

PO203-30 Politics of International Development

26/27

Department

Politics & International Studies

Level

Undergraduate Level 2

Module leader

Shonali Banerjee

Credit value

30

Module duration

20 weeks

Assessment

100% coursework

Study location

University of Warwick main campus, Coventry

Description

Introductory description

This module focuses on what international development means, how it comes about, and what kinds of life it makes possible.

The first half of the module (Weeks 1-10) unpacks the different ways in which 'development' has been conceptualised. In doing this, it provides a chronological overview of key intellectual interventions and how they responded to - and informed - 'real world' changes.

The second half (Weeks 11-20) builds upon theoretical foundations to explore some of the central actors of international development, namely: international organisations, states, global corporations and civil society. It then considers how these actors influence the policies of international development in four areas: foreign aid, development indicators, financial inclusion and decolonising development.

Module aims

This module aims to:

Introduce students to issues pertaining to the politics of development;

Provide an overview of the literature in this field;
Encourage students to engage with relevant scholarly and policy-focused literature, develop arguments, and defend positions by presenting views in seminars and through written work;
Provide a space in seminars for critical thinking on the politics of development.

Outline syllabus

This is an indicative module outline only to give an indication of the sort of topics that may be covered. Actual sessions held may differ.

Week 1: Development

Week 2: National Development

Week 3: Underdevelopment

Week 4: Private Sector Development

Week 5: Developmental State

Week 6: Reading Week

Week 7: Human Development

Week 8: Gender and Development

Week 9: Sustainable Development

Week 10: Post-Development

Week 11: Development Experts

Week 12: National Development

Week 13: Foreign Aid

Week 14: Global Value Chains

Week 15: The China Model

Week 16: Reading Week

Week 17: Development Indicators

Week 18: Women's Empowerment and Financial Inclusion

Week 19: Population Policy

Week 20: Decolonising Development

Learning outcomes

By the end of the module, students should be able to:

- Students should be familiar with the main theoretical debates and key substantive issues central to the politics of development;
- Students should be able to identify different development trajectories in particular parts of the world;
- Student should be able to critically interrogate development policy and its underlying intellectual assumptions;
- Students should be able to review existing literature on international development and conduct research-oriented investigations;

- Students should be able to present your ideas in a coherent and rigorous manner through your written work.

Indicative reading list

[Reading lists can be found in Talis](#)

[Specific reading list for the module](#)

Subject specific skills

Students should be familiar with the main theoretical debates and key substantive actors and issues central to the politics of international development;

Students should be able to identify different development trajectories in particular parts of the world;

Students should be able to critically interrogate development policy and its underlying intellectual assumptions;

Students should be able to review existing literature on international development and conduct research-oriented investigations;

You should be able to present your ideas in a coherent and rigorous manner – both verbally in seminars, and through written work.

Transferable skills

The module provides students with opportunities to acquire or develop the following key skills:

Analytical skills

Independent and critical thinking

Cogent writing and considered dialogue

Intercultural awareness

Written and verbal communication skills

Skills in academic practice

Awareness of, and sensitivity to, diversity

Educational self-awareness skills

Skills in the distillation and application of complex information and ideas

Study

Study time

Type	Required
Lectures	18 sessions of 1 hour (6%)
Seminars	18 sessions of 1 hour (6%)
Total	300 hours

Type	Required
Private study	164 hours (55%)
Assessment	100 hours (33%)
Total	300 hours

Private study description

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Costs

No further costs have been identified for this module.

Assessment

You must pass all assessment components to pass the module.

Students can register for this module without taking any assessment.

Assessment group A3

	Weighting	Study time	Eligible for self-certification
Assessment component			
Book review	25%	25 hours	Yes (extension)
Reassessment component is the same			
Assessment component			
Policy brief review Review of a policy brief	25%	25 hours	Yes (extension)
Reassessment component is the same			
Assessment component			
Research essay	50%	50 hours	Yes (extension)

Reassessment component is the same

Feedback on assessment

Written feedback

Availability

Courses

This module is Core optional for:

- Year 2 of UPOA-M16A Undergraduate Politics and International Studies
- Year 2 of UPOA-M168 Undergraduate Politics and International Studies with Chinese
- Year 2 of UPOA-M169 Undergraduate Politics and International Studies with Chinese (3 year)

This module is Optional for:

- Year 2 of UECA-3 Undergraduate Economics 3 Year Variants
- Year 2 of UECA-4 Undergraduate Economics 4 Year Variants
- Year 2 of UECA-LM1D Undergraduate Economics, Politics and International Studies
- Year 2 of UPHA-V7ML Undergraduate Philosophy, Politics and Economics
- Year 2 of UPOA-M100 Undergraduate Politics
- Year 2 of UPOA-M16A Undergraduate Politics and International Studies
- Year 2 of UPOA-M169 Undergraduate Politics and International Studies with Chinese (3 year)
- Year 2 of UPOA-M164 Undergraduate Politics, International Studies and German
- Year 2 of UPOA-M162 Undergraduate Politics, International Studies and Quantitative Methods
- Year 2 of UPHA-V7MW Undergraduate Politics, Philosophy and Law

This module is Unusual option for:

- UPHA-V7ML Undergraduate Philosophy, Politics and Economics
 - Year 2 of V7MR Philosophy, Politics and Economics (Bipartite with Economics Major)
 - Year 2 of V7MP Philosophy, Politics and Economics (Bipartite)
 - Year 2 of V7ML Philosophy, Politics and Economics (Tripartite)
- Year 2 of UPHA-V7MW Undergraduate Politics, Philosophy and Law

This module is Core option list A for:

- Year 2 of UECA-LM1D Undergraduate Economics, Politics and International Studies

This module is Option list A for:

- Year 2 of UPHA-V5L2 Undergraduate Philosophy and Politics
- Year 2 of UPOA-M168 Undergraduate Politics and International Studies with Chinese
- Year 2 of UPOA-M169 Undergraduate Politics and International Studies with Chinese (3 year)
- Year 2 of UPOA-ML13 Undergraduate Politics and Sociology
- UPOA-M163 Undergraduate Politics, International Studies and French
 - Year 2 of M163 Politics, International Studies and French
 - Year 3 of M163 Politics, International Studies and French
- UPOA-M164 Undergraduate Politics, International Studies and German
 - Year 2 of M164 Politics, International Studies and German
 - Year 3 of M164 Politics, International Studies and German
- UPOA-M166 Undergraduate Politics, International Studies and Hispanic Studies
 - Year 2 of M166 Politics, International Studies and Hispanic Studies
 - Year 3 of M166 Politics, International Studies and Hispanic Studies
- UPOA-M165 Undergraduate Politics, International Studies and Italian
 - Year 2 of M165 Politics, International Studies and Italian
 - Year 3 of M165 Politics, International Studies and Italian

This module is Option list B for:

- Year 4 of UESA-H311 MEng Mechanical Engineering
- Year 2 of UPHA-V7ML Undergraduate Philosophy, Politics and Economics

This module is Option list C for:

- Year 2 of UHIA-VM11 Undergraduate History and Politics

This module is Option list D for:

- Year 2 of UHIA-VM11 Undergraduate History and Politics
- Year 2 of UHIA-VM13 Undergraduate History and Politics (with a term in Venice)
- Year 2 of UPHA-V7ML Undergraduate Philosophy, Politics and Economics

This module is Option list E for:

- Year 2 of UPHA-V7MW Undergraduate Politics, Philosophy and Law