Theories and Applications of Development
Tue/Thur: 12:30 pm-1:45 pm
Zoom

Instructor: Dr. Ben M. McKay
Email: ben.mckay@ucalgary.ca
Office Hours: 2pm-3pm Tues/Thur, or by appointment

Prerequisites
DEST 201 or permission from the instructor

Course description
What is the meaning of ‘development’? Is it a process of advancing through stages of Western modernity? A geopolitical project? A particular sort of social imaginary which reinforces power relations? Is it just about achieving high rates of economic growth? This core course in Development Studies introduces students to the various meanings of development and the history of development theory from classic political economists such as Adam Smith and Karl Marx, to theories of modernization, dependency, developmentalism, neoliberalism, as well as critical development theory, post-development, feminist theories, and greening development. The course will cover these theories chronologically in order to better understand how these ideas evolved over time and the particular historical and geo-political contexts in which they are situated. This is not a course on development policy and projects, but rather the underlying assumptions and logics which guide such practices. Students will deepen their understanding of the evolution of past and present development debates and be able to think critically about the notion of ‘development’.

Learning outcomes
After taking this course, students should be able to

- Think critically about the various meanings and interpretations of development
- Explain the history and trajectory of development thinking and theory and how they relate to one another
- Discuss the major theoretical and conceptual approaches in development studies and their principal assumptions
- Write an analytical research paper at an advanced level
- Critically evaluate issues related to the theories and application of development

Learning methods

1 Office hours may vary, so students are encouraged to make an appointment.
This course combines (a) lectures, (b) student-led discussions, (c) analytical reading exercises; (d) video and films; (e) student-led peer review exercises; and (f) analytical writing.

Learning Resources
All course readings are available online via the University of Calgary library [https://library.ucalgary.ca](https://library.ucalgary.ca) and/or available via D2L.

Learning Technologies and Requirements
In order to successfully engage in their learning experiences at the University of Calgary, students taking online, remote and blended courses are required to have reliable access to the following technology.

- A computer with a supported operating system, as well as the latest security and malware updates
- A current and updates web browser
- Webcam (built in or external)
- Microphone and speaker (built in or external) or headset with microphone
- Broadband internet connection

Methods of assessment

1- In-class assignments: 10%
A total of five in-class assignments will be held throughout the semester, each worth 2% of your final grade. These will be based on the required readings assigned for that week, so make sure you come to class prepared and having done the required readings.

2- Film Review: 15%
Students will write a 500-750 word (excluding bibliography) film review. Due October 26th (upload to D2L before midnight).

3- Mid-term Exam #1: 30%
Short answers and multiple choice. All materials in-class and in the readings up to and including October 5th will be covered. This midterm is open book and online via D2L. You will have the entire class time + 50% extra time to complete the online midterm exam. The midterm will be available to start on October 7th at 12:30pm and will close October 8th at 1:45pm. Students have the option to start a test or timed assessment at a time that best suits their situation within a 24-hour time period. Just remember that regardless of when you start the exam, you must finish within the allotted time period (75 min + 38 min + 7 minutes for breaks = 120 min).

4- Mid-term Exam #2: 30%
Short answers and multiple choice. All materials in-class and in the readings between October 14th and November 2nd (inclusive) will be covered. This midterm is open book and online via D2L. You will have the entire class time + 50% extra time to complete the online midterm exam. The midterm will be available to start on November 4th at 1230pm and will close November 5th at 1:45pm. Students have the option to start a test or timed assessment at a time that best
suits their situation within a 24-hour time period. Just remember that regardless of when you start the exam, you must finish within the allotted time period (75 min + 38 min + 7 minutes for breaks = 120 min).

5- Mid-term Exam #3: 15%
Short answers and multiple choice. All materials in-class and in the readings between November 16th – December 7th (inclusive) will be covered. This midterm is open book and online via D2L. You will have the entire class time + 50% extra time to complete the online midterm exam. The midterm will be available to start on December 9th at 12:30pm and will close December 10th at 12:30pm. Students have the option to start a test or timed assessment at a time that best suits their situation within a 24-hour time period. Just remember that regardless of when you start the exam, you must finish within the allotted time period (75 min + 38 min + 7 minutes for breaks = 120 min).

- There is no final examination for this course.
- It is not essential to pass all components to pass the course as whole.
- Late assignments will be penalized by 10% per day.
- The instructor will be available for questions during the normal scheduled class time on the day of the midterm exams.

**MISSED EXAMS OR ASSESSMENTS**

Students may be asked to provide supporting documentation for an exemption/special request. This may include, but is not limited to, a prolonged absence from a course where participation is required, a missed course assessment, a deferred examination, or an appeal. Students are encouraged to submit documentation that will support their situation. Supporting documentation may be dependent on the reason noted in their personal statement/explanation provided to explain their situation. This could be medical certificate/documentation, references, police reports, invitation letter, or a statutory declaration, etc. The decision to provide supporting documentation that best suits the situation is at the discretion of the student. Students cannot be required to provide specific supporting documentation, such as a medical note.

Students can make a Statutory Declaration as their supporting documentation (available at ucalgary.ca/registrar). This requires students to make a declaration in the presence of a Commissioner for Oaths. It demonstrates the importance of honest and accurate information provided and is a legally binding declaration. Several registered Commissioners for Oaths are available to students at no charge, on campus, please see ucalgary.ca/registrar. Falsification of any supporting documentation will be taken very seriously and may result in disciplinary action through the Academic Discipline regulations or the Student Non-Academic Misconduct policy.

Reappraisal of Graded Term Work: [http://www.ucalgary.ca/pubs/calendar/current/i-2.html](http://www.ucalgary.ca/pubs/calendar/current/i-2.html)
Reappraisal of Final Grade: [http://www.ucalgary.ca/pubs/calendar/current/i-3.html](http://www.ucalgary.ca/pubs/calendar/current/i-3.html)
The final mark out of 100, will then be converted to a letter grade as follows:

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Grade</th>
<th>Percentage Range</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>A+</td>
<td>95 – 100%</td>
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<tr>
<td>A</td>
<td>90 – 94.9%</td>
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<tr>
<td>A-</td>
<td>85 – 89.9%</td>
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<tr>
<td>B+</td>
<td>80 – 84.9%</td>
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<tr>
<td>B</td>
<td>75 – 79.9%</td>
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<tr>
<td>B-</td>
<td>71 – 74.9%</td>
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<tr>
<td>C+</td>
<td>67 – 70.9%</td>
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<tr>
<td>C</td>
<td>63 – 66.9%</td>
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<tr>
<td>C-</td>
<td>59 – 62.9%</td>
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<tr>
<td>D+</td>
<td>55 – 58.9%</td>
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<td>D</td>
<td>50 – 54.9%</td>
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<td>F</td>
<td>&lt; 50%</td>
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Supplementary Fees
Not applicable

*For additional detailed course information posted by the instructor, visit the course Desire2Learn page online at* [https://d2l.ucalgary.ca/d2l/home](https://d2l.ucalgary.ca/d2l/home).

**SUPPLEMENTAL INFORMATION**

**ACADEMIC ACCOMMODATIONS**
Students seeking an accommodation based on disability or medical concerns should contact Student Accessibility Services; SAS will process the request and issue letters of accommodation to instructors. For additional information on support services and accommodations for students with disabilities, visit [https://live-ucalgary.ucalgary.ca/student-services/access](https://live-ucalgary.ucalgary.ca/student-services/access). Students who require an accommodation in relation to their coursework based on a protected ground other than disability should communicate this need in writing to their Instructor or the Department Head. The full policy on Student Accommodations is available at [https://www.ucalgary.ca/legal-services/university-policies-procedures/accommodation-students-disabilities-procedure](https://www.ucalgary.ca/legal-services/university-policies-procedures/accommodation-students-disabilities-procedure).

**ACADEMIC MISCONDUCT**
“Academic Misconduct” includes such things as cheating, falsification, plagiarism, unauthorized assistance, and failure to comply with exam regulations or an Instructor’s expectations regarding conduct required of Students completing academic assessments. Students who participate in, or encourage the commission of, Academic Misconduct will be subject to disciplinary action which could include Probation, Suspension, or Expulsion from the University. For information on academic misconduct and its consequences, please see the University of Calgary Calendar at [https://www.ucalgary.ca/pubs/calendar/current/k-3.html](https://www.ucalgary.ca/pubs/calendar/current/k-3.html)

Further support on academic integrity is available at: [https://ucalgary.ca/student-services/student-success/learning/academic-integrity](https://ucalgary.ca/student-services/student-success/learning/academic-integrity)

**INSTRUCTOR INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY**
Course materials created by professor(s) (including course outlines, presentations and posted notes, labs, case studies, assignments and exams) remain the intellectual property of the professor(s). These materials may NOT be reproduced, redistributed or copied without the explicit consent of the professor. The posting of course materials to third party websites such as note-sharing sites without permission is prohibited. Sharing of extracts of these course materials with other students enrolled in the course at the same time may be allowed under fair dealing.

FREEDOM OF INFORMATION AND PROTECTION OF PRIVACY ACT
Student information will be collected in accordance with typical (or usual) classroom practice. Students’ assignments will be accessible only by the authorized course faculty. Private information related to the individual student is treated with the utmost regard by the faculty at the University of Calgary.

COPYRIGHT LEGISLATION
All students are required to read the University of Calgary policy on Acceptable Use of Material Protected by Copyright (https://ucalgary.ca/legal-services/university-policies-procedures/acceptable-use-material-protected-copyright-policy) and requirements of the copyright act (https://laws-lois.justice.gc.ca/eng/acts/C-42/index.html) to ensure they are aware of the consequences of unauthorized sharing of course materials (including instructor notes, electronic versions of textbooks, etc.). Students who use material protected by copyright in violation of this policy may be disciplined under the Non-Academic Misconduct Policy.

SUPPORT AND RESOURCES:
Please visit the Registrar’s website at: https://www.ucalgary.ca/registrar/registration/course-outlines for additional important information on the following:

- Emergency Evacuation/Assembly Points
- Wellness and Mental Health Resources
- Student Success Centre
- Student Ombuds Office
- Student Union (SU) Information
- Safewalk
Zoom is a video conferencing program that will allow us to meet at specific times for a “live” video conference, so that we can have the opportunity to meet each other virtually and discuss relevant course topics as a learning community.

To help ensure Zoom sessions are private, do not share the Zoom link or password with others, or on any social media platforms. Zoom links and passwords are only intended for students registered in the course. Zoom recordings and materials presented in Zoom, including any teaching materials, must not be shared, distributed or published without the instructor’s permission.

The use of video conferencing programs relies on participants to act ethically, honestly and with integrity; and in accordance with the principles of fairness, good faith, and respect. When entering Zoom or other video conferencing sessions (such as MS Teams), you play a role in helping create an effective, safe and respectful learning environment. Please be mindful of how your behaviour in these sessions may affect others. Participants are required to use names officially associated with their UCID (legal or preferred names listed in the Student Centre) when engaging in these activities. Instructors/moderators can remove those whose names do not appear on class rosters. Non-compliance may be investigated under relevant University of Calgary conduct policies. If participants have difficulties complying with this requirement, they should email the instructor of the class explaining why, so the instructor may consider whether to grant an exception, and on what terms. For more information on how to get the most out of your zoom sessions visit: https://elearn.ucalgary.ca/guidelines-for-zoom.

If you are unable to attend a Zoom session, please contact your instructor to arrange an alternative activity for the missed session (e.g., to review a recorded session). Please be prepared, as best as you are able, to join class in a quiet space that will allow you to be fully present and engaged in Zoom sessions. Students will be advised by their instructor when they are expected to turn on their webcam (for group work, presentations, etc.).

The instructor may record online Zoom class sessions for the purposes of supporting student learning in this class – such as making the recording available for review of the session or for students who miss a session. Students will be advised before the instructor initiates a recording of a Zoom session. These recordings will be used to support student learning only and will not be shared or used for any other purpose.

I would like to take this opportunity to acknowledge the traditional territories of the people of the Treaty 7 region in Southern Alberta, which includes the Blackfoot Confederacy (comprising the Siksika, Piikani, and Kainai First Nations), as well as the Tsuut’ina First Nation, and the Stoney Nakoda (including the Chiniki, Bearspaw, and Wesley First Nations). The City of Calgary is also home to Métis Nation of Alberta, Region 3. I would also like to note that the University of Calgary is situated on land adjacent to where the Bow River meets the Elbow River, and that the traditional Blackfoot name of this place is “Moh’kins’tsis”, which we now call the City of Calgary.