

CSUS 826

International Development: Theory and Practice



The course offers a multidisciplinary exploration of international development theory. It focuses on measurements, processes, and effects of development and poverty. The course complements the theory with sections on practical issues that include ethnicity, social class, gender, and community influences on socioeconomic processes. This course serves: graduate students from all over campus interested in international development, including those pursuing the graduate specialization in international development.

Course outcomes:

- Students will gain an interdisciplinary, historical perspective of the origins and evolution of current ideas in international development and world poverty alleviation since World War II.
- Students from different disciplinary backgrounds will improve their understanding of the concept(s) of development, the dominant paradigms of international development, the shifts in development paradigms over time, and the cyclical evolution of ideas in international development.
- The purpose is practical as well as critical; that is, students will gain insight on the search for approaches to international development that work.
- Given that students in the class tend to come from many countries and many departments, they will learn from each other's different disciplinary and national perspectives on international development issues.