Course Title: Development, Environment and Social Justice
Language of instruction: English
Professors: Marina Carré-Molina & Nicolas Bicchi
Professor's contact (office hours): marina.carre@upf.edu (office 20.187 – requests per email) & nicolas.bicchi@upf.edu
Course contact hours: 45
Recommended credit: 6 ECTS credits
Course prerequisites: None
Language requirements: Recommended level in the European Framework B2 (or equivalent : Cambridge Certificate if the teaching language is English, DELE or 3 semesters in the case of Spanish)

Course description:
The course critically examines the construction of the 'development' concept, tracing its ties to capitalism and its roots in colonialism and mercantilism. It questions the outcomes, focusing on reproducing social inequalities and environmental consequences globally, nationally, and locally. Students are expected to develop a critical understanding of environmental conditions linked to political, economic, and social processes within modified societal structures influenced by market forces. The course provides conceptual tools and empirical knowledge to understand the origins of uneven geographical development.

Divided into parts, it covers critical development theories, explores development as a "globalisation project," and reviews systematic alternatives and critiques of the sustainable project. Key concepts are illustrated through 9 case studies, aligning with the 17 Sustainable Development Goals and offering insights into countering uneven geographical development globally.

Learning objectives:
- acquire skills to analyse real-world problems in terms of sustainability and social justice.
- receive an introduction to the basic elements of social justice and sustainable development.
- versed in the historical, economic and geopolitical origins of the development concept
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Course workload:
The course is divided into lectures and case studies. Students should be prepared to read between 20 to 40 pages per week.

Teaching methodology:

The course includes both lectures and seminars. Each of them is a two-hour class session.

- Lectures (mainly on Mondays) are normally divided into one hour for theory-based knowledge done by the professor, and one hour for case studies to work with students. During case studies, students are expected to work in groups of three (3) to send the work required.
- Seminars (mainly on Wednesdays) are normally divided into one-hour presentations by students and one hour to debate the topic of the presentations within different activities (e.g., debates).

Assessment criteria:

- Case Studies: 30%
- Group Presentations: 30%
- Debate Participation: 10%
- Final Exam (multiple choice and true or false questions): 30%

BaPIS absence policy:

Attending class is mandatory and will be monitored daily by professors. Missing classes will impact on the student's final grade as follows:

Absences	Penalisation
Up to two (2) absences	No penalisation
Three (3) absences	1 point subtracted from final grade (on a 10-point scale)
Four (4) absences	2 points subtracted from final grade (on a 10-point scale)
Five (5) absences or more	The student receives an INCOMPLETE ("NO PRESENTADO") for the course

The BaPIS attendance policy **does not distinguish between justified or unjustified absences**. The student is deemed responsible for managing his/her absences.

Only absences for medical reasons will be considered justified absences. The student is deemed responsible for providing the necessary documentation. Other emergencies will be analysed case-by-case by the Academic Director of the BaPIS.

The Instructor, the Academic Director and the Study Abroad Office should be informed by email immediately.

Classroom norms:
- No food or drink is permitted in class.
- Students will have a ten-minute break after one one-hour session.
- Students must come to class fully prepared.

Course contents:

INTRODUCTION

1: Course introduction: The link between the development environment and social injustice
- Course Overview
- Approaching the "development" concept Phill McMichael
- Approaching the "social justice" concept Amartya Sen
- Approaching the "political ecology" concept Paul Robbins
- The development project as an economic and environmental construction project of economic and political elites
- A notion of governance
- Theory and Reality – Complexity Interdependence
- Social Change

Core readings: McMichael (2017), Introduction and Chapter 1
Additional readings: Perreault (2009); Robbins (2012), Chapter 1.

PART I – CRITICAL THEORIES OF DEVELOPMENT

2: Colonialism, and the roots of the development project
- Colonialism, the division of labour
- Social Reorganization
- Decolonisation
- Decolonisation and Development
- Ingredients of the Development Project
- Framing the Development Project
- Economic Nationalism

Core readings: McMichael (2017) Chapter 2
Additional readings: Davis (2001) Chapter 9, Davis (2004), Escobar (2012) Chapter 2, Ferguson and Lohman (1994).

3: International Framework
- The International Framework
- Remarking the International Division of Labour
- The Food Aid Regime

- Remarking Third World Agriculture

Core readings: McMichael (2017) Chapter 3.
Additional readings: Carney (2004); Shiva (1991) Chapter 1.

4: Globalising Developments
- The World Industrialization in Context
- Agriculture Globalisation
- Global Finance

Core readings: McMichael (2017), Chapter 4.
Additional readings: Peet and Hartwick (2015), pp. 90–10

PART II - THE GLOBALISATION PROJECT

5: The Globalisation Project (1980's to 2000's)
- Instituting the Globalisation Project
- The Debt Regime
- The Globalisation Project
- Global Governance
- The World Trade Organization

Core readings: McMichael (2017), Chapter 5.
Additional readings: Conde and Kallis (2012).

6: The Globalisation Project in Practice
- Poverty Governance
- Outsourcing
- Global Labour-Sourcing Politics
- Displacement
- Informalization
- Global Recolonization

Core readings: McMichael (2017), Chapter 6.
Additional readings: Karriem (2009); Peet and Hartwick (2015), pp- 310-324

7: Global Counter movements
- Environmentalism
- Feminism
- Food Sovereignty

Core readings: McMichael (2017), Chapter 7.
Additional readings: Patel and Moore (2017)

PART III - MILLENNIAL RECKONINGS (2000'S TO PRESENT)

8: The Globalisation Project in Crises
- Social Crises Feminism
- Legitimacy Crises

- Geopolitical Transitions
- Ecological Crises

Core readings: McMichael (2017), Chapter 8.
Additional readings: Patel and Moore (2017)

9: Sustainable Development & Social Change
- The Challenge of Climate Change
- Responses to the Sustainability Challenge
- Public Interventions
- Grassroots Developments
- Rethinking Development
- Social Urgency
- Paradigm Change - Potential alternatives
- Conclusion

Core readings: McMichael (2017), Chapters 9 and 10.
Additional readings: Patel and Moore (2017) Book

Session 10: Final Exam

Last revision: September 2024.

Required readings:
- McMichael, P. Development and Social Change: A Global Perspective.
- Sociology for a New Century Series. London: SAGE Publications, 2012.

Recommended bibliography:
- Guarnieri, Eleonora and Rainer H. (2021) Colonialism and female empowerment: A two – sided legacy. In: Journal of Development Economics. Vol 151. June 2021. Colonialism and female empowerment: A two-sided legacy - ScienceDirect
- Andreucci, Diego, & Giorgos Kallis. «Governmentality, Development and the Violence of Natural Resource Extraction in Peru». Ecological Economics 134 (April 2017): 95-103. https://doi.org/10.1016/j.ecolecon.2017.01.003.
- Bernstein, Steven. The Compromise of Liberal Environmentalism. New York: Columbia University Press, 2001.
- Camargo, Alejandro, & Diana Ojeda. «Ambivalent desires: State formation and dispossession in the face of climate crisis». Political Geography 60 (1st September 2017): 57-65. https://doi.org/10.1016/j.polgeo.2017.04.003.
- Escobar, Arturo. Territories of Difference: Place, Movements, Life, Redes. Durham, NC: Duke University Press, 2008.
- Escobar, Arturo. Encountering Development. The Making and Unmaking of the Third World. Princeton, NJ: Princeton University Press, 1995.
- Ferguson, James, & Lohman, Larry. «The Anti-Politics Machine. "Development" and Bureaucratic Power in Lesotho». The Ecologist 24, no 5 (October 1994)

- Galeano, Eduardo. Open Veins of Latin America: Five Centuries of the Pillage of a Continent. 25th anniversary ed. New York: Monthly Review Press, 1997.
- Goldman, Michael. «Constructing an Environmental State: Eco-Governmentality and Other Transnational Practices of a 'Green' World Bank». Social Problems 48, no 4 (2001): 499-523. https://doi.org/10.1525/sp.2001.48.4.499.
- Harvey, David. The New Imperialism. Oxford: Oxford University Press, 2003.
- McMichael, P. Development and Social Change: A Global Perspective. Sociology for a New Century Series. London: SAGE Publications, 2012.
- Patel, Raj, & Jason W. Moore. A History of the World in Seven Cheap Things. A Guide to Capitalism, Nature, and the Future of the Planet. Oakland, CA: University of California Press, 2017.
- Peet, R., & E. Hartwick. Theories of Development, Third Edition: Contentions, Arguments, Alternatives. New York and London: Guilford Publications, 2015.
- Peet, Richard. Unholy Trinity: The IMF, World Bank and WTO. Second. London: Zed Books, 2009.
- Peluso, Nancy Lee, & Michael Watts, eds. Violent Environments. Ithaca, NY: Cornell University Press, 2001.
- Perreault, Tom. «Environment and Development». In A Companion to Environmental Geography, Edited by Noel Castree, David Demeritt, Diana Liverman, & Bruce Rhoads, 432-60. John Wiley & Sons, 2009.
- Prudham, Scott. «Pimping Climate Change: Richard Branson, Global Warming, and the Performance of Green Capitalism. Environment and Planning A: Economy and Space 41, no 7 (1st July 2009): 1594-1613. https://doi.org/10.1068/a4071.
- Robbins, Paul. Political Ecology: A Critical Introduction. Second Edition. Malden, MA: Wiley-Blackwell, 2012.
- Sachs, Wolfgang, ed. The Development Dictionary. A Guide to Knowledge as Power. London and New Jersey: Zed Books, 1992.
- Taylor, Marcus. The Political Ecology of Climate Change Adaptation. Livelihoods, agrarian change and the conflicts of development. London and New York: Routledge, 2015.
- Watts, Michael. «Petro-Violence: Community, Extraction, and Political Ecology of a Mythic Commodity». In Violent Environments, edited by Nancy Lee.
- Peluso & Michael Watts, 189-212. Ithaca, NY: Cornell University Press, 2001.

Course timetable:

Week 1		8.I Opening session: Introduction	
Week 2	13.I Session 1	15.I Seminar 1	

1: The link between the development environment and social injustice			
Week 3 2: Colonialism, and the roots of the development project	**20.I** Session 2	**22.I** Seminar 2	
Week 4 3: International Framework	**27.I** Session 3	**29.I** Seminar 3	
Week 5 4: Globalising Developments	**3.II** Session 4	**5.II** Seminar 4	
Week 6 5: The Globalisation Project (1980's to 2000's)	**10.II** Session 5	**12.II** Seminar 5	
Week 7 6: The Globalisation Project in Practice	**17.II** Session 6	**19.II** Seminar 6	**21.II** Mid-Term Quiz
Week 8 7: Global Counter movements	**24.II** Session 7	**26.II** Seminar 7	
Week 9 8: The Globalisation Project in Crises	**3.III** Session 8	**5.III** Seminar 8	
Week 10 9: Sustainable Development & Social Change		**12.III** Session 9	
Week 11 9: Sustainable Development & Social Change	**17.III** Seminar 9	**19.III** Session 10: Final Exam	