

## **POLI 379 (L01) Politics of Development**

**Pre/Co-Requisites:** None

**Instructor:** Chris W. J. Roberts

**Lecture Location:** ST 126

**Phone:** (403) 870-9241

**Lecture Days/Time:** Tuesday and Thursday  
4:00-6:45pm

**Email:** [christopher.roberts@ucalgary.ca](mailto:christopher.roberts@ucalgary.ca)

**D2L Website:** <http://d2l.ucalgary.ca>

**Office:** SS 702

**Office Hours:** Thursdays 3:00-4:00 pm or by appt

**Instructor Email Policy:**

Please always put Poli 379 in the subject line or your email will not be answered. If you have not received a reply within 24 hours, please resend.

### **COURSE DESCRIPTION**

What is development? How is it conceived, debated, practiced, and measured over time? Is development simply a technical problem requiring additional resources and specific solutions, or are politics at the heart of any economic development processes? Is development an ongoing process, or is it an normative aspiration or a threshold to achieve? What is the relationship between national development in specific countries (particularly in the Global South) and the international development regime as it emerged after the Second World War? Why are some countries capable of increasing living standards for most of their people while others seem unable to do so? How do different development organizations (from multilateral institutions to bilateral agencies to voluntary NGOs) actually work? What are the ethical and moral responsibilities and dilemmas associated with the delivery of foreign aid or any developmental intervention? Should we move past development as a useful conceptual tool or goal, and, if so, what about sustainable development?

This introductory course on the politics of development addresses these fundamental questions and many more. It will provide an intensive introduction to the vocabulary, concepts, theories, assumptions, debates, history, and practices that animate development as a core institution of contemporary international society. During this course, we'll embark on a comparative survey of approaches to development theory and economics including how political economy in the 19<sup>th</sup> Century diverged and led to a range of economic assumptions about growth and development after the Second World War, from "development economics" of the 1950s through modernization, dependency, neoliberalism, globalization, gendered, post-development and other critical approaches. From theoretical assumptions and development actors, we'll then investigate a number of thematic topics including debt, the role of the private sector, the environment, rural versus urban development, social policy and health, and the various attempts to measure development and evaluate interventions.

**COURSE OBJECTIVES & LEARNING OUTCOMES**

By the end of the course, students will ...

- be able to employ the basic vocabulary, concepts, and theories relevant to the study and practice of development.
- understand the history, roles, origins, capabilities, and political interactions of various actors in international development.
- understand the historical emergence of development as both rooted in colonialism but also something new after the Second World War.
- deepen competencies to assess current national and international developmental policies and trends, including challenges of designing, measuring, and evaluating developmental interventions.
- improve their verbal and written analytical skills relevant to development studies, political science, and the social sciences generally.
- be prepared to advance into more specialized courses in development studies, international relations, comparative politics, human rights, global governance, international law and organizations, global political economy, and the political economy of development, etc.

**REQUIRED TEXTBOOK(S)**

Haslam, Paul, Schafer, Jessica & Beaudet, Pierre, eds. *Introduction to International Development: Approaches, Actors, Issues, and Practice*, Fourth Edition (Oxford University Press, 2021). Available via the UCalgary Bookstore and other sources in both hard copy (new and used) and digital versions.

**COURSE COMPONENT WEIGHTS AND DUE DATES**

COMPONENT	WEIGHTING	DUE DATES
TopHat	15%	Throughout
<i>OPTIONAL: PDBN short paper</i>	<i>(15%)**</i>	<i>Various</i>
Mid-Term 1 (70 minutes)	25%	Thursday, May 18 <sup>th</sup>
Mid-term 2 (70 minutes)	25%	Thursday, June 1st
Registrar Scheduled Final Exam (Two hours)	35%	TBA (between June 19-21)
<b>Total</b>	<b>100%</b>	

*If a student misses a required course component, please get in touch the instructor as soon as possible.*

**COURSE SCHEDULE & TOPICS**

DATE	TOPIC	READINGS
Class 1 Thurs, May 4th	<b>Course Introduction</b> Syllabus & Assignments D2L & TopHat usage Background survey  What is development (or underdevelopment), how do we measure it, and why is imperialism relevant to any understanding of contemporary politics of development?	<b>Textbook chapters referred to as HSB</b>  HSB Chapters 1 & 2

Class 2 Tues, May 9th	<b>Theory 1: Comparative survey of historical political economy through to major theories of development economics and debates over role of the state</b>	HSB Chapters 3 (7 & 8)
Class 3 Thurs, May 11 <sup>th</sup>	<b>Theory 2: Major dev econ theories (above con't); Marxist and other critical challenges to conventional development theories</b>	HSB Chapter 4
Class 4 Tues, May 16 <sup>th</sup>	<b>Theory 3: Gender &amp; post-development</b>	HSB Chapters 6 & 5
Class 5 Thurs, May 18 <sup>th</sup>	<b>Mid-term 1 (70 minutes)</b>  <b>Actors 1: Intro to BIG Actors - Multilateral organizations and institutions in development: the ongoing struggle between Bretton Woods and UN agencies</b>	<b>Exam Break</b> <b>Class resumes at 5:30pm</b>  HSB Chapters 10 & 11
Class 6 Tues, May 23 <sup>rd</sup>	<b>Actors 2: From multilaterals to bilaterals &amp; NGOs - IFIs, UN agencies, (OECD-DAC) Bilateral agencies, &amp; Civil Society/NGOs</b>	HSB Chapters 9 & 13
Class 7 Thurs, May 25 <sup>th</sup>	<b>Actors 3: Private Sector Development &amp; Trade – From local farmers &amp; entrepreneurs to MNCs, free and/or fair trade, FDI, &amp; global supply chains</b>	HSB Chapters 12 & 16
Class 8 Tues, May 30 <sup>th</sup>	<b>Actors 4: NTDs - China, BRICS, and other Non-Traditional Donors</b>	HSB Chapter 14  Liya Palagashvili and Claudia R. Williamson, "Grading foreign aid agencies: Best practices across traditional and emerging donors," <i>Review of Development Economics</i> 25 (2021): 654– 676. (D2L)
Class 9 Thurs, June 1st	<b>Mid-term 2 (70 minutes)</b>  <b>Issues &amp; Practices 1: The Ethics of Debt &amp; Development: Micro and Macro Considerations of Responsibility</b>	<b>Exam Break</b> <b>Class resumes at 5:30pm</b>  HSB Chapters 15 & 30
Class 10	<b>Issues &amp; Practices 2: Rural and</b>	HSB Chapters 19 & 20

Tues, June 6 <sup>th</sup>	<b>(versus?) Urban Development</b>	
Class 11 Thurs, June 8 <sup>th</sup>	<b>Issues &amp; Practices 3: Climate Change, Sustainable Development, &amp; Indigenous Community Resilience</b>	HSB Chapters 18 & 24
Class 12 Tues, June 13 <sup>th</sup>	<b>Issues &amp; Practices 4: Social Policy, Health, and Inequality</b>	HSB Chapters 21 & 27
Class 13 Thursday, June 15 <sup>th</sup>	<b>Issues &amp; Practices 5: Measuring, planning, and evaluating developmental interventions</b>	Selected parts of HSB Chapters 26 & 28 will be discussed with additional attention to the Project Cycle and Results Based Management/Results Chains
<b>Between June 19-21</b>	<b>Registrar Scheduled Final Exam</b>	<b>Two-Hours / Closed Book</b>

*Please note that the above schedule is tentative and may change as the need arises.*

### **TOPHAT (15%)**

TopHat is an online response application available for free for all University of Calgary students. Using a laptop, desktop, tablet, or smart phone, students can answer questions in real-time in class or as homework outside of class. Some questions generate participation points only (e.g., surveys), while most questions also generate points for correct answers. There will be some use of TopHat in class plus some homework questions to be done as you read and review chapters and lecture notes outside of class. If by the end of the term your TopHat average is 92% or greater, you will receive 15/15 weighted points. This takes into account technical glitches and the occasional missed question. However, if you miss any questions remember there is no opportunity to go back and do them, so please do not send an email to inquire.

### **MID-TERM EXAMINATIONS (25% x 2= 50%)**

**There will be two 70 minute mid-terms.** These will be in-class, closed-book exams written at the beginning of class on **Thursday, May 18<sup>th</sup> and Thursday, June 1<sup>st</sup>**. They will comprise a mix of multiple choice, true-false, matching, and possibly short answer questions worth approx. 55-65 points, with a 70 minute time limit. After a break, class will resume at 5:30pm.

### **FINAL EXAMINATION (30%)**

The **Registrar-scheduled, two-hour**, closed-book final exam will be cumulative for the course but heavily weighted to the readings and topics after the second mid-term. One section will be a mix of multiple choice, true-false, and matching questions, and another section will be written answers. Some guidance for the final exam (especially the written portion) will be provided and discussed in the last class on project planning and evaluation on Thursday, June 15th. The exam will be worth approx. 80-90 points and weighted to 35% of the course.

<b>Final Exam</b>	<b>Yes</b>
<b>Format</b>	<b>Registrar scheduled between June 19-21, 2023</b>
<b>Modality</b>	<b>Registrar scheduled exam in-person</b>
<b>Type</b>	<b>Multiple choice, true-false, matching (computer scored); written section</b>
<b>Duration</b>	<b>120 minutes</b>
<b>Aids</b>	<b>Closed book</b>

**\*\*OPTIONAL/EXTRA CREDIT: POLITICS OF DEVELOPMENT BRIEFING NOTE (PDBN)**

Throughout the term, there will be opportunities to apply class/textbook content to a contemporary issue in the politics of development via a short written assignment. Each student has the option to write one short “briefing note” during the term. Specific guidelines and format will be discussed in class. Once a topic is released, students will have ten days to submit the assignment. This will be a maximum of three double-spaced pages, excluding title page and reference list, uploaded on D2L Dropbox by the respective deadline. You can choose which topic interests you or what fits best in your schedule. There is a 5%/day penalty after each respective deadline, but no extensions.

This OPTIONAL assignment will be graded out of 15 points and will be factored into your final grade calculation as follows:

**Example 1:** Student writes a PDBN and earns 80% (12/15 weighted points). Student did well on MT1 (80% or 20/25) but poor on MT2 (60% or 15/25). Combined MT1 and MT2 average is 70% (50% weighting of the course), so student has 35/50 weighted points for the two mid-terms. With a PDBN, the calculation changes to MT1 20/25, MT2 6/10 + PDBN 12/15 = 38/50 or 76%, so the weighted average moves from a B- to a B/B+ for that 50% of the course.

**Example 2:** Student misses a mid-term so decides to write a PBDN. Original grading: MT1 missed (0/25), MT2 75% (18.8/25) so only 18.8/50 (37%). But with the PBDN: MT1 missed (0/10) + PBDN 70% (10.5/15), MT2 (18.8/25) = 29.3/50 (58.6%).

**Note:** The optional PBDN does not fully replace a missing mid-term, but can help to bump up your overall mid-term average. PBDN will not be applied to nor impact your TopHat or final exam grade, and if the PBDN grade would bring down your mid-term average, it will not be counted.

**WRITING STATEMENT**

Written assignments are often required in Political Science courses, and the quality of writing skills, including but not limited to such elements as grammar, punctuation, sentence structure, clarity, citation, and organization, will be taken into account in the determination of grades. Students are encouraged to make use of the services offered through Writing Support Services in the Student Success Centre by contacting them at <http://www.ucalgary.ca/ssc/writing-support>.

**GRADING SCALE:** The following grading scale will be used:

<b>A+ (91-100)</b>	<b>B+ (77-79)</b>	<b>C+ (67-69)</b>	<b>D+ (55-59)</b>
<b>A (85-90)</b>	<b>B (73-76)</b>	<b>C (63-66)</b>	<b>D (50-54)</b>
<b>A- (80-84)</b>	<b>B- (70-72)</b>	<b>C- (60-62)</b>	<b>F (0-49)</b>

*Note: To be eligible to pass the course, students must write at least one of the two mid-terms and the final exam.*

**LATE PENALTIES**

There is a 5%/day penalty after each respective deadline for the OPTIONAL PDBN short paper, but no extensions.

## **INSTRUCTOR GUIDELINES**

Poli 379 is a heavy reading course and this is especially true in a condensed summer term. Students are advised that they will be examined on all lectures as well as on all required reading from the textbook and the additional required reading that the instructor has assigned for the course. Because lectures do not repeat the required readings verbatim and because students will be examined on whatever is discussed in class, students are advised that regular attendance in class is highly recommended.

Students requiring assistance are encouraged to speak to the instructor during class or their office hours. Should you wish to meet outside of office hours, please telephone or email to make an appointment. It is to the student's advantage to keep such appointments.

Email is a common form of communication but it is not always the most effective way of answering student questions. If you cannot make office hours, please request a one on one meeting outside of these hours. Given the volume of emails received, **always put POLI 379 in the subject line or your email will not be answered.** If you do not receive a response within 24 hours, please resend. It is imperative that students regularly check their UCalgary email accounts and D2L for course related information and announcements.

Students are welcome to use laptops and other electronic note-taking devices in this course. At times, students may be asked to turn off technology to facilitate discussions. Please be considerate of others and switch off all cell phones when you enter the classroom. Sending/receiving texts and browsing the Web is extremely disruptive to others and will not be tolerated. Recording of lectures is permitted for accommodation purposes only. Any other use of recording constitutes Academic Misconduct and may result in suspension or expulsion. Both the student and the instructor must sign the appropriate form(s) to facilitate recording lectures.

## **IMPORTANT POLICIES AND INFORMATION**

### **Absence From a Mid-term Examination**

Students who are absent from a scheduled term test or quiz for legitimate reasons are responsible for contacting the instructor via email within 48 hours of the missed test to discuss alternative arrangements. A copy of this email may be requested as proof of the attempt to contact the instructor. Any student who fails to do so forfeits the right to a makeup test.

**Deferred Term Work Form:** Deferral of term work past the end of a term requires a form to be filled out by the student and submitted, along with any supporting documentation, to the instructor. The form is available at: [https://live-ucalgary.ucalgary.ca/sites/default/files/teams/14/P22\\_deferral-of-term-work\\_lapseGrade.pdf](https://live-ucalgary.ucalgary.ca/sites/default/files/teams/14/P22_deferral-of-term-work_lapseGrade.pdf)

Once an extension date has been agreed between instructor and student, the instructor will email the form to the Faculty of Arts Program Information Centre (ascarts@ucalgary.ca) for approval by the Associate Dean.

### **Deferral of a Final Examination**

Deferral of a final examination can be granted for reasons of illness, domestic affliction, and unforeseen circumstances, as well as to those with three (3) final exams scheduled within a 24-hour period. Deferred final exams will not be granted to those who sit the exam, who have made travel arrangements that

conflict with their exam, or who have misread the examination timetable. The decision to allow a deferred final exam rests not with the instructor but with Enrolment Services. Instructors should, however, be notified if you will be absent during the examination. The Application for Deferred Final Exam, deadlines, requirements and submission instructions can be found on the Enrolment Services website at <https://www.ucalgary.ca/registrar/exams/deferred-exams>.

**Reappraisal of Grades:**

*For Reappraisal of Graded Term Work, see Calendar I.2*

<http://www.ucalgary.ca/pubs/calendar/current/i-2.html>

*For Reappraisal of Final Grade, see Calendar I.3*

<http://www.ucalgary.ca/pubs/calendar/current/i-3.html>

**Academic Misconduct:**

Academic Misconduct refers to student behavior that compromises proper assessment of students' academic activities and includes: cheating; fabrication; falsification; plagiarism; unauthorized assistance; failure to comply with an instructor's expectations regarding conduct required of students completing academic assessments in their courses; and failure to comply with exam regulations applied by the Registrar.

For information on the Student Academic Misconduct Policy, Procedure and Academic Integrity, please visit: <https://www.ucalgary.ca/pubs/calendar/current/k-3.html>

**Plagiarism And Other Forms Of Academic Misconduct**

Academic misconduct in any form (e.g. cheating, plagiarism) is a serious academic offence that can lead to disciplinary probation, suspension or expulsion from the University. Students are expected to be familiar with the standards surrounding academic honesty; these can be found in the University of Calgary calendar at <http://www.ucalgary.ca/pubs/calendar/current/k.html>. Such offences will be taken seriously and reported immediately, as required by Faculty of Arts policy.

**Recording of Lectures:**

Recording of lectures is prohibited, except for audio recordings authorized as an accommodation by SAS or an audio recording for individual private study and only with the written permission of the instructor. Any unauthorized electronic or mechanical recording of lectures, their transcription, copying, or distribution, constitutes academic misconduct. See <https://www.ucalgary.ca/pubs/calendar/current/e-6.html>.

**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. 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. The full policy on Student Accommodations is available at <https://www.ucalgary.ca/legal-services/university-policies-procedures/student-accommodation-policy>

**Research Ethics**

Students are advised that any research with human subjects – including any interviewing (even with friends and family), opinion polling, or unobtrusive observation – must have the approval of the Conjoint Faculties Research Ethics Board. In completing course requirements, students must not undertake any



human subject research without discussing their plans with the instructor, to determine if ethics approval is required.

### **Instructor Intellectual Property**

Course materials created by instructors (including presentations and posted notes, labs, case studies, assignments and exams) remain the intellectual property of the instructor. These materials may NOT be reproduced, redistributed or copied without the explicit consent of the instructor. 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 (FOIP) Act:**

Personal information is collected in accordance with FOIP. Assignments can only be returned to the student and will be accessible only to authorized faculty and staff. For more information, see <https://www.ucalgary.ca/legal-services/access-information-privacy>

### **Copyright Legislation:**

See the University of Calgary policy on Acceptable Use of Material Protected by Copyright at <https://www.ucalgary.ca/legal-services/university-policies-procedures/acceptable-use-material-protected-copyright-policy> Students who use material protected by copyright in violation of this policy may be disciplined under the Non-Academic Misconduct Policy.

Course materials created by instructors (including presentations and posted notes, labs, case studies, assignments and exams) remain the intellectual property of the instructor. These materials may NOT be reproduced, redistributed or copied without the explicit consent of the instructor. 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.

### **Evacuation Assembly Points**

In the event of an emergency evacuation from class, students are required to gather in designated assembly points. Please check the list found at <https://www.ucalgary.ca/risk/emergency-management/evac-drills-assembly-points/assembly-points> and note the assembly point nearest to your classroom.

### **Important Dates:**

Please check: <http://www.ucalgary.ca/pubs/calendar/current/academic-schedule.html>.

### **Faculty of Arts Program Advising and Student Information Resources**

- Have a question, but not sure where to start? The Arts Students' Centre is your information resource for everything in Arts! Drop in at SS102, call them at 403-220-3580, or email them at [artsads@ucalgary.ca](mailto:artsads@ucalgary.ca). You can also visit the Faculty of Arts website at <http://arts.ucalgary.ca/undergraduate>, which has detailed information on common academic concerns, including program planning and advice.
- For registration (add/drop/swap), paying fees and assistance with your Student Centre, contact Enrolment Services at 403-210-ROCK [7625] or visit them in the MacKimmie Tower.



### **Important Contact Information**

Campus Security and Safewalk (24 hours a day/7 days a week/365 days a year)  
Phone: 403-220-5333

Faculty of Arts Undergraduate Students' Union Representatives  
Phone: 403-220-6551  
Email: [arts1@su.ucalgary.ca](mailto:arts1@su.ucalgary.ca), [arts2@su.ucalgary.ca](mailto:arts2@su.ucalgary.ca), [arts3@su.ucalgary.ca](mailto:arts3@su.ucalgary.ca),  
[arts4@su.ucalgary.ca](mailto:arts4@su.ucalgary.ca)  
Students' Union URL: [www.su.ucalgary.ca](http://www.su.ucalgary.ca)

Graduate Students' Association  
Phone: 403-220-5997  
Email: [askgsa@ucalgary.ca](mailto:askgsa@ucalgary.ca)  
URL: [www.ucalgary.ca/gsa](http://www.ucalgary.ca/gsa)

Student Ombudsman  
Phone: 403-220-6420  
Email: [ombuds@ucalgary.ca](mailto:ombuds@ucalgary.ca)

### **Campus Mental Health Resources**

The University of Calgary recognizes the pivotal role that student mental health plays in physical health, social connectedness and academic success, and aspires to create a caring and supportive campus community where individuals can freely talk about mental health and receive supports when needed. We encourage you to explore the excellent mental health resources available throughout the university community, such as counselling, self-help resources, peer support or skills-building available through the following resources:

*SU Wellness Centre:* <http://www.ucalgary.ca/wellnesscentre/>

*Student Wellness Services:*  
<https://www.ucalgary.ca/wellness-services/services/mental-health-services>

*Campus Mental Health Strategy website:* <https://www.ucalgary.ca/mentalhealth/>.