

**COURSE SPECIFICATION DOCUMENT**

<b>Academic School/Department:</b>	Communications, Arts and Social Sciences
<b>Programme:</b>	MA in International Development
<b>Level:</b>	7
<b>Course Title:</b>	Theories of International Development
<b>Course Code:</b>	DEV 7101
<b>Course Leader:</b>	Dr Michael F Keating
<b>Student Engagement Hours:</b>	200
Seminars:	39
Tutorials:	6
Independent / Guided Learning:	155
<b>Semester:</b>	Fall
<b>Credits:</b>	20 UK CATS credits 10 ECTS credits 4 US credits

**Course Description:**

Theories of International Development engages students with the changing understandings of development in the post-war period. Donor, developing state and grassroots perspectives are taken into account as we explore theories of development in historical context, seeking to understand both how and why conceptions of development have transformed over this period. Students will address early debates (Modernisation and *Dependencia*), Market- and State-led models, and more recent approaches such as participatory development, good governance and the Millennium Development Goals. Key interventions by scholars such as Said and Sen will be considered. The course ensures that students have a solid grasp on the contemporary developing paradigm and its theoretical underpinnings.

**Pre-requisites:** MA International Development students only

**Aims and Objectives:**

- To study theories of international development in historical context
- To engage in critical analysis of different paradigms in development theory
- To examine a range of key texts and thinkers in the field of International Development

- To explore how development theory is applied in practice, and the theoretical lessons to be learned from resulting empirical evidence and case studies
- To interrogate the concept of development *per se*
- To grasp the contemporary development paradigm, its key claims and practices and their theoretical underpinnings
- To provide an intellectual foundation for progress through the programme.

**Programme Outcomes:**

A; B; D; F; G;

A detailed list of the programme outcomes is found in the Programme Specification. This is maintained by Registry and located at: <https://www.richmond.ac.uk/programme-and-course-specifications/>

**Learning Outcomes:**

By the end of this course, successful students should be able to:

- Demonstrates a deep and systematic understanding of key texts, thinkers, intellectual paradigms, themes and debates in International Development.
- Develops critical and innovative responses to theories of International Development and their impact on development practices.
- Designs and undertakes substantial investigations addressing significant areas of international development theory.
- Demonstrates the ability to exercise initiative in organising and pursuing both supervised and self-directed individual and/or team projects, while accepting full accountability for outcomes
- Demonstrates the ability to gather, organise and deploy complex and abstract ideas and diverse information in the complex and specialised context of theories of international development, while reflecting upon and improving the skills required for effective communication

**Indicative Content:**

- Historical overview of paradigms of thought in International Development
- Examination of a range of key texts and thinkers in International Development
- Critical analysis of different theories in International Development
- The theories and ideas behind the contemporary development paradigm
- The practical implementation of development theory and its consequences
- The role of international institutions in the generation of development theory and in its implementation

**Assessment:**

This course conforms to the Richmond University Standard Assessment Norms approved at Academic Board.

