Development is often assumed to be an economic issue. In this course we examine the politics of development on a global scale. We begin by looking at the colonial and Cold War histories of development. We then use these histories to contextualise contemporary development issues that directly affect international relations such as aid and debt, humanitarianism, food security, land “grabs”, migration and indigenous rights. The course also seeks to understand the ways in which the issues underlying global development have always connected and continue to connect the peoples and polities of the Global North and Global South.

Course requirements are as follows:

**Presentation (15%)**:  
Each student will be assigned an in-class presentation at the beginning of the semester.  
Your presentation will comprise of the following: a) a synopsis of each reading/video for that particular class; b) what you found to be most controversial or provocative about the arguments and claims made in the readings/videos; c) one question arising from the presentation that the class will subsequently debate.  
Your presentation will be no more than 10 minutes (strictly enforced) and should use a presentational aid such as PPT.

**Papers (30% * 2)**:  
You will write two (2) papers of 6-8 pages in length each (excluding bibliography), fully referenced.  
For your first paper you will select from topics 3-6 and you will address the question provided for that week’s topic (found in the outline below). For your second paper you will select from topics 7-11 and, again, you will address the question provided for that week’s topic.  
The first paper will be due on October 18th and the second will be due on November 13th. N.B.: **you cannot select a topic that you presented on**.

To address the topic question you will engage with all the readings/videos assigned for that week (over the two classes) including the additional “essay reading” listed. You do NOT need to undertake any further research.

You will be assessed on a) the degree to which you answer/address the question convincingly; b) the degree to which you structure your essay in a logically accretive fashion (a leads to b leads to c); and c) the degree to which you engage with – and synthesise – the resources at hand.

**Video (25%)**:
You will be assigned groups half way into the semester. You will collectively produce a video that will critically address the following statement: “Whether you’re from the Global North or South, we all live in the same world and development is destroying it.”

This question especially pertains to topic 14 (see below), and you will focus your research on that topic and the resources that I have provided. You should, however, research ways in which the issues broached in the academic resources might speak to “real life” and/or popular issues, and you should make these connections in a critical but creative way. You can, of course, make use of social media sources.

You can use any basic and free editing software, such as Windows Movie Maker. I will check, when I assign groups, that each group has access to free software.

You will NOT be assessed on the professionalism of the video. You will be assessed as follows: 40% - engagement with intellectual sources; 30% - engagement with “real life”/popular issues; 30% - critical creativity (in terms of putting together your argument and expressing it).

Your video should be 10 mins long max. Video presentations will take place on 4th Dec (Tues). Presentations will comprise of a showing of the video and a 10 mins class conversation about it immediately afterwards. (The conversation will not be graded, but you will, as a group, need to participate).

This video assignment pertains to the previous week’s topic. However, do NOT start this assignment only after we have gone through topic 14. Start immediately after you have handed in the last essay on Nov 13th. Use our classes on topic 14 as an opportunity test, expand and critique your ideas in preparation for the video presentation.

COURSE OUTLINE

(Readings marked with an * can be found on Blackboard. All other readings are available through JHU’s electronic library).

1: Introduction (Tues 4th Sep)

PART 1: HISTORICAL TRAJECTORIES

2: Colonialism and Development

How and to what extent was colonialism considered a means by which to improve humanity?

Thurs 6th Sep: The Idea of Improvement
- Nathaniel Wolloch, "William Robertson on Natural Resources and Cultural Contacts in Colonial America", Journal of Scottish Historical Studies 38 (1), 2018

3: The Cold War and Development

In what ways did Cold War politics contour the “Development project”?
Tues 11th Sep: The US Project


Thurs 13th Sep: The Bandung Conference


4: Decolonization, Disorder, Development

“In a modernizing society, security means development.” Explain McNamara’s maxim by reference to the Vietnam War.

Tues 18th Sep: Huntington and the Military

- Samuel Huntington, ”Political Development and Political Decay”, *World Politics* 17 (1965)
- Samuel Huntington, ”The Bases of Accommodation”, *Foreign Affairs* 46 (4), 1968

Thurs 20th Sep: McNamara and the Security/Development Nexus

- Robert McNamara, ”Security in the Contemporary World”, Speech before the American Society of Newspaper Editors, 1966 http://www.oldcolo.com/McNamara/mcnamara.txt


5: The Beginnings of “Global” Development

How divergent were claims made in the 1970s as to the “global” significance of development?

Tues 25th Sep: Needs and Redistribution

- Willy Brandt, *North-South: A Programme for Survival* (London, 1980), selected sections *
- Mahbub ul Haq, ”Negotiating the Future”, *Foreign Affairs* 59 (2), 1980

Thurs 27th Sep: (Over)Population

- Donella H. Meadows & Dennis Meadows, ”The History and Conclusions of The Limits to Growth”, *System Dynamics Review* 23 (2-3), 2007
6: The Rise of Neoliberalism

“Neoliberalism first triumphed in the Global South.” Unpack this claim.

**Tues 2nd Oct: The Defeat of the Third World project**
- Michael Winterbottom, "Naomi Klein's Shock Doctrine" (2009)
  https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=B3B5qt6gsxY&vl=en

**Thurs 4th Oct: Debt**
- Stephanie Black (Dir.), *Life and Debt* (2001) *


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**PART 2: CONTEMPORARY ISSUES**

7: “Humanising” Development

In what ways might globalisation be conceived as a human rather than economic endeavour, and what risks come with emphasising the “human”?

**Tues 9th Oct: Human Development**

**Thurs 11th Oct: Participatory Development**
  https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=23lD9Xb5nTc
- World Bank "Participatory Planning Improving the Lives of Communities in Lao" (2017)
  https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=t7ZKiDBBMWs
- Ilan Kapoor, "Participatory Development, Complicity and Desire", *Third World Quarterly* 26 (8), 2005

**Essay Question**: Amartya Sen, "A Decade of Human Development", *Journal of Human Development* 1 (1), 2000

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8: The Security/Development nexus
How have the security concerns of the Global North impacted upon the development agenda for the Global South?

**Tues 16th Oct: “Securitization” of Development**
- Kofi Annan, "In Larger Freedom": Decision Time at the UN, *Foreign Affairs*, May/June 2005
- Kwesi Aning, "Security, the War on Terror, and official development assistance", *Critical Studies on Terrorism* 3 (1), 2010

**Thurs 18th Oct: Refugees and Asylum Seekers**
- Matthew Cassel, “The Journey from Syria”, *New Yorker* (2016) [https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=NR0uIPXY37g](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=NR0uIPXY37g) (in 6 parts)
- Paul Jackson & Danielle Beswick, *Conflict, Security and Development: An Introduction* (London: Routledge, 2018), ch.4


9: Crises in the Global North

How have recent economic and political upheavals in the Global North impacted upon development issues?

**Tues 23rd Oct: Economic Migration**
- Denise Spitzer & Nicola Piper, "Retrenched and Returned: Filipino Migrant Workers during Times of Crisis", *Sociology* 48 (5), 2014

**Thurs 25th Oct: White Dude’s Burden**
- Mark Driscoll, “White dude’s burden”, *Cultural Studies* 23 (1), 2009


10: Resource Crises

How might we argue that land usage is a key issue for global politics?

**Tues 30th Oct: Land Grabs**
- [https://landmatrix.org/en/](https://landmatrix.org/en/) - Browse the *Land Matrix Database*, especially all the data under the tab “get the idea”

**Thurs 1st Nov: Indigenous Politics**
- La Via Campesina, “Food Sovereignty Now!” (2011) [https://vimeo.com/27473286](https://vimeo.com/27473286)
• Maria Bargh, "A Blue Economy for Aotearoa New Zealand?", *Environment, Development and Sustainability* 16 (3), 2014

**Essay reading:** Philip McMichael & Mindi Schneider, "Food Security Politics and the Millennium Development Goals", *Third World Quarterly* 32 (1) 2011

### 11: New Civilizing Missions?

“The civilizing mission is no longer the sole prerogative of straight white Christian men”. Discuss.

**Tues 6th Nov: Islam and Aid**

• David Tittensor, Matthew Clarke, Tezcan Gümüş, "Understanding Islamic Aid Flows to Enhance Global Humanitarian Assistance", *Contemporary Islam* 12 (2), 2018


**Thurs 8th Nov: Homonationalism**


### 12: The World Turned Upside Down?

In the 21st century, who is developed?

**Tues 13th Nov: Rise of the South**

• Alf Gunvald Nilsen & Karl von Holdt, "Rising Powers, People Rising: Neo-Liberalization and its Discontents in the BRICS Countries“, *Globalizations* (Firstview, 2018)

• The Doha Debates, "Dubai is a Bad Idea", 2010 [https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=kORAjIrT3b4](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=kORAjIrT3b4)

**Thurs 15th Nov: The “South” in the “North”**

• Teivo Teivainen, "Latin Americanization of Europe: Possibilities for Democratic Cosmopolitanism", Paper prepared for *The Crisis of European Cosmopolitanism in the Age of Austerity* workshop, University of Warwick, 2013 *

• PBS - America Revealed, "Urban Farming", 2012 [https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=kEPs3Ta-6eg](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=kEPs3Ta-6eg)


### 13: THANKSGIVING

### 14: The End of the World?

No essay question this week.
Tues 27th Nov: Sustainability and the Anthropocene

- David Griggs et al, "Sustainable development goals for people and planet", Nature (495) 2013

Thurs 29th Nov: Global Warming

- Sarah Johnstone & Jeffrey Mazo, "Global Warming and the Arab Spring", Survival 53 (2), 2011
- Leon Sealey-Huggins, "‘1.5°C to stay alive’: climate change, imperialism and justice for the Caribbean", Third World Quarterly 38 (11) 2017
- 24 Hours of Reality, "Weight of the World (Kiribati)", 2017 [https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Sww1OA5zDc](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Sww1OA5zDc)

15: Presentations and Conclusion

Tues 4th Dec: Presentations

Thurs 6th Dec: Recap and Retrospect