
2. The dynamics, strategies, social composition, and reach of some of the mass popular responses to neoliberal policies across the world.
3. Official initiatives to curtail popular resistance and promote financial policies aimed at reducing poverty and inequality, such as financial inclusion (especially through microcredit programs).

In-class discussion will be a central part of the learning process, so you are encouraged to actively participate. One of the goals of this class is to encourage thoughtful dialogue about complex and often controversial issues in an environment of mutual respect, guided by the UC Davis Principles of Community (http://occr.ucdavis.edu/poc/).

GENERAL LEARNING OUTCOMES:

At the end of the quarter, I expect students to be familiar with:

- General theories and critical problems in the international development field.
- The transnational studies field.
- Some of the roots, trends, and present conditions of global inequality.
- Current discourses and initiatives on financial inclusion.

REQUIREMENTS

Students are required to:

1) Do the readings.

2) Attend and actively participate in class.

3) Write a midterm paper.
4) Conduct a team-research project and present the preliminary results in class.

6) Write an op-ed article.

7) Write a final team-research report.

GRADING

Each and every assignment is required. Late assignments will be graded down 1/3 of a grade for each day they are late. The grading breakdown will be as follows:

- 25% midterm paper
- 50% team research project
  - 5% team research proposal
  - 5% team research peer evaluation
  - 20% team research presentation
  - 20% research project report
- 15% op-ed article
- 10% attendance, discussion participation

READEINGS

REQUIRED BOOKS

Required materials include the books listed below. There is no Reader for this course. All books are for sale at the Campus Book Store and on reserve at Shields Library.


STUDENT CODE OF ACADEMIC CONDUCT

All students should be familiar with the Student Code of Academic Conduct, available at [http://sja.ucdavis.edu/cac.html](http://sja.ucdavis.edu/cac.html). Please review it carefully and ask Professor Guarnizo if you have any questions. Remember: the instructor is obliged to refer you
to Student Judicial Affairs in all cases of violation or suspected violation of this code of conduct.

In addition to plagiarism and cheating on examinations, using your own written materials from papers submitted for other classes is also a violation of the Student Code of Academic Conduct.

It is permissible to use materials and texts from other class projects, within CRD or in other departments, only if you:

1) Inform Professor Guarnizo beforehand.
2) Clearly identify the portions of your work where you quote yourself (or quote collaborative work).
3) Provide a copy of the previous work you submitted in the other class to Professor Guarnizo.
4) Make sure that the quoted or reused parts fit seamlessly into the assignment for THIS class. Doing so will ensure that you receive the appropriate credit/grade.

If you have any doubts about the extent to which you can use already submitted written materials in this class, please speak with Professor Guarnizo or your TA prior to making any submission.

Faculty and TAs are required under the UC Policy on Sexual Violence and Sexual Harassment (Links to an external site.) to inform the Title IX Coordinator should they become aware that you or any other student has experienced sexual violence or sexual harassment.

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Main Topic</th>
<th>Case Study</th>
<th>Readings</th>
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<tr>
<td>Jan. 6</td>
<td>Introduction</td>
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<td>Jan. 8</td>
<td>From Classical to Neoclassical Economic Development</td>
<td>Contemporary mass social movements</td>
<td>Peet &amp; Hartwick chs. 1, 2</td>
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Jan. 13  
*Martin Luther King, Jr. Day, no class*

Jan. 15  
**From Keynes to Market Fundamentalism**  
Peet & Hartwick chs. 3, 4

Jan. 20  
**Marxist and Poststructuralist Visions of Development**  
Ecuador  
Peet & Hartwick chs. 5, 6

Jan. 22  
**Global Inequality I**  
Chile  
*RESEARCH PROPOSAL DUE*  
Milanović ch. 1, 2

Jan. 27  
**Global Inequality II**  
Venezuela  
Milanović chs. 3

Jan. 29  
**Documentary: The True Cost**  
The global human & environmental cost of fast fashion

Feb. 3  
**Global Urbanization and Life at the Margins I**  
**Documentary: Slum Cities**  
Boo, entire book
Feb. 5  Global Urbanization and Life at the Margins II Guest Speaker: Dr. Parul Baxi (international development expert specialized in India)  

Feb. 10  Corporate Capital, Ethical Capital, Poverty Capital  
Documentary: The Last Market  

Feb. 12  From the Bangladesh Consensus to the Washington Consensus  

Feb. 17  Presidents’ Day, no class  

Feb. 19  Guest Speaker: Megan Gash (international development consultant)  

Feb. 24  Development, Globalization, and Privatization  
Documentary: Even the Rain
Unequal development and popular social movements

Feb. 26

Guest Speaker: Rusha Latif (author of Leaderless Revolution, a book about the 2011 Arab Spring)

March 2, 4, 9

GROUP RESEARCH PRESENTATIONS

OP-ED ARTICLE DUE (March 4)

The Future of International Development

March 11

Roy ch. 5
Peet & Hartwick ch 8
Milanović, chs. 4, 5

FINAL RESEARCH REPORT DUE Wednesday, March 18th at 5:00 PM at the course website.

Recommended Websites

Behind the Beautiful Forevers: http://www.behindthebeautifulforevers.com/ (Links to an external site.)
Grameen Foundation: https://www.grameenfoundation.org/ (Links to an external site.)
United Nations Human Development Index: http://hdr.undp.org/en/content/human-development-index-hdi (Links to an external site.)
Global Inequality Data: https://wid.world/ (Links to an external site.)