Instructor: David M. Fields, PhD Candidate.
Email: david.fields@soc.utah.edu or through WebCT
Office Location: BEH S 422
Office Hours: TBA
Class Website: WebCT

Course summary (3 credit hours, no prerequisites):
This course addresses economic growth and development by looking into the causes and processes behind the development and underdevelopment of "newly industrialized countries" and "less-developed countries" (LDCs). Social and economic factors associated with growth and their effects on society are discussed with special attention to the state, social structure, the market, international trade, and particularly, globalization.

Course Objectives (Upon successful completion of this course, students should be able to):

- Convey a coherent grasp and basic knowledge of the historical foundations and institutions with respect to global economic development.
- Critically evaluate and apply comprehend the competing perspectives (causes/processes/consequences) of economic development and underdevelopment in the current world context.
- Improve critical thinking skills including an ability to identify, evaluate and engage with claims
- Practice and refine oral and written communication skills

Required Texts:

Recommended Texts:
Course Requirements:

Participation: (30%) Your participation is vital as it is a high percentage of your final grade. This portion of your grade is evaluated by the following components—class participation, various in-class assignments quizzes and online discussion. For more information on acceptable discussion and participation, please see class policies on class conduct below.

Paper I: Historical Foundations of Economic Development: (20%) 3-4 pages. Due: TBA
In this paper, students must be able to convey basic knowledge of the historical foundations and institutions with respect to world economic development drawn from first few weeks of reading and class discussion. Grade will be scored out of 100.

Paper II: Theories of Economic Development: (20%) 4-5 pages. Due: TBA
In this paper, students should summarize and critically assess the causes, processes, and consequences of economic development and underdevelopment and how the theories of economic development that we cover in class relate to these processes; which theor(ies) do you consider to be the most appropriate for understanding the systemic dynamics of the global economy. This section requires synthesis, comparison and evaluation. Grade will be scored out of 100.

Take-Home Final Exam: (30%) Due: 8/4
This final exam will be a general assessment of your knowledge which you have accumulated over the course of the summer and presented in your writing assignments and classroom participation.

Grading Scale

A  94%-100%
A-  90%-93.9%
B+  87%-89.9%
B  84%-86.9%
B-  80%-83.9%
C+  77%-79.9%
C  74%-76.9%
C-  70%-73.9%
D+  67%-69.9%
D  64%-66.9%
D-  60%-63.9%
E  0%-59

Course Outline and Reading Schedule
- Readings must be completed prior to the date listed.
- All readings are listed in the order they should be read.
- Materials listed to skim should be read for main concept definitions. The more technical aspects (e.g. economic models and equations) can be skipped.
The following schedule is tentative; I reserve the right to modify it over the course of the semester. Entries marked with an asterisk (*) are available on WebCT.

WEEK 1

T, 5/15 - Syllabus Review, Overview of the Issues
  • McMicheal: 1 – 20

TH, 5/17 - Why Development?
  • Cypher & Dietz: 3 – 28

WEEK 2

T, 5/22 – Measuring Development
  • Cypher & Dietz: 30-72

TH, 5/24 - Development History
  • Cypher & Dietz: 73-105
  • McMicheal: 26-83

WEEK 3

T, 5/29 – The Globalization Project
  • McMicheal: 87 – 116
  • McMicheal: 117 – 144

H, 5/31 – The Globalization Project (Continued)
  • McMicheal: 149-227
  • Cypher and Dietz: 529 - 553

WEEK 4

T, 6/3 – Development Theory
  • Cypher & Dietz: 107-139; 140-166
  • Cypher and Dietz: 220-231

TH, 6/5 - Development Theory (continued)
  • Cypher & Dietz: 168-199
  • Cypher & Dietz: 246-254

WEEK 5

T, 6/12 – Industrialization
  • Cypher and Dietz: 271 – 306
  • Cypher and Dietz: 308 – 340
TH, 6/14 – Agriculture and Development
  • Cypher and Dietz: 341 – 388

WEEK 6

T, 6/19 – Population Dynamics
  • Cypher and Dietz: 391 – 420

TH, 6/21 – Technology and Development
  • Cypher and Dietz: 422 – 447

WEEK 7

T, 6/26 – Role of Transnational Corporations
  • Cypher and Dietz: 451 – 489

TH, 6/28 – Capital Flows and Disequilibria
  • Cypher and Dietz: 491 – 528
  • Cypher and Dietz: 529 - 553

WEEK 8

T, 7/3 – Institutional Linkages
  • Cypher and Dietz: 555-593

TH, 7/5 – Issues in Globalization and Development
  • Sen, 189-204*
  • Beneria & Sen, 57-76*

WEEK 9

T, 7/10 – Issues in Globalization and Development (Continued)
  • Davis, 94-150*
  • Evans, 1-30*

TH, 7/12 - Rethinking Development
  • McMichael: 231-288

WEEK 10

T, 7/17 – Alternative approaches to Development
  • McMichael, Contesting Development, 1-14, 151-164, 199-214*
  • Heller (1995) 645-672*
TH, 7/19 – Going Forward
• TBD

Take Home Final Exam Time Due 8/4. Submit by Email or WebCT

Class Policies:

• Attendance is strongly encouraged but not required; however, students are accountable for all information covered in class. Please do not ask the instructor to makeup missed lectures.
• Cell phones are to be turned off during class.
• Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA): The University of Utah seeks to provide equal access to its programs, services and activities for people with disabilities. If you will need accommodations in the class, reasonable prior notice needs to be given to the Center for Disability Services, 162 Union Building, 581-5020 (V/TDD). CDS will work with you and the instructor to make arrangements for accommodations.
• All students are expected to maintain professional behavior in the classroom, according to the Student Code, spelled out in the Student Handbook. Students have specific rights in the classroom as detailed in Article III of the Code. The Code also specifies proscribed conduct (Article IX) that involves cheating on tests, plagiarism, and/or collusion, as well as fraud, theft, etc. Students should read the Code carefully and know they are responsible for the content. According to Faculty Rules and Regulations, it is the faculty responsibility to enforce responsible classroom behaviors, and I will do so, beginning with verbal warnings and progressing to dismissal from class and a failing grade. Students have the right to appeal such action to the Student Behavior Committee.
• Some of the readings, lectures, films, or presentations in this course may include material that may conflict with the core beliefs of some students. Please review the syllabus carefully to see if the course is one that you are committed to taking. If you have a concern, please discuss it with me at your earliest convenience. For more information, please consult the University of Utah’s Accommodations Policy, which appears at: www.admin.utah.edu/facdev/accommodations-policy.pdf.
• Should the instructor be late for class due to weather or other unforeseen reasons, the department will be notified and a departmental representative will meet with the class to inform students of when the class will begin.