International Development  
INTL350 Section 01  
Spring 2018 Syllabus

Instructor: Dr. Beatriz Maldonado  
Office: Beatty 325  
Office Hours: MW 1:30pm – 3:00pm, and by appointment  
Email: maldonadobirdba@cofc.edu  
Class Location: Education Center 219  
Meeting Times: MWF 11:00 – 11:50 am

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<th>Monday</th>
<th>Tuesday</th>
<th>Wednesday</th>
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Prerequisites:  
INTL 100 or HONS 173 or permission of the instructor

Textbook and class materials:  
- There is no required text for this course.  
- Oaks: Reading materials, including excerpts from textbooks and articles will be posted on Oaks as well as homework materials/practice problems. You can access Oaks through My Charleston (https://my.cofc.edu/) or directly at https://lms.cofc.edu/

Email: I will often send out emails to the class about upcoming deadlines and events that are relevant to the class. Please make sure to regularly check your university email.

Course Description:  
This course introduces students to problems of inequality in wealth and welfare from a global, comparative, and historical perspective. The causes and consequences of inequalities among countries, as well as gender, class, ethnic and regional stratification, are examined.
Major topics on international development are studied in order to better understand problems which many countries and areas of the world face today.

**Course Objectives:**

The central objective of the course is to introduce and familiarize students with some central themes and issues of international development, research, and practices. Upon completion of the course students should be able to:

- Identify and describe differences and similarities in development within and between countries due to social, political, economic, and historical factors.
- Identify and describe current approaches to international development
- Analyze and critique development literature and other materials such as reports and videos published by development organization.

**Department Learning Outcomes:**

The International Studies program evaluates this course and its contribution to student learning related to “global awareness,” “theories in International Studies,” and “synthesis.”

1. Students will demonstrate Global Awareness, that is, the ability to identify and describe differences and similarities within and between cultures.
2. Students will be able to describe or apply a particular theoretical approach or paradigm germane to International Studies.
3. Students demonstrate the ability to access existing knowledge by retrieving, assembling, and organizing information on particular topics and issues in disciplines or fields related to international studies.

The assessment of these program goals will be conducted through the research paper.

**Grades:**

- **Class Participation:** Students will be required to participate in class discussion. It is difficult to participate in class discussion if you are not present during class. Attendance will be taken at every class period and will count towards (but is not the entire) participation grade.
  - Just showing up for class is not sufficient to get anything but a D- in this category!

- **Reading quizzes and homework:**
  - Quizzes consisting of short response to readings, articles, or videos will be given in class. These are pass/fail.
  - **There are no make-up quizzes.** The two lowest grades in this category will be dropped.
    - Quizzes will usually be given in the first ten minutes of class so it is important to be on time. If you are late to class and miss the quiz, it will be scored as a zero.
  - There will also be periodic homework assignments that deal with the topics being covered in the class. Each homework assignment is the equivalent of three quizzes. No homework assignments will be dropped.
• **Exams:** There will be *two* exams. The **tentative** date for the first exam is Friday March 2 and for exam 2 is Friday April 20.

• **Research Paper and Presentation:** A research paper on a development topic spanning at least two geographic regions. More details will be given later in the semester.
  - Long Abstract Proposal with Bibliography—Due Feb. 19
  - Final papers – Due April 16
  - Research Presentation: Research presentations will be given the last day of class (April 23) and during the final exam period. Our scheduled final exam period is Friday April 27 from 12:00 pm – 3:00 pm. Attendance during all presentations is required. Failure to attend will result in 50% deduction of the presentation grade.

• **Final Grade Calculation:** The final grade in this class will be calculated as follows:

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<tr>
<th>Component</th>
<th>Weight</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Class Participation</td>
<td>10%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Reading Quizzes and Homework</td>
<td>20%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Exams 1</td>
<td>20%</td>
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<td>Exams 2</td>
<td>20%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Research Paper and Presentation Overall</td>
<td>30%</td>
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<td>Proposal</td>
<td>10%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Final Paper</td>
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<td>Research Presentation</td>
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• **Grade Scale:**

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<th>Grade</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
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<td>93.5 – 100</td>
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<tr>
<td>A-</td>
<td>89.5 – 93.4</td>
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<tr>
<td>B+</td>
<td>86.5 – 89.4</td>
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<tr>
<td>B</td>
<td>82.5 – 86.4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>B-</td>
<td>79.5 – 82.4</td>
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<tr>
<td>C+</td>
<td>75.5 – 79.4</td>
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<tr>
<td>C</td>
<td>72.5 – 75.4</td>
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<tr>
<td>C-</td>
<td>69.5 – 72.4</td>
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<tr>
<td>D+</td>
<td>66.5 – 69.4</td>
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<tr>
<td>D</td>
<td>62.5 – 66.4</td>
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<tr>
<td>D-</td>
<td>59.5 – 62.4</td>
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<tr>
<td>F</td>
<td>&lt;59.5</td>
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• Any disagreement with the grade given in any quiz, homework, or exam can only be contested in written form. Submit in writing (not email) both the question which you believe was unfairly graded along with economic reasoning for why your answer was correct. A written response will be given to you afterwards.
  - Under no circumstances will a grade be changed by email or any other means.
  - In addition, grades may not be discussed over email.

**Attendance:**

Attendance will be taken at every class meeting. It is important to highlight that every in-class quiz or assignment that you miss is automatically granted a zero. More than six absences will lead to automatic failure of the course (WA). I strongly suggest you save these absences for illnesses and emergencies. It is my decision whether or not an absence is “excused” - absence memos and athletic events do not automatically make an absence count as excused.
If you miss class, you will need to obtain a copy of the notes from another student. The instructor will NOT provide copies of class notes.

**Cell Phone Policy:**

Please turn off cell phones as you enter class. While this is not a theatre, the same courtesies should be followed. It is distracting to your instructor as well as your neighbor when phones go off. If I hear or see a student using a cell phone, the student will receive a 50% reduction for that week’s quiz grade. If a cell phone rings (or vibrates audibly) during an exam that student will receive a 10% reduction for that exam.

**Reasonable accommodation policy:**

Any student in this course who has a disability that may prevent him or her from fully demonstrating his or her abilities should contact the Center for Disability Services/SNAP, located on the first floor of the Lightsey Center, Suite 104. Students approved for accommodations are responsible for notifying me as soon as possible and for contacting me at least 48 working day hours before accommodation is needed.

**Writing Lab:**

I encourage you to take advantage of the Writing Lab in the Center for Student Learning (Addlestone Library, first floor). Trained writing consultants can help with writing for all courses; they offer one-to-one consultations that address everything from brainstorming and developing ideas to crafting strong sentences and documenting sources. For more information, please call 843.953.5635 or visit [http://csl.cofc.edu/labs/writing-lab/](http://csl.cofc.edu/labs/writing-lab/).

**Honor Code:**

Lying, cheating, attempted cheating, and plagiarism are violations of our Honor Code that, when identified, are investigated. Each incident will be examined to determine the degree of deception involved.

Incidents where the instructor determines the student’s actions are related more to a misunderstanding will handled by the instructor. A written intervention designed to help prevent the student from repeating the error will be given to the student. The intervention, submitted by form and signed both by the instructor and the student, will be forwarded to the Dean of Students and placed in the student’s file.

Cases of suspected academic dishonesty will be reported directly by the instructor and/or others having knowledge of the incident to the Dean of Students. A student found responsible by the Honor Board for academic dishonesty will receive a XF in
the course, indicating failure of the course due to academic dishonesty. The student may also be placed on disciplinary probation, suspended (temporary removal) or expelled (permanent removal) from the College by the Honor Board.

Students should be aware that unauthorized collaboration—working together without permission—is a form of cheating. Unless the instructor specifies that students can work together on an assignment, quiz and/or test, no collaboration during the completion of the assignment is permitted. Other forms of cheating include possessing or using an unauthorized study aid (which could include accessing information via a cell phone or computer), copying from others' exams, fabricating data, and giving unauthorized assistance.

Students can find the complete Honor Code and all related processes in the Student Handbook at http://studentaffairs.cofc.edu/honor-system/studenthandbook/index.php

Tentative Course Outline:

Topic 1: Introduction to Economic Development

Topic 2: How to Measure Development and Basic Economic Concepts
- The Economist – April 30, 2016 – “How to measure prosperity”
- The Economist – April 30, 2016 – “The trouble with GDP”
- World Economics (2015) - Measuring GDP in Africa (optional)

Topic 3: Introduction to Comparative Methodology and other research methods

Topic 4: Modern Economic Growth Theory

Topic 5: Inequality and Poverty
**Topic 6: Health**

- Worms Wars:
  - Blattman, Chris (2015) - The 10 things I learned in the trenches of the Worm Wars *(optional)*
- Video: TED Talk- Sonia Shah – “3 Reasons we still haven't gotten rid of Malaria”

**Topic 7: Education**


**Topic 8: Foreign Aid and NGO's**

- Moyo, Dambisa (2009). "Chapter 2: A Brief History of Aid" in *Dead Aid: Why Aid is Not Working and How There is a Better Way for Africa.*
• Video: TED Talk- Damberger – “Learning from Failure”

**Topic 9: Household Distribution, Bargaining, and Violence**
• The Economist, Dec. 17, 1998. “6.3 brides for seven brothers”.
• The Economist, April 17, 2003. “Missing sisters”.
• The Economist March 4, 2010. “The worldwide war on baby girls”.
• The Economist April 18, 2015. “Bare branches, redundant males”.
• The Economist Jul. 11, 2015. “Tales of the unexpected”.
• The Economists Aug. 22, 2015. “Asia’s new family values”.

**Topic 10: Demographics and Population Policy**
• Melinda Gates Ted Talks – Let’s Put Birth Control Back on the Agenda. (Video)
• Hans Rosling – Religions and Babies Ted Talk (Video).
• The Economist, Oct. 29, 2009. “Falling Fertility”
• The Economist, Oct. 29, 2009. “Go Forth and Multiply A Lot Less”

**Topic 11: Banking, Lending, and Saving**
• Yunus, Muhammad (2007). "Chapter 5: A Pilot Project is Born" in *Banker to the Poor: Micro-Lending and the Battle Against World Poverty*.
• Films for the Humanities and Social Sciences (1996). *The Women's Bank of Bangladesh*. (Video)
Topic 12: Colonialism, Factor Endowments, and Geography


Topic 13: Corruption


Topic 14: Climate and Conflict