

BA (H) Sociology
Generic Elective 03
Rethinking Development

Course Objectives

1. This course invites students to explore issues relating to development, one of the key ideas, concepts, and animating forces of our societies and lives. It offers sociological modes to investigate the bewildering, often contradictory, ways in which development comes to mean a promise or desire, an inevitable consequence or persuasive project, and how it is closely connected to notions of progress and modernity.
2. It introduces students from various disciplines to the scholarship on development from a sociological vantage point. It aims to familiarise students with ideas, theories, and practices of development. The course also acquaints them with the trajectory of development in post-colonial India.
3. Drawing from disciplines such as sociology, anthropology, economics, political studies, and development studies, it shall help students analyse different approaches to, and practices and experiences of, development. With its emphasis on the role and interplay of institutions, apparatus, policies, practices, and social relations, this course shall also aid in the critical analysis of development's diverse manifestations across locations and moments.

Course Learning Outcomes

1. Understand different ideas of, and approaches to, development.
2. Explain the dynamics between developmental institutions, actors, policies, theories, approaches, and ideas and the implementation, consequences, and experiences of development.
3. Critically analyse the key features of developmental processes in postcolonial India.
4. Undertake a sociological examination of developmental practices in different locations, moments, and fields, and to interpret different outcomes and experiences of development.

Course Outline

1. **Unpacking Development (3 Weeks)**
2. **Theorizing Development (5 Weeks)**
3. **Developmental Regimes in India (3 Weeks)**
4. **Practices and Experiences of Development (3 Weeks)**

Course Content

Unit 1. Unpacking Development (Weeks 1-3)

Rist, Gilbert. 2008. *The History of Development: From Western Origins to Global Faith*. London: Zed Books, pp. 1-24.

Sachs, Wolfgang (ed). 1992. *The Development Dictionary: A Guide to Knowledge and Power*. London: Zed Books, pp. 1-21.

Dirlik, Arif. 2014. 'Developmentalism: A Critique,' *Intervention* 16 (1), pp 30-48.

Unit 2. Theorizing Development (Weeks 4-8)

Leys, Colin. 2005. 'The Rise and Fall of Development Theory,' in M. Edelman and A. Haugerud (eds.) *The Anthropology of Development and Globalization*. Oxford: Blackwell Publishing, pp 109-125.

Sen, Amartya. 1999. *Development as Freedom*. New Delhi: Oxford University Press, pp. 3-11, 35-54.

Sanyal, Kalyan. 2007. *Rethinking Capitalist Development: Primitive Accumulation, Governmentality and Post-Colonial Capitalism*. New Delhi: Routledge, pp 168-189.

Redclift, Michael. 1984. *Development and the Environmental Crisis: Red or Green Alternatives?* New York: Methuen & Co., chapters 1 & 7, pp 5-19, 122-130.

Visvanathan, Nalini, Lynn Duggan, Laura Nisonoff & Nan Wiegersma (eds). 1997. *The Women, Gender and Development Reader*. Delhi: Zubaan, pp 33-54.

Escobar, Arturo. 1995. *Encountering Development: The Making and Unmaking of the Third World*. Princeton: Princeton University Press, pp. 3-54.

Unit 3. Developmental Regimes in India (Weeks 9-11)

Chatterjee, Partha. 2008. 'Democracy and Economic Transformation in India,' *Economic and Political Weekly* 43 (16), pp. 53-62.

Harriss, John. 2006. *Power Matters: Essays on Institutions, Politics and Society in India*. Delhi: Oxford University Press, pp. 75-102.

Gupta, Akhil and Sharma, Aradhana. 2006. 'Globalization and Postcolonial States,' *Current Anthropology* 47 (2), pp. 277-293.

Unit 4. Practices and Experiences of Development (Weeks 12-14)

Elyachar, Julia. 2002. 'Empowerment Money: The World Bank, Non-Governmental Organizations, and the Value of Culture in Egypt,' *Public Culture* 14 (3), pp. 493-513.

Pigg, Stacy. 1992. 'Inventing Social Categories through Place: Social Representations and Development in Nepal,' *Comparative Studies in Society and History* 34 (3), pp. 491-513.

Srivastava, Aseem and Kothari, Ashish. 2012. *Churning the Earth: Making of Global India*. Delhi: Penguin, pp. 193-230, 254-292.

References

Compulsory Readings

Chatterjee, Partha. 2008. 'Democracy and Economic Transformation in India,' *Economic and Political Weekly* 43 (16), pp. 53-62.

Dirlik, Arif. 2014. 'Developmentalism: A Critique,' *Intervention* 16 (1), pp 30-48.

Elyachar, Julia. 2002. 'Empowerment Money: The World Bank, Non-Governmental Organizations, and the Value of Culture in Egypt,' *Public Culture* 14 (3), pp. 493-513.

Escobar, Arturo. 1995. *Encountering Development: The Making and Unmaking of the Third World*. Princeton: Princeton University Press, pp. 3-54.

Gupta, Akhil and Sharma, Aradhana. 2006. 'Globalization and Postcolonial States,' *Current Anthropology* 47 (2), pp. 277-293.

Harriss, John. 2006. *Power Matters: Essays on Institutions, Politics and Society in India*. Delhi: Oxford University Press, pp. 75-102.

Leys, Colin. 2005. 'The Rise and Fall of Development Theory,' in M. Edelman and A. Haugerud (eds.) *The Anthropology of Development and Globalization*. Oxford: Blackwell Publishing, pp 109-125.

Pigg, Stacy. 1992. 'Inventing Social Categories through Place: Social Representations and Development in Nepal,' *Comparative Studies in Society and History* 34 (3), pp. 491-513.

Redclift, Michael. 1984. *Development and the Environmental Crisis: Red or Green Alternatives?* New York: Methuen & Co., chapters 1 & 7, pp 5-19, 122-130.

Rist, Gilbert. 2008. *The History of Development: From Western Origins to Global Faith*. London: Zed Books, pp. 1-24.

Sachs, Wolfgang (ed). 1992. *The Development Dictionary: A Guide to Knowledge and Power*. London: Zed Books, pp. 1-21.

Sanyal, Kalyan. 2007. *Rethinking Capitalist Development: Primitive Accumulation, Governmentality and Post-Colonial Capitalism*. New Delhi: Routledge, pp 168-189.

Sen, Amartya. 1999. *Development as Freedom*. New Delhi: Oxford University Press, pp. 3-11, 35-54.

Srivastava, Aseem and Kothari, Ashish. 2012. *Churning the Earth: Making of Global India*. Delhi: Penguin, pp. 193-230, 254 -292.

Visvanathan, Nalini, Lynn Duggan, Laura Nisonoff & Nan Wiegersma (eds). 1997. *The Women, Gender and Development Reader*. Delhi: Zubaan, pp 33-54.

Additional Resources

Amanor, Kojo Sebastian. 2009. 'Global Food Chains, African Smallholders and World Bank Governance,' *Journal of Agrarian Change* 9 (2), pp. 247-262.

Bardhan, Pranab. 1992. *The Political Economy of Development in India*. Delhi: Oxford University Press.

Bhaduri, Amit. 2009. *The Face You Were Afraid To See*. New Delhi: Penguin Books.

Crewe, Emma and Elizabeth Harrison. 1998. *Whose Development?* London: Zed Books.

Davis, Mike. 2006. *Planet of Slums*. London: Verso.

Frank, Andre Gunder. 1966. 'The Development of Underdevelopment,' *Monthly Review* 18 (4), pp. 17-31.

Galeano, Eduardo. 1997. *Open Veins Of Latin America*. New York: Monthly Review Press.

George, Susan. 1976. *How the Other Half Dies: The Real Reasons for World Hunger*. Harmondsworth: Penguin Books.

- Harvey, David. 2007. 'Neoliberalism as Creative Destruction,' *The ANNALS of the American Academy of Political and Social Science* 610 (1), pp. 21-44.
- Hill, Polly. 1995. *Development Economics on Trial*. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press.
- Kiernan, Victor. 2015. *The Lords of Human Kind: European Attitudes to Other Cultures in the Imperial Age*. London: Zed Books.
- Mies, Maria. 2014. *Patriarchy and Accumulation on a World Scale: Women in the International Division of Labour*. London: Zed Books.
- Mosse, David. 2005. *Cultivating Development*. London: Pluto Press.
- Rodney, Walter. 1982. *How Europe Underdeveloped Africa*. Washington, D.C.: Howard University Press.
- Schumacher, E. F. 1973. *Small is Beautiful*. New York: Harper & Row.
- Seabrook, Jeremy. 1993. *Victims of Development*. London: Verso.
- Wolf, Eric R. 2010 [2nd edition]. *Europe and the People without History*. Berkeley, Calif.: University of California Press.

Teaching Learning Process

The teaching learning for this course shall involve classroom lectures and student presentations of case studies, and critical evaluation of developmental epochs, initiatives, and projects. It shall also utilise diverse documents and visual material such as promotional literature, institutional and media reports, and feature and documentary films. This process shall help concretise the conceptual and theoretical debates and facilitate a tactile knowledge of the themes explored in this course.

Assessment Methods

Course assessment could involve an essay-based examination that evaluates students' conceptual and theoretical grasp and a take-home assignment in which students critically analyse development practices, consequences, or resistance as these unfold in and through specific themes, moments, locations, policies, or programmes.

Key Words

Backwardness, progress, colonialism, development, economy, environment, freedom, gender, modernity, modernization, neoliberalism, poverty, progress, tradition, underdevelopment