COMD5001

International Development Policy

Term Two // 2020

Course Overview

Staff Contact Details

Convenors

Name	Email	Availability	Location	Phone
Joyce Wu	joyce.wu@unsw.edu.au	Email for online appointment		0434218159

School Contact Information

School of Social Sciences

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Course Details

Credit Points 6

Summary of the Course

Are you interested to understand why there is a rich world and there is a poor world? What type of socio-economic and environmental policies can be identified and implemented to address some of these development challenges? In this course, you will critically engage with several of the 'big issues' concerning international development policy and highlights the link between ideas, policy and the reality of development with an emphasis on the challenges facing local communities in developing countries. The course blends theories of development with the rapidly expanding discipline of public policy to enable you to examine and explain the rate, form and patterns of socio-economic and environmental development challenges and opportunities. You will explore the influences upon this patterning and the response by local communities, state organisations and other institutions. The course will also include engagement with several sectoral policy issues on sustainable development such as participation, urban poverty, food security, equity, climate change and disasters.

Course Learning Outcomes

1. Explain key concepts, approaches, issues and achievements of development theories applied as development policy in developing countries
2. Develop a critical perspective of development policies implemented to address key aspects of uneven development, focusing on major implications for the local communities
3. Undertake critical social science research, independently and in a team environment, and develop the knowledge and communication skills necessary to engage in international development policy analysis and practice

Teaching Strategies

This course is designed to build knowledge and skills in relation to development problems in developing countries, development policy, and the consequences of policy and policy reform. The objective is to focus on the range of ways we can identify development as an issue (for example as poverty or disaster), its components (economic, social, cultural) and solutions (for example as programs, policies etc) to problems that are local, national and global in character. You will have the opportunity to interpret, analyse and propose solutions to development issues using a range of principles constructed as theories about development that are often in conflict with each other and lead to a range of intended and unintended practical outcomes. The course will encourage you to engage in learning through structured activities, independent critical thinking and research-based work. Assessments will build knowledge and skills in a range of development policy topics and assess both written and oral presentations.

Assessment

Assessment Tasks

Assessment task	Weight	Due Date	Student Learning Outcomes Assessed
Research Paper	50%	11/08/2020 05:00 PM	1,2,3
Mid-term reflective essay	20%	03/07/2020 05:00 PM	1,2
Group Activity	30%	17/07/2020 05:00 PM	1,2,3

Assessment Details

Assessment 1: Research Paper

Start date: Not Applicable

Length: 3000 words

Details:

Choose from the list of questions or create your own (please consult with the course convener if choosing your own question). The paper is up to 3000 words in addition to references OR you have the option of having a take home test instead. The take home test will go for five days, and you need to write three short essays (1000 words per short essay). The questions will be released one day before test starts. Written feedback and a mark will be provided within 2 weeks of submission.

Submission notes: All assessments must be submitted electronically only, through the relevant assessment TurnItIn portal in Moodle.

Turnitin setting: This assignment is submitted through Turnitin and students can see Turnitin similarity reports.

Assessment 2: Mid-term reflective essay

Start date: Not Applicable

Length: As described below

Details:

600 word reflective essay based on class materials, readings, and tutorial discussions. Written feedback and a mark will be provided within 2 weeks of submission. Written feedback and a mark will be provided within 2 weeks of submission.

Turnitin setting: This assignment is submitted through Turnitin and students can see Turnitin similarity

reports.

Assessment 3: Group Activity

Start date: Not Applicable

Length: 750 words

Details:

The Australian Government has made a call for submission as it is in the process of reviewing the foreign aid policy. In a small group, you will work together and develop a three-page aid policy review submission based on your group's policy position. You will be allocated or self-nominated into a group with specific policy interests and agendas. You can use Blackboard Collaborative, Zoom or designated Moodle forums for your group's discussions and working together. Written feedback and a mark will be provided within 2 weeks of submission.

Turnitin setting: This assignment is submitted through Turnitin and students can see Turnitin similarity reports.

Attendance Requirements

Students are strongly encouraged to attend all classes and review lecture recordings.

Course Schedule

[View class timetable](#)

Timetable

Date	Type	Content
Week 1: 1 June - 5 June	Web	Introduction: Or "What is Development Policy"? Why do we study international development policy? How are policies designed and what are the drivers and influences that push for policy change? How do historical and contemporary factors such as climate change, rising inequalities, change of new world order and global pandemics shape development policies? Do we need policies to have programs and projects, or as David Mosseasked, "Do development policies guide projects, or do they serve as legitimacy for intervention?" We will explore these questions as well as go over the course outline and assessments.
	Tutorial	Online tutorial will be offered each Thursday at 6 pm. This is voluntary and will not be graded. But it is highly recommended for students to participate, as it offers opportunity to ask questions, comments and discussions on the week's topic.
Week 2: 8 June - 12 June	Web	Multilateral Organisations and Development Policy This week will provide a historical and contemporary look at multilateral organisations, such as the United Nations, World Bank, International Monetary Fund, Asia Development Bank, but also organisations from the Global South such as the Asian Infrastructure Investment Development Bank (AIIDB), BRICs Bank. With increasing bilateral partnership in foreign aid, does multilateral organisations still have a role and influence in global policies?
Week 3: 15 June - 19 June	Web	Development Policies Left and Right This week, we will explore the role and influence of political ideologies in development policy making and implementation, bilateral donor politics, the advocacy space for change within politically sensitive and volatile contexts, as well as case studies from different countries.

| Week 4: 22 June - 26 June | Web | Gender in International Development Policies

Achieving gender equality and justice in global development has long been recognised as vital for sustainable development. However, challenges remain for gender to be considered meaningfully by donors and policy makers. This week, we will discuss why gender is important, what are the key strategies for gender to be integrated, and whether "following the money" can be useful in measuring global progress of gender and development. |
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| Week 5: 29 June - 3 July | Web | Sustainable Development Goals: Visionary Blueprint or Project Indicators?

The SDGs were meant to be the bold, visionary successor of the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs), which was criticised for lacking in concrete implantation and guides. With 231 indicators, the SDGs is meant to be a blueprint for global sustainable development and to left no one behind. But just how much influence do the SDGs have in the space of international development policies? With 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development less than 10 years away, this week we will examine SDGs' contributions to development policies, its critics and what can be done to ensure the vision is on track. |
| Week 6: 6 July - 10 July | Web | Rising Global Donors, Movers and Shakers of the Development Policy Horizon

China has been hailed as the "new" donor; however, China has been giving aid since ancient times. This week, guest lecturer Dr Patrick Kilby from the Australian National University will talk about China's role as global donor, its role in shaping global development policies and practices, as well as a much overlooked movers and shakers in the landscape of development policy: the philanthropic foundations such as Gates, Rockefeller and Ford. |
| Week 7: 13 July - 17 July | Web | Disrupters and Game Changers for International Development Policy

Climate crisis, COVID-19, rising authoritarianism, inequalities, food insecurity, terrorism… are these unexpected disrupters that caught policy makers and stakeholders by surprise, or simply ignored due to ideological differences? In a context of diverse and sometimes divisive views, how do we build development policy resilience? |

Week 8: 20 July - 24 July	Web	Policy Advocacy: From Grassroots to the Parliament Non-government organisations (NGOs), policy advocates, activists and the like often juggle a fine balance between representing the views of the community and vulnerable groups and speak truth to power, to exercising diplomacy and caution when dealing with indifferent or even hostile governments. This is particularly the case for politically sensitive issues such as human rights, sexual and reproductive health, and climate change. This week, we will explore the complexities of policy advocacy in the space of international development.
Week 9: 27 July - 31 July	Web	Humanitarian Policy and Practice What is humanitarian policies' relationship to international development, and is it flexible enough to adapt to the constantly changing landscape of humanitarian situations? How do global, universal humanitarian policies translate into local context?
Week 10: 3 August - 7 August	Web	Wrapping Up This week will be a reflection on the topics covered throughout the term, with thoughts on the impact of policy and donor trends.

Resources

Prescribed Resources

All the weekly readings and pre-recorded lectures will be available for download from Moodle.

Recommended Resources

Course Evaluation and Development

Student feedback is gathered periodically using, among other means, UNSW's myExperience process. Informal feedback and class-generated feedback are important. A brief survey will be conducted around the middle of the semester to identify areas of student issues. Analysis of feedback will inform the reasonable adjustment of course content and delivery where possible. Student feedback is taken seriously, and continual improvements are made to the course based in part on such feedback. Changes to the course will be introduced to subsequent cohorts of students taking the course.

Constructive feedback is greatly appreciated. We aim to continue to improve and update the course; play some part in helping us to do so. Share your feedback, your resources, your ideas. Play a part in facilitating the learning of all members of the class.

Submission of Assessment Tasks

Turnitin Submission

If you encounter a problem when attempting to submit your assignment through Turnitin, please telephone External Support on 9385 3331 or email them on externalteltsupport@unsw.edu.au . Support hours are 8:00am – 10:00pm on weekdays and 9:00am – 5:00pm on weekends (365 days a year). If you are unable to submit your assignment due to a fault with Turnitin you may apply for an extension, but you must retain your ticket number from External Support (along with any other relevant documents) to include as evidence to support your extension application. If you email External Support you will automatically receive a ticket number, but if you telephone you will need to specifically ask for one. Turnitin also provides updates on their system status on Twitter.

Generally, assessment tasks must be submitted electronically via either Turnitin or a Moodle assignment. In instances where this is not possible, it will be stated on your course's Moodle site with alternative submission details.

For information on how to submit assignments online via Moodle: https://student.unsw.edu.au/how-submit-assignment-moodle

Academic Honesty and Plagiarism

Plagiarism is using the words or ideas of others and presenting them as your own. It can take many forms, from deliberate cheating to accidentally copying from a source without acknowledgement.

UNSW groups plagiarism into the following categories:

Copying: using the same or very similar words to the original text or idea without acknowledging the source or using quotation marks. This also applies to images, art and design projects, as well as presentations where someone presents another's ideas or words without credit.

Inappropriate paraphrasing: Changing a few words and phrases while mostly retaining the original structure and/or progression of ideas of the original, and information without acknowledgement. This also applies in presentations where someone paraphrases another's ideas or words without credit and to piecing together quotes and paraphrases into a new whole, without appropriate referencing.

Collusion: working with others but passing off the work as a person's individual work. Collusion also includes providing your work to another student before the due date, or for the purpose of them plagiarising at any time, paying another person to perform an academic task, stealing or acquiring another person's academic work and copying it, offering to complete another person's work or seeking payment for completing academic work.

Inappropriate citation: Citing sources which have not been read, without acknowledging the "secondary" source from which knowledge of them has been obtained.

Duplication ("self-plagiarism"): submitting your own work, in whole or in part, where it has previously been prepared or submitted for another assessment or course at UNSW or another university.

Correct referencing practices:

- Paraphrasing, summarising, essay writing and time management
- Appropriate use of and attribution for a range of materials including text, images, formulae and concepts.

Individual assistance is available on request from The Learning Centre (http://www.lc.unsw.edu.au/). Students are also reminded that careful time management is an important part of study and one of the identified causes of plagiarism is poor time management. Students should allow sufficient time for research, drafting and proper referencing of sources in preparing all assessment items.

UNSW Library also has the ELISE tool available to assist you with your study at UNSW. ELISE is designed to introduce new students to studying at UNSW but it can also be a great refresher during your study.

Completing the ELISE tutorial and quiz will enable you to:

- analyse topics, plan responses and organise research for academic writing and other assessment tasks
- effectively and efficiently find appropriate information sources and evaluate relevance to your needs
- use and manage information effectively to accomplish a specific purpose
- better manage your time

- understand your rights and responsibilities as a student at UNSW
- be aware of plagiarism, copyright, UNSW Student Code of Conduct and Acceptable Use of UNSW ICT Resources Policy
- be aware of the standards of behaviour expected of everyone in the UNSW community
- locate services and information about UNSW and UNSW Library

Some of these areas will be familiar to you, others will be new. Gaining a solid understanding of all the related aspects of ELISE will help you make the most of your studies at UNSW.
http://subjectguides.library.unsw.edu.au/elise/aboutelise

Academic Information

For essential student information relating to:

- requests for extension;
- late submissions guidelines;
- review of marks;
- UNSW Health and Safety policies;
- examination procedures;
- special consideration in the event of illness or misadventure;
- student equity and disability;
- and other essential academic information, see

https://www.arts.unsw.edu.au/current-students/academic-information/protocols-guidelines/

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Acknowledgement of Country

We acknowledge the Bedegal people who are the traditional custodians of the lands on which UNSW Kensington campus is located.