

Brief Course Outline

Course Title: Introduction to Global Development

Course Number and Section

GSI

1023F 550

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Disclaimer: Information in the brief course outline is subject to change. The syllabus posted on OWL Brightspace is the official and authoritative source of information for the course.

Course Description:

Global development is a concept, a political project, and also a practice and an area of study. As a concept, it implies a certain aspiration of material improvement of regions, countries, communities, and individuals. It also implies the betterment of nonmaterial aspects of life such as physical and mental health, freedom, access to health and education as well as a sustainable way of life that protects nature and guarantees our survival. However, as you have guessed by now, many of these aspirations do not necessarily come in a bundle. In fact, it is quite possible that when we try to turn some of these aspirations into reality, we may work in detriment of another. For example, creating material improvement often comes with the accumulation of wealth by a few people while others might become impoverished, and nature depleted (via mining and labour exploitation, for example). In other words, the concept of development is a terrain in dispute with many strands and views that often collide with each other. In this course we will explore some of the main theories about development, we will discuss their origins and main tenets. We will also identify key development actors and ask: Who “does” development and who is affected by it? We will place these discussions in a historical context and think about them from our own collective and individual positions. Finally, we will identify some of the key issues that have shaped conversations about development historically and continue to be of relevance today.

Learning Outcomes: one outcome per entry

- a) Identify and define key approaches in development studies.
- b) Identify and contextualize the key actors “doing” development.
- c) Engage with key problems in development and have an informed opinion about them.

Textbooks and Course Materials:

All learning materials will be available through the library's catalogue.

Methods of Evaluation: one assignment per entry

Assignment	Due Date mm/dd/yy	Weight - %
Attendance and participation in all Writing and Learning Services' Seminars	10/05	5
Cornell Notes for both readings assigned for Week 3: 2 separate notes, 1 per reading. Pass or fail assessment	09/23	5
Midterm, Essay based	10/19	25
Group Project: Development timeline	11/16	20
Reading Reflection	12/07	15
Final Exam, Essay based	TBD	30

Sunday, August 9, 2026

Huron Brief Course Outline 2026/27

In-course Costs \$000.00

For Textbooks and Course Materials (below), you are required to include the cost of each textbook or other learning material.

Note whether there are any restrictions that would prevent a student from using a second-hand copy. Here is some suggested text:

- Required textbook: [author, title, edition, publisher, date]. Cost: [insert amount].
 - Or include the weblink of the textbook’s publisher site that includes the cost information.
- Students need to purchase this edition. Second-hand or older editions will not be sufficient.
- OR Students are welcome to purchase second-hand or earlier editions of this textbook.
- This course has an optional field trip that costs [insert amount].
- This course has a required field component that costs [insert amount].

In solidarity with the Anishinaabe, Haudenosaunee, Lūnaapéewak, and Chonnonton peoples on whose traditional treaty and unceded territories this course is shared.