

M2051.000100-001

Understanding International Development Cooperation

Fall 2021

**Graduate School of International Studies
Seoul National University**

Instructor: Bo Kyung Kim

Class hours: Monday 14:00 – 17:00

Class format: (1) **September-October: virtual (via Zoom)**

(2) **November-December: offline (Bldg. 140, Rm. 103)**

- offline classes may be shifted to virtual depending on the COVID-19 situation and university guidelines

Office hours: Friday 14:00 – 16:00 (Bldg. 140-2, Rm. 303) or by appointment

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Course Overview

The core objective of this course is to enhance a basic understanding of international development cooperation. International aid to developing and transition countries is one of the principal mechanisms by which policymakers and development practitioners seek to promote economic development and democratization in less developed countries. In order to grasp core concepts, history, patterns, and problems of aid governance from a global perspective, a broad overview of the difficulties, challenges and debates about effective aid delivery at both policy and theoretical levels will be discussed. Topics will cover donors and recipients, aid flows, project cycle, monitoring and evaluation, incentives of donors and recipients, the challenges they pose to effective aid delivery, aid delivery in conflict, and accountability deficit problems. The first half of the course will focus on theories and actors in international development, while the latter half deals with aid in international development and crosscutting issues.

Honor code

You are expected to be thoroughly familiar with the Honor Code, which provides guidance on when citation is required. Essentially, all quotations must be set off as such and attributed; citations should be used whenever material is derived from another source; and students who present words or ideas from another source as their own in papers or exams by failing to give proper attribution will receive a failing grade in the class, at a minimum. Please do not plagiarize your own work: work that has been prepared for a purpose other than this class may not be submitted to fulfill class requirements and doing so is a violation of the Honor Code. Plagiarism (including habitual self-plagiarism) or the violation of honor codes will be strictly penalized. All writing assignments will be checked with Turnitin. If you have any questions about plagiarism or proper citation practices, please do not hesitate to ask.

Grading

- (1) Weekly Essays (30%)
- (2) Mid-term Exam (30%)
- (3) Book Review (20%)
- (4) Presentation and Attendance (20%)
- (5) Class Participation: a basic requirement that all students enrolled in this course are expected to meet.

(1) Weekly Essays

In order to help prepare for class discussion, students are required to write weekly essays every week. Weekly questions are indicated on the top of each week's reading list. A one-page essay (times new roman, 11 points, single-spaced, basic page margin, .docx format) on the given question must be submitted via eTL by 1:50 p.m. each class day. The essay must indicate that your writing is based on each week's reading materials; however, the core contents must not be simple summaries of the readings, instead an essay that summarizes your own thoughts so that you can engage in the discussion session for each class.

(2) Mid-term Examination

The mid-term will consist of one compulsory (50%) and two optional questions (25% each). Format of questions will be similar to weekly essay questions.

In principle, mid-term exam will be conducted off-line in a classroom with handwritten exam sheets. However, in case offline examination is impossible due to COVID-19 situation, mid-term will be shifted to online in-class examination (logged onto zoom, answers typed and upload via eTL, with shorter exam time). Cameras will be required to be placed in a certain direction to avoid cheating. Further notice will be given on week 8.

(3) Book Review: Memo & Final Paper

1) Write a memo of no more than 500 words outlining your paper in a broad context, submit via eTL by October 25th, 1:50 p.m., and prepare for presentation in class on Week 8. Everyone is expected to present their outlines for approximately 5~10 minutes (time per person may change depending on class size) and receive constructive feedback from colleagues and the instructor.

2) Final book reviews are to be submitted via eTL by December 20th, 5:00 p.m. The review is minimum 2,500 maximum 3,000 words in length excluding footnotes and the bibliography.

The guideline of book reviews is attached as *Appendix I*.

(4) Presentation (Individual or Group depending on class size)

All students are required to make verbal presentations for a specific weekly theme they are interested in. Presenters are exempt from the weekly essay assignment; however, their opinions on the weekly essay question must be included in their presentation contents.

Presentations must not be confined to simple summaries of readings. Instead, presentations must be on specific case studies or examples related to the week's topic and should be intriguing enough to stimulate lively and constructive discussion among classmates. PPT slides must be prepared to deliver a 30–40-minute presentation, and the very last slide must contain subsets of questions/topics that can lead to discussions (presenters will be discussion leaders). The number of presentations depends on how many students are enrolled, and the format may be slightly modified by the instructor after the first week.

(5) Class Participation

Stimulating and thoughtful class discussion is a public good that is only possible if students come to class prepared. You are expected to attend class, to arrive on time, and to come to class prepared

to engage in class discussion by doing the assigned reading, noting the key arguments, and identifying and thinking about discussion questions and raising questions of your own. You should be prepared to be called upon at random and asked to introduce a reading by outlining its main discussion points.

Individual Exceptions

In the interest of fairness to all students, no individual exceptions to the rules stated in this syllabus will be granted in principle.

Basic References

Haslam, Paul A., Jessica Schafer, and Pierre Beaudet, *Introduction to International Development: Approaches, Actors, and Issues*, 3rd edition (Oxford: Oxford University Press, 2017).

Potter, Robert, Tony Binns, Jennifer A. Elliott, Etienne Nel and David W. Smith, *Geographies of Development: An Introduction to Development Studies*, 4th edition (London: Routledge, 2018).

Course Readings

All sessions will be conducted in the combined fashion of instructor's lecture, students' presentation, and class discussions which invite all students enrolled in this course. The class materials and presentation slides will be uploaded via eTL.

***Weekly schedule may be modified after week 1, depending on the class size and university guidelines regarding COVID-19.**

Week 1 (9/6 zoom): Introduction and Course Outline

Tarp, Finn, "Aid, Growth, and Development," in George Mavrotas (ed.), *Foreign Aid for Development: Issues, Challenges, and the New Agenda* (Oxford: Oxford University Press, 2010).

[Part One: Theories and Actors in International Development]

Week 2 (9/13 zoom): Historical Development of International Aid

Question for Weekly Essay and Discussion:

"The history of international aid is a logical outgrowth of wealthy countries' strategic architecture controlling global capitalism." Discuss.

Required Readings:

Riddell, Roger C., *Does Foreign Aid Really Work?* (Oxford: Oxford University Press, 2008), ch. 2 & 3.

Haslam, Paul A., Jessica Schafer, and Pierre Beaudet, *Introduction to International Development: Approaches, Actors, and Issues* (Oxford: Oxford University Press, 2017), ch. 2.

Hjertholm, Peter and Howard White, "Foreign Aid in Historical Perspective: Background and

Trends,” in Finn Tarp (eds.), *Foreign Aid and Development: Lessons Learnt and Directions for the Future* (London: Routledge, 2000).

Recommended Readings:

Thorbecke, Erik, “The Evolution of the Development Doctrine and the Role of Foreign Aid, 1950-2000,” in Finn Tarp (eds.), *Foreign Aid and Development: Lessons Learnt and Directions for the Future* (London: Routledge, 2000).

Week 3 (9/20): Chusok Holidays (no class)

Week 4 (9/27 zoom): Theories of International Development

Question for Weekly Essay and Discussion:

Do you agree that all the patterns of economic development in different societies can be convergent on a particular way of theorizing?

Required Readings:

Rapley, John, *Understanding Development: Theory and Practice in the Third World* (Boulder: Lynne Rienner, 2002), ch. 1 & 5.
Potter, Robert, Tony Binns, Jennifer A. Elliott, Etienne Nel and David W. Smith, *Geographies of Development: An Introduction to Development Studies* (London: Routledge, 2018), ch. 3.
Meyer, John W., John Boli-Bennett, and Christopher Chase-Dunn, “Convergence and Divergence in Development,” *Annual Review of Sociology* 1, 1975.

Recommended Readings:

Burnside, Craig and David Dollar, “Aid, Policies, and Growth,” *American Economic Review* 90(4), 2000.
Wheeler, Nicholas J., *Saving Strangers: Humanitarian Intervention in International Society* (Oxford: Oxford University Press, 2000), ch. 1.
Meier, Gerald M. and Dudley Seers (eds.), *Pioneers in Development* (New York: Oxford University Press, 1984).

Week 5 (10/4 zoom): Globalization, Inequality and the Emerging Global Governance

Question for Weekly Essay and Discussion:

Do you agree that globalization should be regarded as a negative impact on global governance which is aimed to reduce inequality in a global world?

Required Readings:

Haslam, Paul A., Jessica Schafer, and Pierre Beaudet, *Introduction to International Development: Approaches, Actors, and Issues* (Oxford: Oxford University Press, 2017), ch. 6.
Seligson, Mitchell A. and John T. Passe-Smith (eds.), *Development and Under-development: The Political Economy of Global Inequality* (Boulder: Lynne Rienner, 2008), ch. 9.
Hurrell, Andrew, “Global Inequality and International Institutions,” *Metaphilosophy* 32(1), 2001.

Deacon, Bob, *Global Social Policy and Governance* (London: Sage, 2007), ch. 7.

Recommended Readings:

Clemens, Michael A., Charles J. Kenny, and Todd J. Moss, "The Trouble with the MDGs: Confronting Expectations of Aid and Development Success," *Center for Global Development Working Paper* 40, 2004.

Sachs, Jeffrey, "The Development Challenge," *Foreign Affairs* 84(2), 2005.

Week 6 (10/11 zoom): Global Accountability for Development

Question for Weekly Essay and Discussion:

What makes development aid more accountable to the poor who are badly affected by aid disbursements?

Required Readings:

Keohane, Robert, "Global Governance and Democratic Accountability," in David Held and Mathias Koenig-Archibugi (eds.), *Taming Globalization: Frontiers of Governance* (Cambridge: Polity Press, 2003).

Alnoor Ebrahim and Edward Weisband (eds.), *Global Accountabilities: Participation, Pluralism, and Public Ethics* (Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, 2007), ch. 1.

Grant, Ruth and Robert Keohane, "Accountability and Abuses of Power in World Politics," *American Political Science Review* 99(1), 2005.

Charnovitz, Steve, "Accountability of Non-Governmental Organizations in Global Governance," in Lisa Jordan and Peter Van Tuijl (eds.), *NGO Accountability: Politics, Principles and Innovations* (London: Earthscan, 2007).

Recommended Readings:

De Renzio, Paolo, "Aid, Budgets and Accountability: A Survey Article," *Development Policy Review* 24(6), 2006.

Shihata, Ibrahim F. I., *The World Bank Inspection Panel: In Practice* (Oxford: Oxford University Press, 2000).

Kim, Taekyoon, "Contradictions of Global Accountability: The World Bank, Development NGOs, and Global Social Accountability," *Journal of International and Area Studies* 18(2), 2011.

Week 7 (10/18 zoom): The Aid Industry: Donors, Recipients, and Aid Flows

Question for Weekly Essay and Discussion:

Which way between bilateral and multilateral aid is more likely to be effective in promoting aid flow?

Required Readings:

Riddell, *Does Foreign Aid Really Work?*, ch. 4 & 5.

Reinikka, Ritva, "Donors and Service Delivery" in William Easterly (ed.), *Reinventing Foreign Aid* (Cambridge: MIT Press, 2008).

Smith, Brian H., "Non-governmental Organisations in International Development: Trends and

Future Research Priorities,” *Voluntas* 4(3), 1993.
Lewis, David, “Development NGOs and the Challenge of Partnership: Changing Relations between North and South,” *Social Policy & Administration* 32(5), 1998.

Recommended Readings:

Woods, Ngaire, “Whose Aid? Whose Influence? China, Emerging Donors and the Silent Revolution in Development Assistance,” *International Affairs* 84(6), 2008.
Easterly, William and Tobias Pfutze, “Where Does the Money Go? Best and Worst Practices in Foreign Aid,” *Journal of Economic Perspectives* 22(2), 2008.
Bano, Masooda, “Dangerous Correlations: Aid’s Impact on NGOs’ Performance and Ability to Mobilize Members in Pakistan,” *World Development* 36(11), 2008.
Smith, Daniel, *A Culture of Corruption: Everyday Deception and Popular Discount in Nigeria* (Princeton: Princeton University Press, 2007), ch. 3.

Week 8 (10/25 zoom): Book Review Memo and Presentation

Week 9 (11/1 offline classroom): Mid-term Exam – OFFLINE IN-CLASS EXAM

Offline in-class exam: Bldg. 140, Rm. 103

Be prepared for a handwritten exam. No electronic devices are allowed.

[Part Two: Aid in International Development and Crosscutting Issues]

Week 10 (11/8 offline classroom): Aid & Conditionality

Question for Weekly Essay and Discussion:

Is it justifiable to impose adjustment conditionality on foreign aid to the Third World?

Required Readings:

Riddell, *Does Foreign Aid Really Work?*, ch. 14.
World Bank, *Assessing Aid: What Works, What Doesn’t, and Why* (New York: Oxford University Press, 1998), ch. 3.
Collier, Paul, Patrick Guillaumont, Sylviane Guillaumont, and Jan Willem Gunning, “Redesigning Conditionality,” *World Development* 25(9), 1997.
Kellick, Tony, Ramani Gunatilaka, and Ana Marr, *Aid and the Political Economy of Policy Change* (London: ODI & Routledge, 1998), ch. 1, 2.

Recommended Readings:

World Bank, *Conditionality in Development Policy Lending* (Washington, D. C.: World Bank, 2007) (<http://siteresources.worldbank.org/PROJECTS/Resources/40940-1114615847489/Conditionalityfinalreport120407.pdf>).
Adam, Christopher, Gérard Chambas, Patrick Guillaumont, Sylviane Guillaumont Jeanneney, “Performance-based Conditionality: A European Perspective,” *World Development* 32(6), 2003.

Week 11 (11/15 offline classroom): Aid Modality & Evaluation

Question for Weekly Essay and Discussion:

Why is the evaluation of development aid important in enhancing its accountability?

Required Readings:

De Haan, Arjan, *How the Aid Industry Works: An Introduction to International Development* (Sterling: Kumarian Press, 2009), ch. 4.

Degnol-Martinussen, John and Poul Engberg-Pedersen, *Aid: Understanding International Development Cooperation* (London: Zed Books, 2003), ch. 11.

Mavrotas, George (ed.), *Foreign Aid for Development: Issues, Challenges, and the New Agenda* (Oxford: Oxford University Press, 2010), ch. 10.

Clemens, Paul, Thomaz Chiana and Ryoh Sasaki, "Reducing World Poverty by Improving Evaluation of Development Aid," *American Journal of Evaluation* 29(2), 2008.

Recommended Readings:

World Bank, *Impact Evaluation: The Experience of the Independent Evaluation Group of the World Bank* (Washington, D. C.: World Bank, 2006)

([http://lnweb90.worldbank.org/oed/oeddoclib.nsf/24cc3bb1f94ae11c85256808006a0046/35bc420995bf58f885257e00068c6bc/\\$FILE/impact_evaluation.pdf](http://lnweb90.worldbank.org/oed/oeddoclib.nsf/24cc3bb1f94ae11c85256808006a0046/35bc420995bf58f885257e00068c6bc/$FILE/impact_evaluation.pdf)).

Week 12 (11/22 offline classroom): Aid for Promoting Democracy

Question for Weekly Essay and Discussion:

Is it fair to state that aid should be delivered to the poverty-stricken countries whose political regimes are democratic or ready to accept democracy?

Required Readings:

Carothers, Thomas, *Aiding Democracy Abroad: The Learning Curve* (Washington, D.C.: Carnegie Endowment for International Peace, 1999), ch. 2 & 5.

Haslam, Paul A., Jessica Schafer, and Pierre Beaudet, *Introduction to International Development: Approaches, Actors, and Issues* (Oxford: Oxford University Press, 2017), ch. 16.

Recommended Readings:

Bebbington, Anthony and Roger Riddell, "The Direct Funding of Southern NGOs by Donors: New Agendas and Old Problems," *Journal of International Development* 7(6), 1995.

Carothers, Thomas, "The Elusive Synthesis," *Journal of Democracy* 21(4), 2010.

Week 13 (11/29 offline classroom): Crosscutting Issues: Poverty, Gender, Climate Change, Education, Conflict, Development & Humanitarian Dilemma

Question for Weekly Essay and Discussion:

Do you think that crosscutting issues for development play a significant role in achieving the improvement of human dignities or instead make aid relations more complicated?

Required Readings:

- Haslam, Paul A., Jessica Schafer, and Pierre Beaudet, *Introduction to International Development: Approaches, Actors, and Issues* (Oxford: Oxford University Press, 2017), ch. 5, 17, 20, 21.
- Colding, Bjorg and Per Pinstруп-Andersen, "Food Aid as an Aid Instrument: Past, Present and Future," in Finn Tarp (eds.), *Foreign Aid and Development: Lessons Learnt and Directions for the Future* (London: Routledge, 2000).
- Duffield, Mark, *Global Governance and the New Wars: The Merging of Development and Security* (London: Zed Books, 2001), ch. 2.
- Mavrotas (ed.), *Foreign Aid for Development*, ch. 7.
- Slim, Hugo, "With or Against? Humanitarian Agencies and Coalition Counter-insurgency," *Refugee Survey Quarterly* 23(4), 2004.

Recommended Readings:

- Barrett, Christopher and Daniel Maxwell, *Food Aid after Fifty Years: Recasting its Role* (New York: Routledge, 2005), ch. 1 & 7.
- Drèze, Jean and Amartya Sen, *Hunger and Public Action* (Oxford: Oxford University Press, 1989), ch. 1 & 5.
- Kim, Taekyoon, "Strategizing Aid: US-China Food Aid Relations to North Korea in the 1990s," *International Relations of the Asia-Pacific* 12(1), 2012.
- Danieli, Yael (ed.), *Sharing the Front Line and the Back Hills: Peacekeepers, Humanitarian Aid Workers and the Media in the Midst of Crisis* (Amityville: Baywood Publishing Co., 2002).

Week 14 (12/6 offline classroom): Alternative Strategies for the Sustainable Development Goals Era***Question for Weekly Essay and Discussion:***

Which agenda do you think should be included/excluded to the current SDGs, and how can the international community achieve those goals?

Required Readings:

- United Nations, *Transforming Our World: The 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development*, September 2015.
<https://sustainabledevelopment.un.org/content/documents/21252030%20Agenda%20for%20Sustainable%20Development%20web.pdf>
- Peter Utting, "Introduction: The Challenge of Scaling Up Social and Solidarity Economy," in Peter Utting (ed.), *Social and Solidarity Economy Beyond the Fringe* (London: Zed Books, 2015).
- Foster, Mick, "New Approaches to Development Cooperation: What can we learn with experience from implementing Sector Wide Approaches?", Overseas Development Institute (http://www.odi.org.uk/publications/working_papers/wp140.pdf).
- Grindle, Merilee S., "Good Enough Governance Revisited," *Development Policy Review* 25(5), 2007.

Recommended Readings:

- Buiter, Willem H., "Country Ownership: A term whose time has gone," in Stefan Koeberle, Harold Bedoya, Peter Silarszky, and Gero Veriheyen (eds.), *Conditionality Revisited:*

Concepts, Experiences, and Lessons (Washington, D. C.: World Bank, 2005).

Week 15 (12/13 offline classroom): South-South Cooperation & Triangular Cooperation

Question for Weekly Essay and Discussion:

No weekly essay, focus on your final book review.

Required Readings:

Kevin Gray and Barry Gills, "South-South Cooperation and the Rise of Global South," *Third World Quarterly* 37(4), 2015.

OECD, *Triangular Cooperation: What's the Literature Telling Us?* (Paris: OECD, 2013).

<http://www.oecd.org/dac/dac-global-relations/OECD%20Triangular%20Co-operation%20Literature%20Review%20June%202013.pdf>

Taekyoon Kim and Sojin Lim, "Forging Soft Accountability in Unlikely Settings: A Conceptual Analysis of Mutual Accountability in the Context of South-South Cooperation," *Global Governance* 23(2), 2017.

Padraig Carmody, *The Rise of the BRICS in Africa: The Geopolitics of South-South Relations* (London: Zed Books, 2013), ch. 1.

Recommended Readings:

South Commission, *The Challenge to the South: The Report of the South Commission* (Oxford: Oxford University Press, 1990), Ch. 1.

Talita Yamashiro Fordelone, *Triangular Cooperation and Aid Effectiveness: Can Triangular Cooperation Make Aid Effective?* (Paris: OECD, 2009).

<http://www.oecd.org/dac/46387212.pdf>

Week 16 (12/20): Final Book Review Due (until 5 PM)

APPENDIX I.

Book Review Guideline

The book review assignment for this course needs to address PRACTITIONERS', POLICYMAKERS' AND DONORS' interests in and their right approaches to development projects “*on the ground*” in each book you choose. Assume that you are one of top decision makers in the World Bank, Oxfam, USAID, KOICA, or any other aid-giving international actors, and describe/analyze what messages the book tries to deliver from that standpoint. The review paper is intended to seek some implications and lessons for policymakers of aid donors from your books.

A. In this sense, the paper is designed to develop your skills for “real world” development work, with the special emphasis on not only the importance of ownership of aid recipients but also a realistic development strategy for donors. To develop these skills, one needs to get a grip on the four followings in your book:

- (i) The problems that aid donors faced and overcame or failed to overcome;
- (ii) The difficulties that aid donors experienced in terms of aid effectiveness;
- (iii) How aid donors could change or could not change political and social environments of hostility in recipient countries;
- (iv) How you are able to employ the concepts you learned from this course, primarily ACCOUNTABILITY, FUNGIBILITY, CONDITIONALITY, and so on.

B. On the formalities of the paper submission & memo presentation: if you wish to change the book after October 25th (memo submission and presentation), you need prior consultation with the instructor, and need to submit an additional memo for the new book you wish to review until an individually given deadline.

- (i) Write a memo of no more than 500 words outlining your paper in a broad context, submit via eTL by October 25th, 1:50 p.m.
- (ii) Prepare for presentation in class on October 25th. Everyone is expected to present their outlines for 10 minutes in class and collect constructive feedback from colleagues and instructor.
- (iii) Final book reviews are to be submitted via eTL by December 20th, 5:00 p.m. A high value of the paper evaluation will be placed on punctuality. The review is minimum 2,500 maximum 3,000 words in length, excluding footnotes and bibliography.

C. List of books: Select one among below (pick the book you want to review early and purchase it on Amazon.com or other online bookstores since many of the SNU library's copies will be on reserve).

1. Sen, Amartya, *Development as Freedom* (Oxford: Oxford University Press, 1999).
2. Easterly, William R., *The White Man's Burden: Why the West's Efforts to Aid the Rest Have Done So Much Ill and So Little Good* (New York: Penguin Books, 2006).
3. Carothers, Thomas, *Aiding Democracy Abroad: The Learning Curve* (Washington, D.C.: Carnegie Endowment for International Peace, 1999).
4. Ferguson, James, *The Anti-Politics Machine: "Development," Depoliticization, and Bureaucratic Power in Lesotho* (Minneapolis: University of Minnesota Press, 1994).
5. Escobar, Arturo, *Encountering Development: The Making and Unmaking of the Third World* (Princeton: Princeton University Press, 1995).

6. Goldman, Michael, *Imperial Nature: The World Bank and Struggles for Social Justice in the Age of Globalization* (New Haven: Yale University Press, 2005).
7. Green, Duncan, *From Poverty to Power: How Active Citizens and Effective States can Change the World* (Oxford: Oxfam International, 2008).
8. Smith, Brian H., *More Than Altruism: The Politics of Private Foreign Aid* (Princeton: Princeton University Press, 1990).
9. Collier, Paul, *The Bottom Billion: Why the Poorest Countries Are Failing and What Can Be Done About It* (Oxford: Oxford University Press, 2008).
10. Stedman Jones, Gareth, *An End to Poverty? A Historical Debate* (New York: Columbia University Press, 2004).
11. Moyo, Dambisa, *Dead Aid: Why Aid Is Not Working and How There Is A Better Way for Africa* (New York: Farrar, Straus and Giroux, 2009).
12. Sachs, Jeffrey D., *The End of Poverty: Economic Possibilities for Our Time* (New York: The Penguin Press, 2005).
13. Sridhar, Devi, *The Battle Against Hunger: Choice, Circumstance, and the World Bank* (Oxford: Oxford University Press, 2008).