

Syllabus: Perspectives on Economic Development

Description: This syllabus is intended to provide reading lists to those who want to expand their knowledge in the field of economic development, going beyond the mainstream training, reaching a broad perspective, and being enlightened by decolonized and diverse viewpoints upon the topic.

Week 1: Introduction, Contextualization and Epistemology

This introductory session aims to provoke the student to reflect about the situatedness of knowledge, and each person's subjectivity. This will allow acknowledging the historiography behind economic development school of thoughts as well as awareness of different realities.

Required readings:

- Djamila Ribeiro (2018): *What is a place of speech?* Belo Horizonte: Letramento Editora e Livraria LTDA.
- Boaventura de Sousa Santos (1995): Law: A Map of Misreading. In: *Toward a New Common Sense: Law, Science and Politics in the Paradigmatic Transition*. New York: Routledge, 456-473.

Comment [SK1]: which chapter?

Suggested readings:

- Gayatri C. Spivak (1988): Can the Subaltern Speak? In: Cary Nelson and Lawrence Grossberg (eds.): *Marxism and the Interpretation of Culture*. Urbana, IL: University of Illinois Press, 66–111.
- Samir Amin (2009): *Eurocentrism. Modernity, Religion, and Democracy: A Critique of Eurocentrism and Culturalism*. New York, NY: Monthly Review Press.

Week 2: The Political Economy of Development

The second session provides a general overview of various perspectives on development, the policies that arise from them and their consequences. We will explore what types of questions are being asked and how different theories of development answer them.

Required readings:

- Stanley Engerman and Kenneth L. Sokoloff (2002): Factor Endowments, Inequality, and Paths of Development among New World Economies, *Economia*, 3(1): 41-109.
- Amartya Sen (1983): Development: Which way now? *The Economic Journal*, 93(372): 745-762.
- Heloise Weber (2017): Politics of 'Leaving No One Behind': Contesting the 2030 Sustainable Development Goals Agenda, *Globalizations*, 14(3): 399-414.

Suggested readings:

- Alexander Gerschenkron (1962): *Economic Backwardness in Historical Perspective: A Book of Essays*. New York : Frederick A. Praeger, Chapters 1 & 2.
- Daron Acemoglu, Simon Johnson and James A. Robinson (2001): The Colonial Origins of Comparative Development: An Empirical Investigation. *American Economic Review*, 91(5): 1369–1401.

Week 3: The Classical Perspective

We will explore the common understanding of economic development that is used amongst scholars and practitioners across the globe and how this perception influences the discipline of development economics.

Required readings:

- Walt Whitman Rostow (1971): The Take-off into Self-Sustained Growth. In: *Developing the Underdeveloped Countries*. London: Palgrave Macmillan, 86-114.
- Albert O. Hirschman (1958): *The Strategy of Economic Development*. New Haven, Conn.: Yale University Press.

Suggested readings:

- Ragnar Nurske (1952): Some International Aspects of the Problem of International Development. *American Economic Review*, 42(2): 571-583.
- Gunnar Myrdal and Paul Sitohang (1957): *Economic Theory and Under-developed Regions*. London: Duckworth.
- Turan Subasat (2003): What Does the Heckscher-Ohlin Model Contribute to International Trade Theory? A Critical Assessment. *Review of Radical Political Economics*, 35(2): 148-165.

Week 4: Shortcomings of the Classical Perspective

Contrasting the previous session, this week aims to present criticisms of the classical economic development approach. This will serve as the common-ground to expand our comprehension of the multiple (alternative) perspectives discussed in the following weeks.

Required readings:

- Hugh Goodacre (2005): William Petty and Early Colonial Roots of Development Economics. In: Jomo, Kwame Sundaram (ed.): *The Pioneers of Development Economics: Great Economists on Development*. London: Zed Books, 10-30.
- Ha-Joon Chang (2002): How Did the Rich Countries Really Become Rich? In: *Kicking Away the Ladder: Development Strategy in Historical Perspective*. London: Anthem Press, 1-12.

Suggested readings:

- Ibrahim M. Oweiss (1988): *Ibn Khaldun, Father of Economics*. Georgetown University: State University of New York Press, <https://faculty.georgetown.edu/imo3/ibn.htm>.
- Dani Rodrik (2006): Goodbye Washington Consensus, Hello Washington Confusion? A Review of the World Bank's 'Economic Growth in the 1990s: Learning from a Decade of Reform'. *Journal of Economic Literature*, 44 (4): 973-987.
- Sheila Dow (1990): Beyond Dualism. *Cambridge Journal of Economics*, 14(2): 143–157.

Week 5: Contributions from the Global South

According to Santos (1995: 508), we should “learn that the South exists; learn to go to the South; learn from and with the South”. Thus, this session aims to introduce some “Epistemologies from the South”, and the subsequent three sections will focus on voices from the different regions of the Global South.

Required readings:

- Alexandre M. Cunha and Gustavo Britto (2011): When Development Meets Culture: The Contribution of Celso Furtado in the 1970s. *Textos para Discussão*, 429. Belo Horizonte: Cedeplar-UFMG.
- Sourayan Mookerjee (2011): On Learning How to Liberate the Common: Subaltern Biopolitics and the Endgame of Neoliberalism. In: Dip Kapoor (ed.): *Critical Perspectives on Neoliberal Globalization, Development and Education in Africa and Asia*. Rotterdam: SensePublishers, 51-68.

Suggested readings:

- Milton Santos (2017): *Toward an Other Globalization: From the Single Thought to Universal Conscience*. Springer International Publishing.
- Dip Kapoor (2011): *Critical Perspectives on Neoliberal Globalization, Development and Education in Africa and Asia*. Rotterdam: SensePublishers.

Comment [SK2]: Which chapter?

Week 6: Latin American Perspectives on Economic Development

Coming to the consideration of contributions from the Global South, we begin with Latin American viewpoints on the discipline of economic development.

Required readings:

- Cristóbal Kay (1989): *Latin American Theories of Development and Underdevelopment*. London and New York: Routledge.
- Fernando Henrique Cardoso and Enzo Faletto (1979): *Dependency and Development in Latin America*. Berkeley: University of California Press.

Suggested readings:

- Yaffe, Helen (2009): The Great Debate. *In: Che Guevara: The Economics of Revolution*. Palgrave Macmillan UK, 45-69.
- Eduardo Galeano (1971): *Open Veins of Latin America: Five Centuries of the Pillage of a Continent*. New York, NY: Monthly Review Press.

Week 7: African Perspectives on Economic Development

This week, the readings encompass various African Perspectives on Economic Development.

Required readings:

- Thandika Mkandawire (2001): Thinking About Developmental States in Africa. *Cambridge Journal of Economics*, 25(3): 289–314.
- Sabelo J. Ndlovu-Gatsheni (2020): *Decolonization, Development and Knowledge in Africa: Turning Over a New Leaf*. New York: Routledge.

Comment [SK3]: which chapter?

Suggested readings:

- Kenneth Amaeshi and Uwafiokun Idemudia (2015): Africapitalism: A Management Idea for Business in Africa? *Africa Journal of Management*, 1(2): 210-223.
- **missing**

Week 8: Asian Perspectives on Economic Development

Finishing off the section on regional contributions to the theory and practice of economic development, this week's session evolves around the Asian perspective.

Required readings:

- Bengi Akbulut, Fikret Adaman and Yahya M. Madra (2015): The Decimation and Displacement of Development Economics. *Development and Change*, 46(4): 733-776.
- Jim Glassman (2010): *Bounding the Mekong: The Asian Development Bank, China, and Thailand*. Honolulu: University of Hawaii Press.

Suggested readings:

- Satoshi Fujii (2015): *Beyond Global Capitalism*. Tokyo: Springer Japan.
- Robert Rowthorn and Ha-Joon Chang (1992): The Political Economy of Privatisation. *The Economic and Labour Relations Review*, 3(2): 1–17.

Week 9: Perspectives Between Orthodoxy and Heterodoxy

After exploring the often neglected contributions from the Global South to the field of economic development, we return to the debate between orthodoxy and heterodoxy, especially focusing on theories that fluctuate between both. This can lead to a discussion regarding the notion of dominant ideology.

Required readings:

- Moses Abramovitz (1986): Catching Up, Forging Ahead, and Falling Behind. *The Journal of Economic History*, 46(2): 385-406.
- Nicholas Kaldor (1972): The Irrelevance of Equilibrium Economics. *The Economic Journal*, 82(328): 1237-1255.
- Abhijit Banerjee and Ester Duflo (2011): Poor Economics. A Radical Rethinking of the Way to Fight Global Poverty. New York: Public Affairs.

Suggested readings:

- Joseph A. Schumpeter (1947): The Creative Response in Economic History. *Journal of Economic History*, 7(2): 149-59.
- Marta Harnecker (2015): *A World to Build: New Paths toward Twenty-First Century Socialism*. New York, NY: Monthly Review Press.

Week 10: Scales of Development

This session aims to initiate the debate regarding the different levels in which development can be placed: national, regional, local, urban, etc. Including this dimension allows us to expand our understanding of development above the diverse schools of thought.

Required readings:

- Paul Krugman (1995): *Development, Geography and Economic Theory*. Cambridge: The MIT Press.
- Paul A. David (1999): Comment on 'The Role of Geography in Development' by P. Krugman. In: Boris Pleskovic and Joseph E. Stiglitz: *Annual World Bank Conference on Development Economics 1998*. Washington: The World Bank.
- Ann R. Markusen (1980): *Regions and Regionalism: A Marxist View*. Institute of Urban and Regional Development, Department of City and Regional Plannings, University of California.

Suggested readings:

- Jennifer Robinson (2006): *Ordinary Cities — Between Modernity and Development*. New York: Routledge. Focus on Chapter 5: Bringing the City back in: Beyond Developmentalism and Globalisation.
- Asa K. Cusak (2018): *Understanding ALBA: Progress, Problems, and Prospects of Alternative Regionalism in Latin America and the Caribbean*. London: Institute of Latin American Studies, University of London.

- Allan J. Scott (2000): Economic Geography: The Great Half-century. *Cambridge Journal of Economics*, 24(4): 483-504.

Week 11: The Role of Technology and Structural Transformations

In order to continue expanding our understanding about development over and above the diverse schools of thought, we discuss one recurrent argument about economic development; namely the role of technology and structural transformations.

Required readings:

- Robert M. Solow (1956): A Contribution to the Theory of Economic Growth. *Quarterly Journal of Economics*, 70(1): 65–94.
- Ramendra Singh, Vaibhav Gupta and Akash Mondal (2012): Jugaad—From ‘Making Do’ and ‘Quick Fix’ to an Innovative, Sustainable and Low-cost Survival Strategy at the Bottom of the Pyramid. *International Journal of Rural Management* 8(1-2): 87-105.
- Jan V. Fagerberg and Bart Verspagen (2002): Technology-gaps, Innovation-diffusion and Transformation: An Evolutionary Approach. *Research Policy*, 31(8-9): 1291-1304.

Suggested readings:

- Mariana Mazzucato (2013): *The Entrepreneurial State: Debunking Public vs. Private Sector Myths*, London: Anthem Press.
- Milton Santos (2017): *The Shared Space: The Two Circuits of the Urban Economy in Underdeveloped Countries*. New York: Routledge.
- Jane Jacobs (1961): *The Death and Life of Great American Cities*. New York: Random House.

Comment [SK4]: which chapter? overview here: <http://www.looooker.com/wp-content/uploads/2015/05/The-Entrepreneurial-State-Debunking-Public-vs.-Private-Sector-Myths.pdf>

Week 12: Discussion

The closing session of this course aims to challenge the concept of development itself, delving into a “more radical” decolonized approach.

Required readings:

- Christiane Struckmann (2018): A Postcolonial Feminist Critique of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development: A South African Application. *Agenda*, 32(1): 12-24.
- Ilan Kapoor (2002): Capitalism, Culture, Agency: Dependency versus Postcolonial Theory. *Third World Quarterly*, 23(4): 647-664.
- Gilbert Rist (1997): The Invention of Development. In: *The History of Development: From Western Origins to Global Faith*. New York: Zed Books, 69-79.

Suggested readings:

- Arturo Escobar (1995): *Encountering Development: The Making and Unmaking of the Third World*. Princeton: Princeton University Press.
- Vandana Shiva (1989): *Staying Alive: Women, Ecology and Development*. London: Zed.
- Roberto Luís Monte-Mór (2018): Urbanisation, Sustainability and Development: Contemporary Complexities and Diversities in the Production of Urban Space. In: Philipp Horn, Paola Alfaro d'Alencon, Ana Claudia Cardoso (eds.): *Emerging Urban Spaces: A Planetary Perspective*. Springer, 201-215.