The University of Texas at Dallas  
School of Economic, Political and Policy Sciences  
ISSS 3349.001 World Resources and Development  
Fall 2013  
Time: Monday/Wednesday 2:30-3:45pm  
Classroom: JO 4.614

Professor: Dr. Valente  
Email: rubiavalente@utdallas.edu  
Office: GR.3.810  
Office Hours: Monday/Wednesday 4:00pm - 5:00pm and by appointment

General Course Information

What is development? What are some of the issues and challenges of development in developing countries? Why are some countries progressing and others not or much less so?

Focusing on these basic questions, this course provides an introduction to issues in developing countries from an interdisciplinary point of view using the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs), which form the major current international development agenda, as a stepping-stone. Contemporary issues such as disease, hunger, education, and environmental sustainability will be discussed from a development perspective. Concepts such as poverty, famine, trade justice, debt, and gender are introduced and used as critical tools to assess major challenges to development in general, and the MDG agenda in particular. In weekly seminars, students explore the discussed issues through their own research and will use news clippings to explore current affairs in international development and to critically examine how our society thinks about development. Students are required to complete a major research project on a developmental issue in a developing country. Along the way, students will explore the problems of underdevelopment and will learn from one another about the challenges faced in particular regions of the developing world.

Required Textbooks

Annual Editions: Developing World 12/13 by Robert J. Griffiths  
The Bottom Billion by Paul Collier

Additional Text Material

Primary course reading will be assigned from required textbooks. All other additional text material will be posted on eLearning or are available online.
Course Objective

This course is designed to help students become familiar with the key dimensions of the development process and be able to critically evaluate current issues and problems experienced by the developing nations in their efforts to achieve economic and human development.

Complementary course goals are to practice and refine discussion, research, writing, and oral presentation skills. This class will be conducted as a seminar, which means that everyone will be expected to actively participate in discussions. Students must stay current on readings and be ready to contribute to class discussion.

Course Requirements

Class Participation and Attendance:

Class attendance is required. **Students who failed to attend at least two-thirds of the classes without due cause will receive an F for this course.** Participation will be evaluated and factored into the final grade. It is every student’s obligation to consult the course eLearning several times a week for course updates and other announcements. Each student is expected to complete the required readings **before class** and to participate actively in class discussion. Class participation is measured by the quality of your thoughtful contributions to the class discussion.

Weekly Summary: Each week you should write a 1 page critical summary about the week’s readings (font 12, single space) you can choose to write either on Monday or on Wednesday. This should include a brief summary of the main arguments of the readings, your critical reactions, and at least two questions for class discussion at the end. Keep in mind that these should be critical in nature, and not merely summaries of the key points in the week’s readings. You are allowed **two free weeks** when you don’t have to turn in a summary, you can choose when to take these, according to your schedule. **There won’t be a summary due on Week 1, Week 6, Week 8, Week 12 and Week 13. So, at the end of the semester you should have a total of 8 summaries.** No late summaries will be accepted. **Summaries submitted without attending class will not be graded. Summaries are due at the beginning of class.**

Exams: Students will have an essay-type midterm and a take home final exam.

Written Assignment: There will be a total of **4 written assignments** including three movie reviews and a book review. More detail will be given in class.

Research Project: There will be one research paper of 8-10 pages in length. The paper will be on a topic of your choice that involves a current developmental issue within one or more of the countries of the developing world. The paper can be analytic or critical and should include a policy recommendation for the issue in question. The topic will need to be approved by the instructor. The paper should state, defend or criticize an argument about the politics of some ongoing issue, struggle or development. Examples of possible topics include: the debt crisis in
the developing world, political reform in Iran, the AIDS crisis in Africa, democratization in the Middle East, rebuilding Haiti, the Asian financial crisis and its consequences, terrorism in Southeast Asia, the status of women in a developing country, environmental crisis, etc. The paper should use at least 8 sources scholarly sources. These are academic books or articles written by PhDs. Among the library’s databases, Project Muse and JSTOR contain primarily scholarly articles. There will be three stages to the research project:

Short assignment:
Provide me with a short summary of your progress to this point due on October 2nd. You will write a 2 pages statement on the research idea of your choice related to the course themes in a particular developing country or region. It should include the following pieces: What is your specific question (thesis)? Key to this description is to identify a developmental problem. Additionally, please include the following: statement of data progress & challenges (what data sources have you found? what difficulties are you encountering?) and a short statement of why your case is important (in other words, frame the relevance of your case to a broader audience).

Bibliography: On November 4th students should turn in the Bibliography for the paper (at least 8 scholarly sources). This will not be your final Bibliography, but what you have read/researched so far.

Research Paper: The research project will culminate in a research paper of 8-10 pages. See the guidelines for this at the end of syllabus.

Graded Activities: Grading Scale:

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<td>Written Assignments</td>
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<td>Midterm</td>
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<td>Research Paper</td>
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<td>Final Exam</td>
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Extra-Credit: Students may write a review of 5-7 pages on an approved book. This paper is due on 11/13 at 2:30pm in class. No late papers will be accepted. This is worth up to 2.5% of your final grade.

Turnitin: All written assignment must be turn in on eLearning at the Turnitin link, please provide me with a printed copy for grading purposes or email it to me by the due date and time. Both copies must be received by the deadline.
**e-Learning:** E-learning is used in this class. This is how I will communicate with you. You are responsible for announcements made through e-Learning. Please select a forwarding address in your mail preferences if you do not regularly check your utdallas email.

**Late policy:** Written work and oral presentations are due on specified dates. Special arrangements for late midterm will be allowed only for reasons of personal health or family emergencies. Since the final exam will be a taken home exam no excuses will be accepted for it being late. Papers submitted late will be penalized one full grade per day after the deadline. No late extra-credit papers will be accepted.

**Technology policy:** Technology both within and outside the classroom should enable your learning experience, not hinder it. Cell phones are to be turned off during our class. You will not need a computer for this class, but I do understand that some students prefer to take notes on theirs. If this is your case, you must sit in the front row.

**Classroom Citizenship:** I expect students to be attentive during class and to actively participate in group activities and class discussion. You are expected to listen respectfully to me and to other students when speaking. Racism, sexism, homophobia, classism, ageism and other forms of bigotry are inappropriate to express in this class. We may discuss issues that require sensitivity and maturity. Disruptive students will be asked to leave and may be subject to disciplinary action.

**University Policies**
Information on university policies can be found at [http://go.utdallas.edu/syllabus-policies](http://go.utdallas.edu/syllabus-policies)

**Outside of Classroom:**
Students are also urged to gain broad exposure to the politics and economics of the developing world. Here are some places to look:

**Selected Recent Books on International Development:**
Dambisa Moyo, *Dead Aid: why aid is not working and how there is another way for Africa*, New York: Farrar, Straus and Giroux, 2009
William Easterly, *White Man’s Burden: Why the West’s efforts to aid the rest have done so much ill and so little good*, Oxford: Oxford UP, 2006.

**News, Magazines, Information**
Washington Post [www.washingtonpost.com](http://www.washingtonpost.com/)
The Financial Times [www.ft.com/home/uk](http://www.ft.com/home/uk)
UNDP [www.undp.org](http://www.undp.org)
BBC World Service [www.bbc.co.uk/worldservice](http://www.bbc.co.uk/worldservice)
Christian Science Monitor [www.csmonitor.com](http://www.csmonitor.com)
UNAIDS [www.aids.org](http://www.aids.org)

Jakarta Post [www.thejakartapost.com](http://www.thejakartapost.com)
Al Jazeera English Service [english.aljazeera.net](http://english.aljazeera.net)
The Economist [www.economist.com](http://www.economist.com/)
Course Outline (Subject to revisions and changes at the discretion of the Professor.)

Class Schedule

Week 1  Aug. 26  Introduction to the course
         Aug. 28  Topic: What is development?

Readings:
* Annual Editions: Article 1 - The New Face of Development
* Theories and Practices of Development, by Katie Willis Chapter 1 available as an ebook by the UTD library (HD75.W55 2011).

Week 2  Sep. 2  No Class – Labor Day
         Sep. 4  Topic: The Millennium Development Goals

Readings:
* Annual Editions: Article 8 - The Poor Man’s Burden
* Listen to Jeffrey Sachs BBC radio interview video on e-Learning

Week 3  Sep. 9  Topic: Population Growth and Development

Readings:
* Annual Editions: Article 3 The New Population Bomb: the Four Megatrends That Will Change the World and Article 29 Global Aging and the Crisis of the 2020’s

         Sep. 11  Topic: Environmental Sustainability

Readings:
* Annual Editions: Article 45 Is a Green World a Safer World? Not necessarily and Article 46 The Last Straw and Article 54 Women in the Shadow of Climate Change
* Watch Global Biodiversity Outlook 3 and After-Rio Brazil on e-Learning
Week 4  Sep. 16  Topic: Aid, Development and NGO’s

Film: Good Fortune (90 minutes)

Readings:

Sep. 18  Topic: Aid, Development and NGO’s

Readings:


Week 5  Sep. 23  Topic: Health/HIV

Readings:
* Annual Editions: Article 16 A Few Dollars at a Time

Sep. 25  Topic: Health/HIV

Movie Review on Good Fortune is Due Today

Readings:
*Annual Editions Article 13 Cotton: The Huge Moral Issue
Week 6  Sep. 30  Topic: Hunger and Malnutrition

Readings:
* Annual Editions: Article 49 The New Geopolitics of Food.
* World Bank, Poverty and Hunger, chapter 6, online:
* World Hunger and Poverty Facts and Statistics, online:
  http://www.worldhunger.org/articles/Learn/world%20hunger%20facts%202002.htm
* Watch http://fora.tv/2009/02/01/Running_Out_The_Global_Food_Crisis#fullprogram

Oct. 2  Topic: Poverty and Violence in Urban Areas

Readings:
* Slums of the World: The face of urban poverty in the new millennium, pp. 6-55.
* The Challenge of Slums Ch 1 “Development Context and the Millennium Agenda” (5-16), Ch 2
  “Urbanization Trends and Forces Shaping Slums” (17-31)
* Loayza N. “Preventing Violence” ReVista: Harvard Review of Latin America online:
  http://www.drclas.harvard.edu/revista/articles/view/1032

Week 7  Oct. 7  Topic: Conflict Instability

Readings:
* Annual Editions: Article 22 Afghanistan’s Rocky Path to Peace, Article 23 A Nation on the
  Brink, Article 24 The Forever War: Inside India’s Maoist Conflict, Article 26 Africa’s Forever
  Wars and Article 28 Central America’s Security Predicament.
* Watch: A World of Conflict—Chapters 1, 3-5, 10, 12, and 13 videos on e-Learning

Oct. 9  Topic: Governance/Corruption

Readings:
* Annual Editions Article 20 Corruption Reduction: A Foreign Policy Goal and Instrument
* World Bank Anti-Corruption Initiative online:
* Dennis de Tray, “Governance and Corruption: An Impolitic View”, CGD Brief, online:
  http://www.cgdev.org/content/opinion/detail/11670/
* Maureen Lewis, “Governance and Corruption in Public Health Care Systems
  -Working Paper 78,” online: http://www.cgdev.org/content/publications/detail/5967/
| Week 8 | Oct. 14 | Discuss Bottom Billion and Review for Midterm  
|       |        | **Bottom Billion - Book Review Due Today**  
|       | Oct. 16 | **Midterm in class**  
| Week 9 | Oct. 21 | **Topic: Debt as an Issue for Development**  
|       |        | **Film: Money Lenders (85 minutes)**  

**Readings:**

| Oct. 23 | **Topic: Debt as an Issue for Development**  

**Readings:**

| Week 10 | Oct. 28 | **Topic: International Trade/Technology Transfer**  

**Readings:**

| Oct. 30 | **Topic: Microcredit/Cash Transfer**  

**Movie Review on Money Lenders Due Today**

**Readings:**
- Annual Editions: Article 18 The Micromagic of Microcredit and 19 Many Borrowers of Microloans Now Find the Price is too High.
Week 11  Nov. 4  Topic: Gender Equality

Readings:
*Article 51 Women in Developing Countries 300 Times More Likely to Die in Childbirth and Article 53 Remember the Women?
*Gender Bias and Mortality. Online: http://ucatlas.ucsc.edu/gender/gender_mortality.php

Nov. 6  Topic: Gender Equality

Readings:
*Watch Sex Slaves (Frontline) -- http://topdocumentaryfilms.com/sex-slaves/ (44 minutes)

Week 12  Nov. 11  Topic: Gender Based Violence/Sex Trafficking
Film: Half the Sky

No Readings
Tip: If I were you I would be working on my research paper…

Nov. 13  Topic: Education/Maternal Mortality
Film: cont. Half the Sky

Work on your research paper…

Week 13  Nov. 18  Topic: Forced Prostitution/Education
Film: cont. Half the Sky

Work on your research…

Nov. 20  Topic: Gender Equality

We’ll discuss Half the Sky in class.

Work on your …

Week 14  No Class: November 25 and 27
Happy Thanksgiving!
Week 15  Dec. 2  Topic: Education for all?

Readings:
*Annual Editions: Article 50 The Women’s Crusade

Dec. 4  Topic: MDG’s and Human Rights
Movie Review on Half the Sky Due Today

Readings:
*Annual Editions: Article 5 And Justice for All: Enforcing Human Rights for the World Poor and Article 43 Human Rights Last
*Watch: Born into Brothels-- http://topdocumentaryfilms.com/born-into-brothels/

Week 16  Dec. 9  Topic: Culture Matters

Readings:

Dec. 11  Topic: MDG’s Critical Reflections/Development Future
Research Papers Due at the beginning of class
Take Home Final Exam will be hand out at the end of class

Readings:

December 13 Submit Final Exam until Midnight on e-Learning through Turnitin and please email me a copy.

Have a Great Winter Break!
Guidelines for Writing Papers in this Class

Please read these Guidelines before writing your paper

You will write one analytical, critical or positional research paper in this class (8-10 pages). These types of essays involve several arguments in support of a thesis. Your first, most important task is to pick a clear and specific thesis. Your purpose is to devote your essay to the development and support of this thesis. Hence, write out your thesis concisely. Doing so will clarify your thinking and help you sharpen the focus of the paper.

Your paper should begin with a statement of your thesis. Once you have formulated this thesis, you must justify your position. In the remainder of the essay, you will put together arguments, which do just that. Ask yourself such questions as: which issues are directly relevant to my thesis? Which parts of the readings (or lectures) might be relevant to this topic? How can I prove the validity of my statements?

A key to a good preparation is to look at the various sides of the issue (or issues). Thus, you will need to spend a lot of time researching and reading more about the issue in question. Make sure that you think about the most relevant facts involved, contemplate the most possible positions, understand the underlying beliefs that would affect this topic, and explain why your position is valid when making the policy recommendation.

Your supporting arguments should be arranged in such ways that they guide the readers to your conclusions. Once you have decided which evidence and which arguments you will use, be sure to order them so that the conclusions you draw are convincing.

Preparing your Argument – Initial Research

One of the best ways to decide on how to order your paper is to write down the arguments you will use to support your thesis prior to writing the paper. After you have done this, arrange your arguments so that they provide the most logically persuasive position. Then decide which passages from the readings can be used to support these claims. Note where this material will be incorporated into your paper.

Once you have collected your material and decided on both the thesis you wish to present and your arguments (as well as arguments of others—if you are writing a critical paper) make an outline. The outline will be a picture of the logical order of your essay. You will work out the final product from this summary outline.

Once you have a draft of the research paper ask yourself the following questions:

1. Is my thesis clearly stated? Is it valid within the context of the text?
2. Have I presented my arguments logically so that the reader can follow and understand them?
If you believe you have done so, you are ready to polish your writing style. But, please, don’t forget the following:

**Format:**
1. Use The Chicago Manual of Style. A summary can be found at http://www.libs.uga.edu/ref/chicago.html. The style is as follows:

   Examples of footnotes:

   Bibliography:
   According to *The Chicago Manual of Style*, "the full reference of a note, as in a bibliographic entry, must include enough information to enable the interested reader to find it in a library, though the form of the note need not correspond precisely to that of the library catalog."  

2. Use a 12 point font.
3. The text should be typed, double spaced, and have one-inch margins.
4. Do not add extra spaces between paragraphs.
5. Number the pages.
6. Include a title page with your name, course title, and date.
7. Include a bibliography.

You may use other format such as MLA, APA if you are more comfortable using those.

**Style:**
1. Include an introduction and conclusion with appropriate outlines and summation of the main points of your paper.
2. Use topic sentences in your paragraphs. (Please – no two sentence paragraphs or two page paragraphs!)
3. Do not use a casual tone. (For example, do not use contractions such as “can’t,” “wouldn’t”, etc.)
4. Avoid speaking in the first person. (For example, “In this paper I will …”)
5. Spell check!

**Sources:**
1. Use multiple sources.
2. You should have a combination of academic, peer reviewed books and journals as sources.

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3. As a supplement only, you may use the Internet or conventional news sources (for example The Economist or the New York Times). They should not constitute the core of your research.
4. Cite often. An overabundance of citations is always preferable to too few. Cite as if you want the reader to be able to easily refer to your sources when you refer to facts, quotations, and interpretations.
5. If someone else says it, you must give credit to him or her. If you repeat the author verbatim, you must quote and cite the author. If you paraphrase his or her words, you must cite the author. Failure to do this is plagiarism.

Once you think are done:

1. Proofread your paper carefully for typing errors.
2. Revise each paragraph or essay at least twice. Never turn in your first draft.

Then, correct all grammatical errors, improve your sentence structure and prepare the final draft of your paper.

You may ask me any question regarding this paper and come see me at any time, in my office hours or by appointment.

General Warning:
Scholastic dishonesty will be severely punished. The student will be subject to university disciplinary proceedings. Every semester I say this and every semester a student tries to get away with plagiarism. Look, I know the difference between an undergraduate’s and a scholar’s writing techniques/styles. And even if by some random reason your paper passed undetected, turnitin will getcha. I promise you that. So, please cite and cite often. The UTD Undergraduate Catalog defines scholastic dishonesty as the following: “Scholastic dishonesty includes, but is not limited to, statements, acts or omissions related to applications for enrollment or the award of a degree, and/or the submission as one’s own work of material that is not one’s own. As a general rule, scholastic dishonesty involves one of the following acts: cheating, plagiarism, collusion and/or falsifying academic records.”