

## COURSE INFORMATION

Course Title	Course Code Number	Credit Value
Sociology of Development and Underdevelopment, Winter I 2020	SOCI 301-102	3
Class Location	Days	Time
Virtual, Online Course offered through Canvas	Mondays & Wednesdays	5:00pm - 6:30pm

## PREREQUISITES

One of [SOC 100](#), [SOC 101](#), [SOC 102](#).

## CONTACT

Course Instructor	Contact Details	Office Location	Office Hours
Dr. Qian Wei	<a href="mailto:qian.wei@ubc.ca">qian.wei@ubc.ca</a> or Canvas mail	Virtual, on Canvas Zoom	Mondays & Wednesdays: 3:30pm to 4:30pm or by appointment

Teaching Assistant	Contact Details	Office Hours
June Lam	<a href="mailto:junelaam@student.ubc.ca">junelaam@student.ubc.ca</a>	By appointment, mainly for grading issues

## COURSE DESCRIPTION

This course introduces students to a broad range of topics in development from the sociological perspective. The field of development is interdisciplinary, so in this course we also draw on work conducted by economists and political scientists. Global development primarily refers to systematic and worldwide efforts to alleviate poverty, reduce global inequality, and improve the lives of disadvantaged and vulnerable people. So what exactly are people doing to combat poverty and mitigate suffering around the world? What are development actors and what roles do they play in shaping development processes? Can these development efforts make a difference? Why or why not? The course guides students to explore these critical questions.

## LEARNING OUTCOMES

After successfully completing this course, students should be able to:

1. Analyze global inequality and development from multiple theoretical perspectives.
2. Learn about what development interventions look like on the ground
3. Think critically about the consequences of global development interventions and policies.

At the end of this course, students are expected to not only understand the ways in which people are trying to address global inequality and poverty, but also critically reflect upon global development from the perspective of the disadvantaged group.

**COURSE STRUCTURE**

---

Welcome to the brave new world. Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, SOCI 301-102 is entirely virtual and offered through **Canvas**. Please be aware that online learning is changing because it requires more self-discipline and initiative, so you need to be proactive and on top of all class sessions and assignments. Take the midterm as an example, do NOT wait until the week before this assignment is due: you will NOT be able to finish a whole book and complete a book review. I suggest you start as early as possible.

Our course has two synchronous lectures per week, incorporating guest speak and other media materials such as YouTube videos, as well as class discussions. You may want to download the free Zoom app to join in course lectures and office hours. Lectures will be recorded and posted to Canvas. I want to give my students the maximum flexibility so there is no attendance mark. But I still strongly suggest you bring yourself to the lectures and ask questions about course content, if you are committed to doing well. Plus, meeting other students and learning from your peers is crucial to your learning process.

**LEARNING MATERIALS**

---

## 1. Required Textbook:

Haslam, Paul, Jessica Shafer, and Pierre Beaudet. 2017. *Introduction to International Development: Approaches, Actors, Issues, and Practice*. Toronto: Oxford University Press. (Hereafter: IID)

This book can be purchased from the UBC book store and their list price is \$108.95 CAD. You can also buy the eBook from VitalSource (<https://www.vitalsource.com/en-ca/products/introduction-to-international-development-paul-haslam-v9780199018918?term=9780199018918>) and this vendor's list price is \$88.47 CAD. I realize textbooks are expensive and deeply understand students' financial burden, so I consulted the publisher and got an option which seems to be the least expensive one so far: another vendor named RedShelf offers a 180-day rental for this book at the price of \$41.98 **USD** (<https://redshelf.com/book/571360/introduction-to-international-development-571360-9780199018918-paul-haslam-jessica-shafer-pierre-beaudet>).

Note: This textbook is central to this course, so I suggest you purchase or rent this book, if you are committed to doing well.

2. Additional readings for this course consist of two parts. The first part is books, which are materials for your midterm exam (see more details in the "Assessments of Learning" section). All books have been put on reserve at UBC library under the course SOCI 301-102. The majority of these books have E-copy so you can access them anywhere with a campus wide login.

The second part is articles, which are supplemental readings for some chapters (see more details in the "Schedule of Topics" section). Articles will either be indicated with links to the UBC library or uploaded to Canvas as appropriate.

## Books for Review (Midterm):

Acemoglu, Daron, and James A. Robinson. 2012. *Why nations fail: The origins of power, prosperity, and poverty*. New York: Crown Publishing.

Banerjee, Abhijit V., and Esther Duflo. 2011. *Poor economics: A radical rethinking of the way to fight global poverty*. Public Affairs.

Brautigam, Deborah. 2009. *The dragon's gift: The real story of China in Africa*. New York: Oxford University Press.

Diamond, Jared M. 1997. Guns, germs, and steel: The fates of human societies. New York : W.W. Norton & Co.

Harvey, David. 2007. A brief history of neoliberalism. USA: Oxford University Press.

Keck, Margaret E and Kathryn Sikkink. 1998. Activists Beyond Borders: Advocacy Networks in International Politics. NY: Cornell University Press.

Krause, Monika. 2014. The good project: Humanitarian relief NGOs and the fragmentation of reason. Chicago: University of Chicago Press.

Murdie, Amanda. 2014. Help or harm: The human security effects of international NGOs. California: Stanford University Press.

Moyo, Dambisa. 2009. Dead aid: Why aid is not working and how there is a better way for Africa. New York: Farrar, Straus and Giroux.

Sachs, Jeffrey D. 2015. The end of poverty: Economic possibilities for our time (10th Anniversary Edition). New York: Penguin Books.

Sen, Amartya. 2000. Development as Freedom (Reprint). New York: Anchor.

Swiss, Liam. 2018. The Globalization of Foreign Aid: Developing Consensus. London:Routledge.

Easterly, William. 2006. The white man’s burden: Why the West's efforts to aid the rest have done so much ill and so little good. Penguin.

**ASSESSMENTS OF LEARNING**

Description	Mark/Weight	Due Date	Format
Quizzes	30	Ongoing	T/F, Multiple Choice, 12 and we take the best 10, 3 marks each
3 Discussion Posts	30	Post 1: Oct 2, 5pm Post 2: Oct 30, 5pm Post 3: Nov 27, 5pm	At least 500 words for each post, 10 marks each Post 1: choose one from questions 1-4 Post 2: choose one from questions 5-8 Post 3: choose from questions 9-12
Midterm	20	Nov 6, 5pm	Essay: Book Review 1000 words
Final Exam	20	TBD	Short-answer questions, Essay Questions
	100		

**Quizzes:** Quizzes are open-book mini-tests to motivate you to keep pace of the required readings. Quizzes should be completed individually and are based on the material covered in the assigned week. You will be given 30 minutes to complete 10 True/False questions and multiple choices. Quizzes count for 3% each. Your lowest 2 quiz marks out of 12 will be dropped. **Quizzes may NOT be rescheduled or retaken for any reason.** Missed quizzes result in a mark of zero, without exception. There is a submission period (one week) for all of the quizzes, so please plan ahead to finish quizzes on time or earlier.

Discussion Posts: You are expected to do THREE discussion posts throughout the term (out of 12 weeks of readings) in response to the weekly question provided by Dr. Wei each Wednesday. Take the first discussion post as an example: I will provide question 1 on Sep 9 for week 1, and question 2 on Sep 16 for week 2, question 3 on Sep 23 for week 3, and question 4 on Sep 30 for week 4; you need to pick up one question from questions 1 to 4, clearly state the question in your post, and address it carefully by critically reviewing the reading materials assigned for that week, as well as drawing upon relevant other online materials, videos, articles, or images that exemplify a concept or concepts from the course content in that week.

The submission period for post 1 will open on Sep 9 9am and close on Oct 2 5pm; post 2 will open on Oct 7 9am and close on Oct 30 5pm, post 3 will open on Nov 4 9am and close on Nov 27 5pm. I suggest you start early rather than late. You don't have to wait until all questions have been posted to start.

**There is no accommodation for late or missed posts.**

You can find all discussion posts on Canvas. Please read your colleagues' postings as a way to learn and engage further with the reading material. Feel free to comment on your peers' posts and please be respectful, polite, analytic, and in a tone appropriate to academic discussion and debate.

Midterm: For your midterm, you are required to pick up only ONE book from the list in the "Learning Materials" section and write a 1000-word academic book review. I want you to make the most of this midterm: no just to take it as an assignment or test, but to take a good opportunity to appreciate how the greatest minds of our time think and write (if you have time, I highly recommend you read all of them!). You don't have to agree with the authors; critically reviewing their arguments to develop your own perspectives on development.

Midterm book reviews are due on Nov 6 at 5:00pm and should be submitted (uploaded) via Canvas. Papers should be in a 12pt Arial or Times New Roman font with one-inch margins and double spaced. The pages of your paper should clearly state the book title you choose and be numbered in the lower right-hand corner. I expect your work would suit submission to the *Canadian Journal of Development Studies*.

Final Exam: A 90 min exam will be written during the winter examination period. The final exam will be cumulative and include short-answer questions and essay questions. You need to use the knowledge learned from the whole semester to write. Date to be announced.

## **GENERAL POLICIES**

---

Submission of assignments and exams is via Canvas. E-mails will not be accepted. For your **midterm**, late submissions will receive a deduction of 5% per day and will not be accepted more than 7 days after their due date. If you experience medical, emotional, or personal problems that affect your academic performance, you should discuss this with your home faculty's advising office (e.g. Arts Academic Advising if you are an Arts student: <https://www.arts.ubc.ca/student-support/academic-support/academic-advising/>). I may require a note from your academic advisor or a health professional before I grant any accommodations (such as extending a due date without penalty). Accommodations should be requested in far advance of the due date.

If you miss your **final exam**, please contact your Faculty advising office to request academic concessions. For further information on regulations and procedures for Academic Concession, please refer to the Undergraduate Calendar at: <http://www.calendar.ubc.ca/vancouver/index.cfm?tree=3,329,0,0>. Arts students can review Arts Advising's website for concession criteria as well as process to follow: <https://www.arts.ubc.ca/degree-planning/academic-performance/academic-concession/>. Students

must contact their home faculty’s advising office for direction as soon as you are aware you may need an in-term concession.

Grades will be based on the Grading Procedures outlined in the Undergraduate Calendar: <http://www.calendar.ubc.ca/vancouver/index.cfm?tree=3,42,96,0>. You need to earn your grades and we do not negotiate them. If a computational mistake is suspected, please notify the instructor within one week from the date grades are posted.

All announcements are made on Canvas. Please be sure you are checking regularly. I will try to respond to your emails within 24 hours. If you have questions about course materials, I encourage you to ask them in virtual class since other students may have the same questions and could benefit from the answers. If you have more private or specific questions, please come to see me during my office hours. No matter what kinds of concerns you have, I encourage you to come and speak with me. During the term, I will do my best to reach out and offer support.

**SCHEDULE OF TOPICS**

Date	Topics and Assigned Readings	Due Dates
Week 1	Sep 9 Introduction: What is development? Reading: IID, Chapter 1 The Human Development Index <a href="http://hdr.undp.org/en/content/human-development-index-hdi">http://hdr.undp.org/en/content/human-development-index-hdi</a>	
Week 2	Sep 14 Development in Historical Context: Colonialism Reading: IID, Chapter 2 Sep 16: Development in Contemporary Context: Globalization Reading: IID, Chapter 6	Quiz #1 can be completed anytime between Monday Sep 14 9:00am to Monday Sep 21 9:00am
Week 3	Sep 21 Development Theories I Reading: IID Chapter 3 Sep 23 Development Theories II Reading: IID Chapter 4	Quiz #2 can be completed anytime between Monday Sep 21 9:00am to Monday Sep 28 9:00am
Week 4	Sep 28 Foreign Aid Reading: IID Chapter 8 Sep 30 Foreign Aid (con’t)	Quiz #3 can be completed anytime between Monday Sep

	<p><b>Guest lecture by Dr. Liam Swiss</b></p> <p>Reading: Easterly, William. 2002. "The Cartel of Good Intentions: Bureaucracy in Foreign Aid"</p> <p>Sachs, Jeffrey. 2006. "How to Help the Poor: Piecemeal Progress or Strategic Plans?"</p>	<p>28 9:00am to Monday Oct 5 9:00am</p> <p><b>Discussion post 1 is due on Oct 2 5pm</b></p>
Week 5	<p>Oct 5 Development Actor I: NGOs &amp; Civil Society</p> <p>Reading: IID, Chapter 12</p> <p>Oct 7 Development Actor II: The UN &amp; IFIs</p> <p>Reading: IID, Chapter 9 &amp; 10</p>	<p>Quiz #4 can be completed anytime between Monday Oct 5 9:00am to Monday Oct 12 9:00am</p>
Week 6	<p>Oct 12 Thanksgiving, no lecture</p> <p>Oct 14 Development Actor III: Private Enterprises</p> <p>Reading: IID, Chapter 11</p>	<p>Quiz #5 can be completed anytime between Monday Oct 12 9:00am to Monday Oct 19 9:00am</p>
Week 7	<p>Oct 19 Gender and Development</p> <p>Reading: IID, Chapter 5</p> <p>Oct 21 Gender and Development (con't)</p> <p><b>Guest Lecture by Dr. Yuan He</b></p> <p>Reading: Jolly, Susie. 2011. "Why is development work so straight? Heteronormativity in the international development industry." <i>Development in Practice</i> 21(1):18-28.</p>	<p>Quiz #6 can be completed anytime between Monday Oct 19 9:00am to Monday Oct 26 9:00am</p>
Week 8	<p>Oct 26 China and Emerging Economies</p> <p>Reading: IID, Chapter 13</p> <p>Oct 28 China and Emerging Economies (con't)</p> <p><b>Guest Lecture by Dr. Reza Hasmath</b></p> <p>Reading: Hsu, Jennifer YJ, Timothy Hildebrandt, and Reza Hasmath. "'Going out' or staying in? The expansion of Chinese NGOs in Africa." <i>Development Policy Review</i> 34.3 (2016): 423-439.</p>	<p>Quiz #7 can be completed anytime between Monday Oct 26 9:00am to Monday Nov 2 9:00am</p> <p><b>Discussion post 2 is due on Oct 30 5pm</b></p>
Week 9	<p>Nov 2 State Capacity, Good Governance &amp; Democracy</p>	<p>Quiz #8 can be completed anytime</p>

	Reading: IID, Chapter 7 & 16 Nov 4 Debt and Development Reading: IID, Chapter 14	between Monday Nov 2 9:00am to Monday Nov 9 9:00am  <b>Midterm is due on Nov 6</b>
Week 10	Nov 9 Free Trade or Fair Trade Reading: IID, Chapter 15 Nov 11 Remembrance Day, No lecture	Quiz #9 can be completed anytime between Monday Nov 9 9:00am to Monday Nov 16 9:00am
Week 11	Nov 16 Conflict and Development Reading: IID Chapter 21 Nov 18 Humanitarian Assistance and Intervention Reading: IID Chapter 28	Quiz #10 can be completed anytime between Monday Nov 16 9:00am to Monday Nov 23 9:00am
Week 12	Nov 23 Understanding & Measuring Poverty Reading: IID Chapter 24 & 25 Nov 25 Inequality and Social Policy Reading: IID Chapter 26	Quiz #11 can be completed anytime between Monday Nov 23 9:00am to Monday Nov 30 9:00am  <b>Discussion post 3 is due on Nov 27 5pm</b>
Week 13	Nov 30 Planning and Appraising Development Projects Reading: IID Chapter 27 Dec 2 Wrap it Up	Quiz #12 can be completed anytime between Monday Nov 30 9:00am to Monday Dec 7 9:00am

**UNIVERSITY POLICIES**

UBC provides resources to support student learning and to maintain healthy lifestyles but recognizes that sometimes crises arise and so there are additional resources to access including those for survivors of sexual violence. UBC values respect for the person and ideas of all members of the academic community. Harassment and discrimination are not tolerated nor is suppression of academic freedom. UBC provides appropriate accommodation for students with disabilities and for religious observances. UBC values academic honesty and students are expected to acknowledge the

ideas generated by others and to uphold the highest academic standards in all of their actions. Details of the policies and how to access support are available on [the UBC Senate website](#).

### ACADEMIC MISCONDUCT

---

Academic misconduct, such as plagiarism, is a serious offence at the University of British Columbia. I will not tolerate academic misconduct and will follow the disciplinary guidelines set forth by the university should any violations occur. For offences, penalties, and procedures relating to academic misconduct, please consult the Undergraduate Calendar:

<http://www.calendar.ubc.ca/vancouver/index.cfm?tree=3,54,111,0>

### CENTRE FOR ACCESSIBILITY

---

The University accommodates students with learning challenges who have registered with the Centre for Accessibility. The University accommodates students whose religious obligations conflict with attendance, submitting assignments, or completing scheduled tests and examinations. If you are registered with The Centre for Accessibility, please notify me in the first week of the term and arrange an accommodation letter from the Centre for Accessibility for me. For further consultation and resource provision, please visit <https://students.ubc.ca/about-student-services/centre-for-accessibility>

### STATEMENT REGARDING ONLINE LEARNING FOR INTERNATIONAL STUDENTS

---

During this pandemic, the shift to online learning has greatly altered teaching and studying at UBC, including changes to health and safety considerations. Keep in mind that some UBC courses might cover topics that are censored or considered illegal by non-Canadian governments. This may include, but is not limited to, human rights, representative government, defamation, obscenity, gender or sexuality, and historical or current geopolitical controversies. If you are a student living abroad, you will be subject to the laws of your local jurisdiction, and your local authorities might limit your access to course material or take punitive action against you. UBC is strongly committed to academic freedom, but has no control over foreign authorities (please visit <http://www.calendar.ubc.ca/vancouver/index.cfm?tree=3,33,86,0> for an articulation of the values of the University conveyed in the Senate Statement on Academic Freedom). Thus, we recognize that students will have legitimate reason to exercise caution in studying certain subjects. If you have concerns regarding your personal situation, consider postponing taking a course with manifest risks, until you are back on campus or reach out to your academic advisor to find substitute courses. For further information and support, please visit:

<http://academic.ubc.ca/supportresources/freedom-expression>

### COPYRIGHT

---

All materials of this course (course handouts, lecture slides, assessments, course readings, etc.) are the intellectual property of the Course Instructor or licensed to be used in this course by the copyright owner. Redistribution of these materials by any means without permission of the copyright holder(s) constitutes a breach of copyright and may lead to academic discipline. Please do not share any portion of the course to others or post them to the internet.