



**University of Tlemcen**

**Faculty of law and political sciences**

**Departement Of Political Sciences**

**Academic year 2024-2025**

Course Title: International Development

Course Level: Master's ( strategic and security studies /Political Science)

Course Duration: 14 weeks (1 semester)

Credit Hours : 3

Instructor: Pr. SIHEM BENRAHOU

Office Hours: online via teams and google meet 1H30 Thursday from 10H -11H30

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#### Course Description

This course examines the political, economic, and social dimensions of international development. It explores the historical evolution of development theories, the role of states, international organizations, and non-state actors in shaping development policies, and the challenges of achieving sustainable and equitable development in a globalized world. Students will critically analyze case studies, policies, and debates in the field, with a focus on the political dynamics of development.

#### Course Objectives

By the end of this course, students will:

1. Understand the key theories and concepts in international development.
2. Analyze the role of political institutions, power structures, and governance in development processes.
3. Evaluate the impact of globalization, inequality, and environmental challenges on development.
4. Critically assess the roles of states, international organizations, and NGOs in development.
5. Develop skills in policy analysis and research related to international development.

#### Course Outline

Week 1: Introduction to International Development

- What is international development?
- Historical overview: From colonialism to the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs)
- Key concepts: Development, underdevelopment, and globalization

Week 2: Theories of Development

- Modernization theory
- Dependency theory
- World-systems theory
- Post-development theory

#### Week 3: The Role of the State in Development

- Developmental states vs. failed states
- Governance, institutions, and development
- Case study: East Asian developmental states

#### Week 4: International Organizations and Development

- The role of the World Bank, IMF, and WTO
- The United Nations and the SDGs
- Critiques of international financial institutions

#### Week 5: Globalization and Development

- Economic globalization and its impacts on development
- Trade, foreign direct investment, and development
- Inequality and global power dynamics

#### Week 6: Poverty and Inequality

- Measuring poverty and inequality
- The politics of poverty reduction
- Case study: Conditional cash transfer programs

#### Week 7: Gender and Development

- Gender mainstreaming in development policies
- Women's empowerment and development outcomes
- Case study: Microfinance and gender

#### Week 8: Environment and Sustainable Development

- Climate change and development challenges
- The politics of sustainable development
- Case study: Renewable energy projects in developing countries

#### Week 9: Conflict, Security, and Development

- The nexus between conflict and development
- Post-conflict reconstruction and state-building
- Case study: Development in fragile states

#### Week 10: Non-State Actors in Development

- The role of NGOs and civil society
- Corporate social responsibility and private sector involvement
- Critiques of NGO-driven development

#### Week 11: Human Rights and Development

- The human rights-based approach to development
- Development and social justice
- Case study: Indigenous rights and development projects

#### Week 12: Aid and Development Finance

- The politics of foreign aid
- Aid effectiveness and critiques of aid dependency
- Emerging donors: China and South-South cooperation

#### Week 13: The Future of International Development

- Emerging challenges: Climate change, pandemics, and technological disruption
- Decolonizing development
- Rethinking development paradigms

#### Week 14: Course Wrap-Up and Final Presentations

- Student presentations on research projects
- Recap of key themes and discussions

#### Assessment Methods

1. Class Participation (10%): Active engagement in discussions and activities.
2. Reading Reflections (10%): Weekly short reflections on assigned readings.
3. Group Presentation (10%): Group presentation on a case study or policy issue.
5. Final EXAM (70%).

#### Required Readings

##### 1. Textbooks:

- Amartya Sen, Development as Freedom (1999).
- Jeffrey Sachs, The End of Poverty (2005).
- Ha-Joon Chang, Bad Samaritans: The Myth of Free Trade and the Secret History of Capitalism(2008).

##### 2. Articles and Reports:

- World Development Reports (World Bank).
- UNDP Human Development Reports.
- Selected academic articles from journals like World Development, Third World Quarterly, and Development and Change.

##### 3. Additional Resources:

- Documentaries and podcasts on development issues.
- Policy briefs and reports from NGOs and international organizations.

#### Additional Notes

- This syllabus is flexible and can be adapted to include guest lectures, field visits, or simulations.
- Encourage students to engage with current events and real-world development challenges.
- Provide opportunities for students to connect theory with practice through case studies and policy analysis.