Course description and objectives

This course provides an introduction to the evolution of the development discourse over time, as well as to alternative paradigms of development. The objective of the course is to introduce various critical traditions in development thought, and to emphasize the contested nature of the meaning and pursuit of development. Part I of the course will begin with classical political economy, which revolved around the problematic of growth, and then move on to the origins and evolution of development economics and the major contending paradigms in the discipline after World War II. Part II of the course will examine some of the implications of these alternative theories in terms of contending strategies to achieve inclusive and equitable growth, and will discuss some major contemporary policy issues and how different strategies for development flow from alternative theoretical frameworks. Topics to be covered include origin and evolution of the idea of economic development; economic growth in classical political economy; early theories of development and structuralist perspectives; development of underdevelopment – neo-Marxian theories; neoclassical critique; capabilities approach and human development; feminist perspectives on development; and alternative strategies to development and inclusive growth. This course complements Development Economics-I in providing a comprehensive coverage of the literature on economic development.

Evaluation

The final grade for the course will be based on a midterm exam and an end-term exam.

The following is a list of topics and readings to be covered in the course. The students are required to seriously and critically engage with the readings and bring their thoughts to classroom discussions. Students will be required to make class presentations on some of the following topics and readings. Readings may be altered, added, and/or deleted depending on the progress of the course.
1. **Introduction: Contending ideas and paradigms of development – importance of theoretical differences**

Class discussions

2. **Development: Emergence of a discipline**


3. **Capital accumulation and growth in classical political economy: Prequel to the emergence of the discipline**


4. **Capital accumulation, industrialization, transition: Early development theories and structuralist perspectives**


5. Radical critiques of capitalist (under)development


6. Neoclassical challenge to “development economics”


7. Broadening of development economics: Basic needs, capabilities and human development


8. **Development Strategy, Inclusive Growth and the Role of Employment**


9. **Sectoral Strategies for Equitable Growth: The role of Agriculture**


10. **Industrialisation for Inclusive Growth: What are the Options?**


United Nations Research Institute on Social Development (2010) Combating Poverty and Inequality, Chapter 1


11. **Pro-Poor Monetary and Fiscal Policy**

Alfredo Saad-Filho (undated) Pro-poor Fiscal and Monetary Policies. Reading Material for UN Department of Economic and Social Affairs


12. **The Scope of International Trade for Inclusive Growth**


13. **Redistribution for Equitable Growth: What are the alternatives?**


14. **Social Policy and its Relationship with Inclusive Growth**


15. **Environmental Sustainability and the idea of Green Growth**


16. **Case Study in Inclusive Growth: East Asia**


Ashwani Saith (undated) Reflections on South Asian prospects in East Asian Perspective. ILO working Paper