

## **PRI-5058 - Relações Internacionais e Desenvolvimento (International Relations and Development)**

April-May 2019

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### **Module Description**

This module provides a critical overview of the key concepts and debates in international development. It addresses such questions as: What does “development” actually mean, who defines it, and how can we measure it? What are some of the different visions and understandings of what a developing country is, and what it should do to achieve development? What are the key development challenges facing rapidly growing economies in Asia, Latin America, and Africa? Other contemporary policy debates will be introduced and discussed in this module, which will pay particular attention to the challenges faced by Brazil in the field of international development.

### **Educational aims of the course**

- Introduce students to current critical debates about development challenges facing “emerging economies”, including challenges to reduce poverty and inequality, promote social inclusion, strengthen good governance, ensure economic growth, and protect the environment.
- Provide students with an overview of key notions from economic theory, political economy, political science, sociology, gender studies and international relations through the discussion of relevant contemporary issues.
- Expose students to critical perspectives on development via comparative assessment of emerging economies in Latin America, Asia, Africa and Eastern Europe, with a particular focus on Brazil.
- Enable students to use analytical tools and theoretical concepts to understand contemporary international relations from a development perspective.

### **Learning outcomes of the course**

- Students will have developed an understanding of the concept of emerging economies and alternative ways to define and measure it.
- Students will have developed a systematic understanding of the main differences in disciplinary approaches to international development, including their advantages and shortcomings.
- Students will have developed an awareness of the main differences across “emerging economies” including diverging socio-economic profiles, political systems, and some of the historical background shaping current developments.

--Students will have developed analytical skills to engage in critical readings of the assigned texts, make revealing comparisons, and construct good arguments in order to produce or support social scientific claims.

### Teaching arrangements

Teaching will consist of one weekly four-hour session on Monday from 14:00-18:00, with a break around 16:00. The first class will be on the 22<sup>nd</sup> of April and the last class on the 27<sup>th</sup> of May. Classes will meet in the Sala D on the second floor of the IRI Building.

**Assessment** will consist of:

- 1) **A short essay** (1,500 words) **due on Wednesday the 8<sup>th</sup> of May by 5:00 pm**. Answer one of the questions below:
  - a) Do contemporary emerging economies (including the BRICS) cast doubt on the soundness of critical structural theories of development such as dependency theory? Why or why not?
  - b) To what extent do you agree with postdevelopmentalists' criticisms of international development?
  - c) Neoliberal policies have taken a variety of different forms around the world. On balance, have they failed or succeeded in promoting development?
  - d) In an era of climate change, can development be made "sustainable", and if so, how?
  - e) "'Emerging market' states do not want to change the world economy; they merely want to acquire greater power and influence within the existing system." In your answer, explain why you do or do not agree with this statement.
  
- 2) **A second essay** (4,000 words) **due on Wednesday 26 June by 5:00 pm**. Answer one of the questions below:
  - a) What is the best way for the international development community to promote gender equality?
  - b) How did the nature of post-Cold War conflicts change the relationship between international development and security, and are these changes positive or negative for international development?
  - c) With the movement towards multipolarity in international relations, the liberal "good governance" agenda is now obsolete. Do you agree or disagree with this statement, and why or why not?
  - d) Has Brazilian foreign policy succeeded in enhancing national development over the last 35 years, and why or why not?
  - e) What, in your view, have been the most significant Brazilian contributions to the creation of the post-WW II international development regime? Are those achievements threatened by the apparent change in policies of the current Brazilian government?

## Course Structure and Reading List

### Unit 1: An Introduction to Development (22 April)

What do we mean by “development”? How is a “developed” country different from a “developing” country?

Katie Willis, Theories and Practices of Development (London: Routledge, 2011, second edition), chapter 1, pp. 1-35.

Amartya Sen, Development as Freedom (New York: Knopf, 1999), introduction and chapter 1, pp. 3-34. Available at Google Books at:  
[https://books.google.com.br/books?id=XmfleDy\\_taYC&printsec=frontcover&dq=amartya+sen+development+as+freedom&hl=pt-BR&sa=X&ved=0ahUKEwjax6SEy9zhAhXXG7kGHeEaA\\_kQ6AEIKTAA#v=onepage&q=amartya%20sen%20development%20as%20freedom&f=false](https://books.google.com.br/books?id=XmfleDy_taYC&printsec=frontcover&dq=amartya+sen+development+as+freedom&hl=pt-BR&sa=X&ved=0ahUKEwjax6SEy9zhAhXXG7kGHeEaA_kQ6AEIKTAA#v=onepage&q=amartya%20sen%20development%20as%20freedom&f=false)

Max Roser, “The short history of global living conditions and why it matters that we know it” also available at: <https://ourworldindata.org/a-history-of-global-living-conditions-in-5-charts>.

Jason Hickel, “Bill Gates says poverty is decreasing. He couldn’t be more wrong” in The Guardian, 29 January 2019.

#### Recommended

Amartya Sen, “A Decade of Human Development” in the Journal of Human Development, Volume 1, Number 1, 2000, pp. 17-23.

Laura Wallace, “Freedom as Progress (an interview with Amartya Sen)” in Finance and Development, September 2004, pp. 4-7.

### Unit 2: What is an “emerging economy”? (22 April)

What are the origins of the term “BRICS”? Why focus on the BRICS? What distinguishes an “emerging economy” from the economy of other countries? What are some alternative interpretations of why the term “emerging economy” is used?

Jim O’Neill, Building Better Global Economic BRICs (New York: Goldman Sachs Global Economic Paper 66, 2001).

Andrew Hurrell, “Beyond the BRICS: Power, Pluralism and the Future of World Order” in Ethics and International Affairs, Volume 32, Special Issue 1, Spring 2018, pp. 89-101.

Andy Sumner, “Catch-Up Capitalism” in Global Poverty: Deprivation, Distribution and Development Since the Cold War (Oxford: Oxford University Press, 2016).

### Unit 3: Critical structural theories of development (29 April)

How has capitalism been linked to imperialism? What did Andre Gunder Frank mean by the “development of underdevelopment”? What are some contemporary examples of dependency? Are there counter-examples?

Andre Gunder Frank, "The Development of Underdevelopment" in Mitchell Seligson and John Passé Smith, eds. Development and Underdevelopment: The Political Economy of Global Inequality (Boulder: Lynne Rienner, 2014).

Fernando Henrique Cardoso, "Dependency and Development in Latin America" in Timmons Roberts and Amy Hite, eds. From Modernization to Globalization: Perspectives on Development and Social Change (London: Blackwell, 2000) pp. 169-178.

Immanuel Wallerstein, "The Rise and Future Demise of the World Capitalist System" in Frank Lechner and John Boli, eds. The Globalization Reader (Malden: Blackwell, 2004) pp. 63-69.

#### **Unit 4: Postdevelopmentalism (29 April)**

What is postdevelopmentalism? What are the postdevelopmentalists' proposed alternatives to conventional development theory and practice?

Gustavo Esteva, "Development" in Wolfgang Sachs, ed. The Development Dictionary (London: Zed Books, 2009), pp. 1-23 (first published in 2009).

Arturo Escobar, preface to Encountering Development: The Making and Unmaking of the Third World (Princeton: Princeton University Press, 2012; first published in 1995), pp. vii-xxxiv.

#### Recommended

Wolfgang Sachs, preface to the new edition of The Development Dictionary (London: Zed Books 2009), pp. vi-xiv.

Wolfgang Sachs, introduction to the new edition of The Development Dictionary (London: Zed Books, 2009), pp. xv-xx.

Arturo Escobar, preface to Encountering Development: The Making and Unmaking of the Third World (Princeton: Princeton University Press 2012; this is the preface to the original 1995 edition).

Artur Escobar, "Post-Development" in David Alexander Clark, ed. The Elgar Companion to Development Studies (Cheltenham: Edward Elgar, 2006), pp. 447-451.

Artur Escobar, "Latin America at a Crossroads: Alternative modernizations, post-liberalism, or post-development?" in Cultural Studies, Volume 24, Number 1, January 2010, pp. 1-65.

#### **Unit 5: Neoliberalism (6 May)**

What is neoliberalism and what are its origins? Through what mechanisms has neoliberalism become a globally dominant ideology? How does neoliberalism influence thought and practice in development?

David Harvey, A Brief History of Neoliberalism (Oxford: Oxford University Press, 2005), introduction and chapter 1, pp. 1-38.

John Micklethwait and Adrian Wooldridge, "The Hidden Promise: Liberty Renewed" in Frank Lechner and John Boli, eds. The Globalization Reader (Malden: Blackwell, 2004) pp. 9-15.

### **Unit 6: Sustainability (6 May)**

What is meant by the term "sustainability"? What are the components of mainstream sustainable development and what criticisms have been made of this approach?

Ian Scoones, "Sustainability" in Andrea Cornwall and Deborah Eade, eds. Deconstructing Development Discourse: Buzzwords and Fuzzwords (Bourton on Dunsmore: Practical Action/Oxfam 2010), pp 153-162.

Jeff Sachs, "From Millenium Development Goals to Sustainable Development Goals" in The Lancet, Volume 379, Issue 9832, June 2012, pp. 2206-2211.

Joan Martínez-Alier, Unai Pascual, Franck-Dominique Vivien, and Edwin Zaccai, "Sustainable De-Growth: Mapping the Context, Criticisms and Future Prospects of an Emergent Paradigm" in Ecological Economics, Volume 69, Issue 9, July 2010, pp. 1741-1747.

**First essay due: Wednesday 8 May by 5:00 pm.**

### **Unit 7: Development and Brazilian Foreign Policy (13 May)**

What role does development play in Brazilian foreign policy? How has Brazil helped to construct the post-WW II international development regime? To what extent has the current government in Brazil broken from previous approaches to international development?

Celso Lafer (2009) "Brazil and the World" in Ignacy Sachs, Jorge Wilhelm, and Paulo Sergio Pinheiro, eds. Brazil: A Century of Change (Chapel Hill: University of North Carolina Press), pp. 101-119.

Carlos Milani, Leticia Pinheiro, and Maria Regina Soares de Lima (2017) "Brazil's Foreign Policy and the 'Graduation Dilemma'" in International Affairs, Volume 93, Issue 3, May, pp. 585-605.

Matias Spektor (2016) "Brazil: Shadows of the Past and Contested Ambitions" in William Hitchcock, Melvyn Leffler and Jeffrey Legro, eds. Shaping Nations: Strategies for a Changing World (Cambridge: Harvard University Press), pp. 17-35.

#### Recommended

Carlos Milani, Solidariedade e Interesse: Motivações e estratégias na cooperação internacional para o desenvolvimento (Curitiba: Appris Editora, 2018).

Jeff Garmany and Anthony W. Pereira, Understanding Contemporary Brazil (London: Routledge 2018), chapter 10, pp. 185-207.

## **Unit 8: Gender (13 May)**

What impact does gender inequality have on development? How have development practitioners tried to empower women and reduce gender inequality, and what have been the achievements and limitations of these efforts?

Shirin M. Rai, "Gender and Development: Theoretical Perspectives" in Nalini Visvanathan, Lynn Duggan, Nan Wiegersma and Lauri Nisonoff, eds. The Women, Gender and Development Reader (London: Zed Books, second edition, 2011) chapter 3, pp. 28-37.

Jaison Hickel, "The 'Girl Effect': Liberalism, Empowerment and the Contradictions of Development" in Third World Quarterly, Volume 35, Issue 8, 2014, pp. 1355-1373.

Naila Kabeer, "Gender Equality and Women's Empowerment: A Critical Analysis of the Third Millennium Development Goal 1" in Gender and Development, Volume 13, Issue 1, 2005, pp. 13-24.

## **Unit 9: Conflicts and Crises (20 May)**

How are concerns in the rich countries about security and development related? How have crises in the last few decades shaped the global understanding of development?

Mark Duffield, Global Governance and The New Wars: The Merging of Development and Security (London: Zed Books, 2014), introduction, pp. 1-21.

Björn Hettne, Thinking About Development (London: Zed Books, 2009), chapter 7, pp. 85-101.

Anne-Marie Slaughter and William Burke-White, "An International Constitutional Moment" in the Harvard International Law Journal, Volume 43, Number 1, Winter 2002, pp. 1-21.

## **Unit 10: Good Governance (20 May)**

What is the liberal good governance agenda in international development? Why is it contested, and why it is sometimes not implemented in practice? Is "good enough governance" a preferable alternative to the good governance agenda?

Daron Acemogulu and James Robinson, Why Nations Fail: the Origins of Power, Prosperity and Poverty (New York: Profile Books, 2013), introduction.

Merilee Grindle "Good Enough Governance Revisited" in Development Policy Review, Volume 25, Issue 5, 2007, pp. 533-574.

Yuen Yuen Ang, How China Escaped the Poverty Trap (Ithaca: Cornell University Press, 2016), introduction.

## **Unit 11: Student Presentations (27 May)**

## **Unit 12: Student Presentations (27 May)**

**Second essay due: Wednesday 26 June by 5:00 pm.**

