

University of Florida
Fall 2019

Development Theory and Practice in Latin America and Africa
AFS 6305 Section 1B72
LAS 6943 Section 01BB

"It's complicated...and context-specific"

Tuesday 3-5 periods (9:35-12:35)
Classroom: CBD 0230
Delivery Format: On-Campus
E-Learning through Canvas

Instructor Name: Sarah McKune
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Office Hours: Grinter, W 11:30 am-1:30 pm; HPNP Thursday 8:30-9:30 (Please email to arrange)
Preferred Course Communications: UF Email

Prerequisites *NONE*

PURPOSE AND OUTCOME

Course Overview

This course provides a critical introduction to development; it serves as the foundation course for the Master's in Sustainable Development Practice (SDP) (<http://web.africa.ufl.edu/mdp/index.html>), and is a required course for the Graduate Certificate in Sustainable Development Practice (<http://www.africa.ufl.edu/mdp/academicprograms/sdpcertificate.html>). Both conceptual and practical issues are addressed in relation to each course topic with a multi-disciplinary approach that focuses on the inter-relationship among approaches, comparing Latin American and African contexts. Participants learn to describe and analyze complex development issues, paying particular attention to cross-sector linkages and regional comparisons.

Course Objectives and/or Goals

Students who engage actively in this course will, throughout the semester, develop the capacity to:

- Understand, critique and apply basic concepts and technical skills required to solve professional problems in the field of sustainable development;
- Analyze cross-cultural, multi-disciplinary, international dialogues and dynamics in development;
- Recognize how development issues and approaches differ across countries and regions;
- Review literature from a range of sources and critically apply findings to the diagnosis and solution of specific development problems;
- Collaborate both inside and outside the classroom with students from diverse backgrounds and distant regions, using diverse forms of communication and social networking tools;
- Identify, create, and critically analyze integrated and appropriate interventions that may lead to poverty alleviation and sustainable development in particular countries and regions in Latin America and Africa.

Instructional Methods

This course is based largely on student preparation outside of class, via reading and engagement with the online Discussion board, and interactive in-class discussion, synthesis, and activities. In class activities will

include some lectures, or instructor lead review of key messages from the reading, but will be focused on application of concepts that are explained and problematized in the out-of-class assignments. Major deliverables for the course include both individual- and group-based tasks.

DESCRIPTION OF COURSE CONTENT

Topical Outline/Course Schedule

Week	Date(s)	Topic(s)	Assignments (due Wednesday)
		HISTORY AND PRACTICE OF DEVELOPMENT	
1	8/20	Introduction	
2	8/27	Agency and Praxis, Ethics	
3	9/3	History of globalization and inequality	Select a geographic location
		APPROACHES TO DEVELOPMENT	
4	9/10	Sustainability: MDGs/SDGs	
5	9/17	Markets, private sector, informal sector	DAP Problem statement + bibliography
6	9/24	Climate Change	
7	10/1	Water & Conflict	
		DEVELOPMENT SECTORS	
8	10/8	Conservation and Development	
9	10/15	Agriculture, nutrition, and food security	Mid-term evaluation
10	10/22	Values, rights, social inclusion, Buen Vivir	DAP Part 1
11	10/29	Gender and development	Peer reviews
12	11/5	Urbanization, inequality, sustainability	
13	11/12	Governance, NGOs	Group presentations
14	11/19	Social Entrepreneurship	Group presentations
	11/26	<i>Group work – no class</i>	
15	12/3	The Practice of Sustainable Development	Final DAP

Course Materials and Resources

Required and recommended readings for each class are listed on the “Schedule of Readings” in the “Course Documents” folder under Canvas “Files.” This list will be updated throughout the year, and weekly email updates will list the assignments for each coming week. Students should prepare ahead of each session by consulting the most recent list, then completing the assigned readings available for electronic download from the Canvas course website in folders under “Files” that correspond to dates of each class session. They should also consult the Global Classroom website to access additional optional reading materials for each topic.

Textbooks (required)

- Andy Sumner and Michael Tribe. 2010. *International Development Studies: Theories and Methods in Research and Practice*. London: Sage. This textbook is available on the Canvas course website under “Files/Course documents.”
- Jeffrey D. Sachs. 2015. *The Age of Sustainable Development*. New York: Columbia University Press.

Other required course material and websites

Students will be required to read approximately 75-100 pages per week. The assigned readings will provide diverse perspectives on contemporary issues and challenges, from a variety of sources including policy reports, peer-reviewed journals, academic books, institutional websites, and Op-Eds, as well as case studies.

Students are encouraged to participate in the *Global Classroom*, hosted by Lehigh University and attended by MDP programs around the world from 8:00-9:15 each Tuesday. The lecture will be streamed live in the classroom beginning at 8:00, but students are also able to watch from home. While this is not a requirement of the course, however attendance is encouraged and will maximize what students get out of the course.

Canvas Website

Go to elearning homepage (<https://elearning.ufl.edu/>), enter your Gatorlink username and password into the boxes, and click on the box on the left that says “e-learning in Canvas.” The class will appear if you are registered.

Most required readings can be found in the “Required” folder under “Files” listed by class date, except for chapters in the required textbooks and online sources for which links are provided. Recommended and additional materials also are available in “Files” for each class date. The Canvas website also provides students access to the syllabus, instructions for assignments, student group assignments, and other general course information available under “Files” in the “Course Documents” folder, as well as gradebook, discussion fora and other supplementary resources and information.

For technical support for this class, please contact the UF Help Desk at:

- Learning-support@ufl.edu
- (352) 392-HELP - select option 2
- <https://ss.at.ufl.edu/help.shtml>

ACADEMIC REQUIREMENTS AND GRADING

Grading

Requirement	Due date	Maximum points
Attendance and participation	n/a	15 points
Development lectures	n/a	10 points
Lead discussion	TBD	5 points
Short reflections	Midnight Sunday	10 points
Development Anyalysis Paper Draft	10/21	10 points
Development Analysis Paper Final	12/2	20 points
Peer Reviews of DAP drafts of 2 colleagues	10/28	10 points
Group work and presentation	11/12 or 11/19	20 points
	TOTAL	100 points

After summing all points earned, the student's final grade is derived according to the following table:

Grade	A	A-	B+	B	B-	C+	C	C-	D+	D	D-	E
Points	94-100	90-93	87-89	83-86	80-82	77-79	73-76	70-72	67-69	63-66	60-62	<60

Information on UF policy for assigning grade points can be found in the Registrar's Grade Policy at: <https://catalog.ufl.edu/ugrad/current/regulations/info/grades.aspx>.

Please be aware that a C- is not an acceptable grade for graduate students. The GPA for graduate students must be 3.0. in all 5000 level courses and above to graduate. A grade of C counts toward a graduate degree only if a sufficient number of credits in courses numbered 5000 or higher have been earned with a B+ or higher.

Assignments

Multiple opportunities to submit assignments and to receive feedback from instructors allow students to improve the analytical quality, writing, and organization of their work. We provide brief written feedback on aspects of assignments that can be improved. Students who wish to earn good grades in the course will keep up with assignments and take advantage of the feedback received. Specifics of each required assignment are detailed below.

1. Attendance and Participation (15 points)

Students are expected to attend regularly and to be actively present throughout the course in class discussions and in required on-line participation. Students should let the instructors know if they are unable to attend a class. Technology, including cell phones and laptops, should only be used for course related work, as directed by instructor during class. Requirements for class attendance and make-up exams, assignments, and other work in this course are consistent with university policies:

<https://catalog.ufl.edu/ugrad/current/regulations/info/attendance.aspx>.

2. Development Lectures (10 points)

During the semester each student should attend 4 or more seminars within a series offered through UF and related to sustainable development practice. Eligible seminar series include the Gender and Development Working Group, TropiLunch, Natural Resource Management, SASA (Students in African Studies Association), Health in African Working Group, and Barazas. Others may exist, so please ask. You should attend 4 from within the same series to meet the requirement. Once you have met the requirement, please send a brief paragraph describing the date, time, and subject matter of the four seminars you attended. This should be posted on the Canvas website (10 points).

3. Lead Discussion (5 points)

Student discussion leader pairs are expected to summarize insights from the assigned readings, pose questions, and facilitate discussion among students focused on key concepts, critiques, and practical applications related to the weekly topic (5 points). Leaders should divide readings and each post on the readings on which they focused. Student leaders will develop and post key questions in advance (no later than Friday at 8:00 pm) in order to engage students and provoke discussion on the weekly topic, and then lead a brief discussion (15-20 minutes) summarizing the content of the readings, as well as the online discussion, to provide a foundational discussion of the topic.

4. Short reflections (10 points)

Each student is expected to compose at least 8 weekly reflections that flow from the assigned readings and questions posed by student leaders (see section 3, above), and other class materials. These reflections are to be shared with classmates by posting on the Canvas "Discussion" folder by midnight Sunday so to serve as a basis for Tuesday classroom discussion.

In advance of each Tuesday class, *all* students are expected to complete assigned readings, review posts and discussion online, and come prepared to discuss the development topic of the week, independent of whether they have made posted reflections that week. In class discussions on Tuesdays students should actively engage and debate the discussion viewed online, the Global Classroom lectures (when relevant) and assigned readings, including giving thoughtful responses to comments by classmates.

Required criteria for written reflections:

- Be no more than 500 words in length
- Respond to assignments and topic for the week
- Raise a question for discussion

Written reflections may also include:

- Reactions to other postings
- Reference to personal experiences
- Links to relevant materials, videos, websites

5. Development Analysis Paper and peer reviews (DAP) (30 points: draft 10 pts., final 20 pts)

The primary written assignment for the course is an analytical paper that identifies a development challenge in a selected geographic context and draws on relevant literatures to analyze possible approaches to this challenge and propose appropriate strategies for the chosen geographic context. Students are encouraged to use the DAP to develop background analyses for possible field applications and MDP practicum proposals.

Papers should draw on course concepts and materials, and complement these with resources discovered outside of class. Length should be between 4000 and 5000 words (15 to 20 pages double spaced, 12 font, excluding references). All resources and quotes should be properly cited, and full references listed as described in The Chicago Manual of Style Author-Date system:

http://www.chicagomanualofstyle.org/tools_citationguide.html

Sample DAP final papers from past years can be found in a folder titled "sample DAPs."

DAP papers will be graded according to the following criteria:

Criteria	A successful Development Analysis Paper will:	Maximum points
name challenge	Clearly identify the development challenge to be addressed	2
country context	Describe relevant history, geography and cultural background	3
key data	Present data on key aspects of the economy, environment, health, education, agriculture/food production and urbanization/industrialization	3
analysis 1	Review appropriate literature, assessing previous efforts to address similar challenges	3
analysis 2	Identify pros and cons of alternative ways to address the challenge	3
analysis 3	Propose one approach, describe in detail and justify	3
writing and organization	Show correct punctuation and grammar, subject-pronoun coordination, full attribution of quotes and paraphrases, complete reference list	3

The DAP assignment consists of several steps, with the following due dates. You should consult a variety of sources, not only international reports and websites, but also academic publications in journals and books, as well as databases such as the World Bank Development Indicators. Developed in stages throughout the semester the final product will be a unique diagnosis of the multidimensional factors affecting the issues at hand for a particular development problem and location. Note due dates: many are due at midnight the night BEFORE class.

- (September 3) With input from course instructor, **select a country/context** of focus.
- (September 16) **Preliminary statement of the key development challenge(s)** to be addressed in your chosen geographic context, along with a preliminary bibliography of the available relevant literature on this development challenge and this geographic location. This will become the introduction after revisions.
- (October 21) **Draft DAP Part I (Context and Analysis)**: This draft should i) discuss the relevant history and cultural background of the geographic site, and ii) present basic development data on key aspects of the economy, environment, health, education, agriculture/food production and urbanization/industrialization, as appropriate; iii) include a review of the literature on this development challenge, describing ways in which similar challenges have been tackled or addressed in this or other contexts; iv) provide an analysis of the pros and cons of alternative ways to address the challenge, and, v) present your proposed approach, with supporting arguments (10 points). The more complete and polished this draft, the more useful the comments will be from the instructors and two peers.
- (October 28) Each student will submit a written **peer review of the DAPs** drafted by two other students. The peer reviews should assess the draft in light of each criterion in the rubric, provide a comprehensive and constructive 1-2 page appraisal of its strengths and weaknesses, and suggest specific ways in which it could be improved. Reviewers may also wish to make comments directly on the text to share with the author (5 points per review =10 points).
- (December 2) **Final DAP**, fully revised to take into account inputs by instructors and peers (20 points). You are expected to incorporate changes that respond to feedback and suggestions from instructors and/or peers. It is important that you analyze thoroughly the relevant literature to provide a strong background and informed analysis of your development problem and location.

Outline that may be used to organize DAP Analysis

Correct style usage, punctuation, bibliography CMS

http://www.chicagomanualofstyle.org/tools_citationguide.html

1. Title, author's name, date

2. Introduction

Clear statement of the development challenge that you aim to address, in what national context (revised and expanded version of your preliminary statement).

3. Context: (Part I):

Summarize the relevant history and cultural background of the geographic site. Present basic development data to describe key aspects of the economy, such as environment, health, education, agriculture/food production and urbanization/industrialization. Summarize development context in relation to the chosen development challenge.

Map or outline the present paper, telling the reader what s/he will find in the following sections.

4. Chosen development challenge (Part II):

Review the literature on the chosen development challenge

Identify and summarize key writings about this challenge. These may include articles that you read for class, and chapters or sections from our two textbooks. They should also include bibliographic materials that you find on your own.

Using literature sources, describe at least two different ways in which this type of challenge has been tackled in particular contexts.

Analyze these approaches/experiences, clearly identifying positive elements that might be adapted for use elsewhere, and problems or constraining elements that need to be addressed.

5. Propose your own approach

Present a plan for approaching your identified development challenge in the context you have selected.

Make clear arguments supporting your plan.

6. Conclusion

Brief summary of argument and conclusion

7. Complete bibliographic references for all sources cited

List references according to CMS guidelines

http://www.chicagomanualofstyle.org/tools_citationguide.html

6. Group work and presentation (20 points):

This course gives students the opportunity to learn from comparisons of different development realities worldwide, especially across Africa and Latin America. Students in groups will work together to compare their selected countries, discussing differences and similarities with a focus on selected development themes most relevant to the countries being compared. These presentations should not focus solely on the development projects that are the focus of the group members' DAP papers; the group project should include new comparative analyses. Groups will work together throughout the semester to prepare presentations to be given on **November 12 and November 19**.

With participation by all group members, each 20-30 minute group presentation will analyze and compare how the selected locations fare with respect to certain development challenges and priorities. Each presentation is expected to:

- Give an introduction to the main issues and challenges for development, and explain how the selected locations differ;

- Provide a comparative analysis of their respective problems/locations, focusing on selected topics and using data and graphs from a variety of sources;
- Consider policy implications from the analysis, in particular highlighting how different problems/contexts may require distinct development policy recommendations that are locally appropriate.

In this assignment, each student may earn up to a maximum of 5 points for teamwork based on self and peer assessments. **Each student will submit (on Canvas) a peer score and comments on the performance and contribution of each of their group members, including themselves, in the group project.** These grades will be averaged for a summary grade of 1-5 teamwork points that will be added to the 1-15 points awarded by instructors for the group presentation, for a total score of 1-20.

Group projects will be graded by instructors according to the following criteria, for a maximum total of 15 points:

Criteria	A successful group presentation will:	Maximum points
organization	Proportion well the components within 15-20 minutes allotted	2
clarity	Clearly state key points and supporting evidence	2
sources	Present relevant data from reliable and diverse sources	3
comparison	Effectively compare countries/contexts and draw relevant conclusions	3
analysis	Analyze results of comparative analysis and development implications	3
policy	Suggest appropriate policy recommendations	2

Policy Related to Make up Exams or Other Work

Make-up work that falls outside of that described in the University policy (<https://catalog.ufl.edu/ugrad/current/regulations/info/attendance.aspx>) will be allowed only at the discretion of the faculty member. Any requests for make-ups due to technical issues MUST be accompanied by the ticket number received from LSS when the problem was reported to them. The ticket number will document the time and date of the problem. You MUST e-mail me within 24 hours of the technical difficulty if you wish to request a make-up.

Policy Related to Required Class Attendance

Students are expected to attend regularly, and to be actively present throughout the course in class discussions and in required on-line participation. Students should let the instructors know if they are unable to attend a class. Requirements for class attendance and make-up exams, assignments, and other work in this course are consistent with university policies:

<https://catalog.ufl.edu/ugrad/current/regulations/info/attendance.aspx>.

Excused absences must be consistent with university policies in the Graduate Catalog (<http://gradcatalog.ufl.edu/content.php?catoid=10&navoid=2020#attendance>) and require appropriate documentation. Additional information can be found here:

<https://catalog.ufl.edu/ugrad/current/regulations/info/attendance.aspx>

Policy Related to Guests Attending Class:

Only registered students are permitted to attend class. However, we recognize that students who are caretakers may face occasional unexpected challenges creating attendance barriers. Therefore, by exception, a department chair or his or her designee (e.g., instructors) may grant a student permission to bring a guest(s) for a total of two class sessions per semester. This is two sessions total across all courses. No further extensions will be granted. Please note that guests are **not** permitted to attend either cadaver or wet labs. Students are responsible for course material regardless of attendance. For additional

information, please review the Classroom Guests of Students policy in its entirety. Link to full policy: <http://facstaff.phhp.ufl.edu/services/resourceguide/getstarted.htm>

STUDENT EXPECTATIONS, ROLES, AND OPPORTUNITIES FOR INPUT

Expectations Regarding Course Behavior

Students are expected to be present and engaged in weekly class meetings. They are allowed to have laptops in class for the purpose of note taking; if laptops are consistently used for purposes other than class assignments, the instructor may determine that laptops are not to be used during class time.

Cell phones should not be used in class, should be put away or on vibrate, and should be away from where they cause distraction to the student or other students in the class room. If you need to take a call or send a text, please step out of the room.

Netiquette: Communication Courtesy

All members of the class are expected to follow rules of common courtesy in all email messages, threaded discussions and chats <http://teach.ufl.edu/docs/NetiquetteGuideforOnlineCourses.pdf>

Academic Integrity

The University of Florida requires all members of its community to be honest in all endeavors. Cheating, plagiarism, and other acts diminish the process of learning. When students enroll at UF they commit themselves to honesty and integrity. Your instructor fully expects you to adhere to the academic honesty guidelines you signed when you were admitted to UF. As a result of completing the registration form at the University of Florida, every student has signed the following statement: *"I understand the University of Florida expects its students to be honest in all their academic work. I agree to adhere to this commitment to academic honesty and understand that my failure to comply with this commitment may result in disciplinary action up to and including expulsion from the University."*

Furthermore, on work submitted for credit by UF students, the following pledge is either required or implied: *"On my honor, I have neither given nor received unauthorized aid in doing this assignment."* It is to be assumed all work will be completed independently unless the assignment is defined as group project, in writing by the professor. This policy will be vigorously upheld at all times in this course

Plagiarism

Plagiarism is a serious violation of the [Student Honor Code](#). The Honor Code prohibits and defines plagiarism as follows: A student shall not represent as the student's own work all or any portion of the work of another. Plagiarism includes (but is not limited to):

- A. Quoting oral or written materials, whether published or unpublished, without proper attribution.
- B. Submitting a document or assignment, which in whole or in part is identical or substantially identical to a document or assignment not authored by the student. (University of Florida, Student Honor Code, 15 Aug. 2007 <<http://www.dso.ufl.edu/judicial/honorcode.php>>)

University of Florida students are responsible for reading, understanding, and abiding by the entire [Student Honor Code](#). Violations of the Honor Code at the University of Florida will not be tolerated. <https://www.dso.ufl.edu/sccr/process/student-conduct-honor-code/>
<http://gradschool.ufl.edu/students/introduction.html>

Please remember cheating, lying, misrepresentation, or plagiarism in any form is unacceptable and inexcusable behavior.

Important Tips: You should never copy and paste something from the Internet without providing the exact location from which it came, and the date it was accessed. Do not copy text verbatim from any source (including your own previous work) unless you show the text as a quote with complete attribution.

University policy suggests that instructors should impose a course grade penalty and report any incident of academic dishonesty to the Office of the Dean of Students. Study work may be tested for its originality against databases operated by anti-plagiarism guardian sites to which the University subscribes, and negative reports from such sites constitute proof of plagiarism.

Online Faculty Course Evaluation Process

Students are expected and strongly encouraged to provide feedback on the quality of instruction in this course. In-class evaluation surveys will be conducted by the instructors at the mid-point and end of the semester. Official UF evaluations are conducted online at <https://evaluations.ufl.edu> during the last two or three weeks of the semester. Summary results of these assessments are available to students at <https://evaluations.ufl.edu/results>. The instructors also will conduct a collective verbal evaluation during the last week of class.

SUPPORT SERVICES

Accommodations for Students with Disabilities

If you require classroom accommodation because of a disability, it is strongly recommended you register with the Dean of Students Office <http://www.dso.ufl.edu> within the first week of class or as soon as you believe you might be eligible for accommodations. The Dean of Students Office will provide documentation of accommodations to you, which you must then give to me as the instructor of the course to receive accommodations. Please do this as soon as possible after you receive the letter. Accommodations are not retroactive, therefore, students should contact the office as soon as possible in the term for which they are seeking accommodations.

Counseling and Student Health

Students sometimes experience stress from academic expectations and/or personal and interpersonal issues that may interfere with their academic performance. If you find yourself facing issues that have the potential to or are already negatively affecting your coursework, you are encouraged to talk with an instructor and/or seek help through University resources available to you.

- The Counseling and Wellness Center 352-392-1575 offers a variety of support services such as psychological assessment and intervention and assistance for math and test anxiety. Visit their web site for more information: <http://www.counseling.ufl.edu>. On line and in person assistance is available.
- You Matter We Care website: <http://www.umatter.ufl.edu/>. If you are feeling overwhelmed or stressed, you can reach out for help through the You Matter We Care website, which is staffed by Dean of Students and Counseling Center personnel.
- The Student Health Care Center at Shands is a satellite clinic of the main Student Health Care Center located on Fletcher Drive on campus. Student Health at Shands offers a variety of clinical services. The clinic is located on the second floor of the Dental Tower in the Health Science Center. For more information, contact the clinic at 392-0627 or check out the web site at: <https://shcc.ufl.edu/>
- Crisis intervention is always available 24/7 from:
Alachua County Crisis Center:
(352) 264-6789
<http://www.alachuacounty.us/DEPTS/CSS/CRISISCENTER/Pages/CrisisCenter.aspx>

Do not wait until you reach a crisis to come in and talk with us. We have helped many students through stressful situations impacting their academic performance. You are not alone so do not be afraid to ask for assistance.

Inclusive Learning Environment

Public health and global development are based on the belief in human dignity and on respect for the individual. As we share our personal beliefs inside or outside of the classroom, it is always with the understanding that we value and respect diversity of background, experience, and opinion, where every individual feels valued. We believe in, and promote, openness and tolerance of differences in ethnicity and culture, and we respect differing personal, spiritual, religious and political values. We further believe that celebrating such diversity enriches the quality of the educational experiences we provide our students and enhances our own personal and professional relationships. We embrace The University of Florida's Non-Discrimination Policy, which reads, "The University shall actively promote equal opportunity policies and

practices conforming to laws against discrimination. The University is committed to non-discrimination with respect to race, creed, color, religion, age, disability, sex, sexual orientation, gender identity and expression, marital status, national origin, political opinions or affiliations, genetic information and veteran status as protected under the Vietnam Era Veterans' Readjustment Assistance Act." If you have questions or concerns about your rights and responsibilities for inclusive learning environment, please see your instructor or refer to the Office of Multicultural & Diversity Affairs website: www.multicultural.ufl.edu
