"The greatest challenge that we face in this modern world, particularly young people like you, is what we do about the situation in the poor parts of the world.”

—President Carter, Speaking to Class

Course Description
Today, particularly after the Arab Spring, the Syrian Refugee crisis, the dangers of terrorism and the recent worldwide economic crisis, it is more difficult than ever for less developed countries to attract foreign aid or non-governmental assistance. The very notion of economic development in low-income countries is fluid and contested, invoking contradictory goals and measures. This course will investigate and scrutinize development theories, policies and practices and envision concrete possibilities for new paths toward economic development. A main objective of the course is to question and understand the social, political, and cultural behaviors that inform economic behavior. How can insights from the social sciences and humanities help us to understand economic development? We will explore how new social scientific perspectives on economic development may enhance practice, policy and theory. We will study how different forms of capital -- social, economic, cultural, symbolic, and ecological, etc. -- may mobilize or demobilize the human or financial capital necessary for avenues of sustainable development.

Key practitioners in the fields of development will be invited to speak to the class, alongside a series of optional master classes, on topics such as financial stability and development standards. The course will focus especially on Syria, Libya, Yemen, Jordan, Egypt, Sudan, Tunisia, Algeria, Morocco, and DRC, Mali, Burkina Faso, Senegal, Liberia, Nigeria.

Visiting Guests:
John Hope Bryant (CEO & Founder of Hope Operation), Ambassador Young, Jo Beasely, T.J. Holmes, Frederica Wakefield (CNN), Mark van Wegen (AT Kearney), Iman (Sydney)) Vuvu Manseka (Coca-Cola Company), Nell Diallo (Med-Share), Samir Mahir (Former CIO Australian Open), Thierry Flamant (Expert on Business in Africa), David Ames (Green USA and Giving Back), Marilee Holmes (Alston LLP), Isaac Farris (King Center), Cynthia Nash (Consul of
Liberia), Rebecca-Posey-(AcumenFund).

**Deliverables: a Roadmap**
First blog due January 21, 2017 (9 blogs in total)
Group project Outline Due (January 23, 2017)
Final Projects- Group Presentations (April 20, 2017)
Final paper due (May 1, 2017)

**Course Objectives**
- Understand theories, methods and practices of development.
- Gain competence in creatively envisioning development projects.
- Articulate critical perspectives on development.
- Critically assess development projects and organizations.
- Pursue independent research on development issues.

**Course Evaluation**
Your grade for the course will be based upon your class attendance and participation, a team project proposal, project presentation, a final exam, and weekly reading quizzes.

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<th>Component</th>
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<tr>
<td>Class Participation</td>
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<tr>
<td>Short Essays &amp; tweets</td>
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<tr>
<td>Reading Quizzes</td>
<td>5%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Team Project and Presentation</td>
<td>40%</td>
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<td>Final Paper (based on AbN)</td>
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**Class Participation**
This is the central component of this class. All students are expected to contribute each class to discussions based on reading assigned weekly. Your participation grade will be based on your regular attendance (10%), preparation for class discussion, and active participation (10%). Each class meeting will be largely discussion based in which everyone will need to take part. It is important you have read all relevant material. Without actively participating in class you cannot achieve a superior grade. Contributions to discussion will be actively recorded every class period to increase students’ engagement with the material.

**Short Essays**
Every student will be required to write short essays throughout the semester as reflections on the reading. These reflections must be spread out over the entirety of the semester. Short essays are due before class each week and late submissions will result in a lower grade. Short essays are
meant to act as an opportunity to respond to the week’s assigned readings. Do not submit summaries of the readings. These posts are meant to encourage you to critically engage with the readings, so share your opinion of the readings, not simply what the author said.

One of the short essays will focus closer to home. You will reflect on one of the following questions that Dr. Scott M. Lacy (formerly at Emory, now at Fairfield University) formulated about campus sustainability:

A: Visit one of Emory’s green dormitories (Turman Hall or the Freshman Housing Complex). What specifically makes this building different from other dorms? Describe your subjective experience of the visit/self-tour.

B: Visit the Math & Science Center. What specifically makes this green building different from other campus buildings? Describe your subjective experience of your visit/self-tour.

C: Take a ride for a loop on a campus shuttle. Where did you ride and who was riding in the shuttle? Describe your subjective experience of your trip.

Topics of short essays will be announced weekly in the class preceding their deadline. Instead of turning in blogs, students can create their own interactive blogs online or post them on Canvas.

Reading Quizzes
Weekly reading quizzes will assess your ability to identify key concepts in each week’s assigned reading and provide you with an opportunity to show a careful understanding relevant books and articles. There may be weeks where no reading quiz is given, but prepare to use the first ten minutes of class to take such a quiz every week.

Group Project
The group project will stress rigorous research and analysis and encourage creativity. We will provide feedback as you develop your projects.

Team projects focus on mastering data and finding connections between knowledge and practice in Africa, bridging the gap between business models and applicability, identifying the necessary elements to promote successful economic development, and positing possible business models for countries in Africa. Each team member must participate in the project presentation and the development of the project. The goal is to develop the analytical and communicative skills that are critical to positions of leadership in development. Projects are team efforts, and ultimately you will be asked to rate your group members’ project participation. These ratings will impact your final grade.

Possible projects could be related to specific infrastructure, sustainability, poverty reduction, education, and health needs, i.e., reviewing the current situation and programs and suggesting additional programs and initiatives.
**Project Categories**

Social Entrepreneurship Project – focus on fusing a for-profit business model with products or services that possess a significant social justice initiative. Not-for-profits or non-profits do not qualify because their supply-chain does not have to reflect a better bottom-line like the private sector, but rather just focuses on “doing good.” Social enterprises are "enterprises"; however, their model is to build and provide a good product or service while delivering profits to stakeholders. For example, Grameen Bank or infrastructure development via private sector.

ODA Project – focus on developing a strategy for an alternative to aid. During the course, we discuss the impact and backlash of aid; therefore, it is important to examine adequate substitutes to giving unchecked aid. For example projects can include designs for debt reduction or education programs. This can also include Youth bulge, diasporas or homeland development.

Civil Society Project -- focus on examining current governments and their involvement in development, and devise a plan for governments to take larger stake in social institutions. A theme within the class is to create a linear relationship between states and their development. It is important to examine how countries can be early adopters of this practice. For example, assuming the capacity exists, look to large development organizations (ie. Aga Khan Development Network or Bill & Malinda Gates Foundation) and see how their current projects could expand to areas where they currently do not have a presence.

Sustainable Development – resource efficiency is paramount given the limited resources and carrying capacity of global ecosystems. Africa is the last continent with abundant resources that could be depleted by the rush that characterizes globalization of production. Students should choose one of the following topics: safe drinking water, fertile soil, clean air, green energy, affordable sanitation, sustainable tourism, food security, ecological literacy, or fair trade. Critically apply the “triple bottom-line” model of sustainability to your topical issue and use this as the starting point for formulating a sustainable development project.

**Final Paper (Based on MENA by the Numbers Project ) April 20, 2017)**

You will research and write a 13-page paper on a topic of your choice relevant to development in Africa. Attending class regularly, keeping thorough notes, and staying current with the reading assignments throughout the semester will serve you well as you plan, research, and write your final course paper. The paper should reflect readings and discussions during the course of the semester. Paper topics may be related but cannot be the same as your group project. I will begin approving paper topics at the beginning of September, since your paper must reflect course material. There will be no extensions without a legitimate written medical excuse and papers received after the deadline without an excuse will be heavily penalized.

Your FINAL paper should have four sections: (1) Introduction – Review of the literature associated with the key research questions; (2) Methods – Discuss form of analysis; (3)
Findings/Results for each research question; (4) Discussion/Conclusion – discuss problems with the project, possible relevance for further research and relate findings to larger body of research introduced in literature review. You may want to label each section as above. This is the standard form of a social science journal article

http://www.chicagomanualofstyle.org/tools_citationguide.html

A number of factors will contribute to the evaluation of your paper: the logic, strength and creativity of the arguments; the materials consulted; use of appropriate methods for referencing and citation; and adherence to the paper guidelines outlined in this document. The research paper should be no more than 15 pages (excluding tables, notes and references), typed and double-spaced.

Africa and the Middle East by the Numbers project

For this project, use raw data to create an African and Middle Eastern Economic Enterprise index to evaluate the viability and impact of private investment on the assessed nations' economies. Your priority in developing this index should be to identify African and Middle Eastern economies with economic indicators of a robust and properly developing economy (collection of data such as GDP per capita, U1-U6 rates of unemployment and other indicators you feel are necessary are allowed to reach these conclusions provided you justify inclusion of each measure of analysing economic strength). You will then analyse the raw data you collect and develop an algorithm to score each of the assessed nations’ economic viability on the index you create. After you have finished your quantitative assessment, interpret what this means in terms of future economic prospects for private or public investment in the assessed nations taking into account the macrocosm (i.e. all political, economic, cultural and other relevant factors) of each nation that is identified by your algorithm to have significant private investment potential.

Suggestions for Final Papers

1. The Demographic Transition (Youth bulge)
2. The Long term Effects of the Arab Spring
3. The refugee Crises
4. Terrorism and the future of AID
5. Failing States and Regional Vulnerability
6. The Future of Institutions of Global Governance
7. Poverty and Financial Dignity
8. Gender Equality and Good Governance
9. Environmental aspects of development (critical examination of COP21)
10. ODA vs. Private Giving (EU and the US compared)
11. After AID: New Ideas and possible scenarios.
12. DNA and Belonging to Africa
13. Ambassador Young & his passion for Africa
14. Civil Right Movement & the End of Apartheid in South Africa
15. Diaspora and Homeland Development
16. Mobile Technology & Apps Revolution
17. China in Africa & the Middle East
18. The Future of Mega-Cities
19. Sport and Development
20. Informal Economy.

**Plagiarism**
All students enrolled in this class are required to abide by the honor code of Emory College summarized in the statement below: “I pledge to pursue all academic endeavors with honor and integrity. I understand the principles of the Emory College Honor System, and I promise to uphold these standards by adhering to the Honor Code in order to preserve the integrity of Emory College and its individual members.”

**Electronic Devices Policy**
The use of phones, tablets or other devices used for recreational purposes will not be tolerated at any time during lecture time or group discussion. Only in cases of urgent personal or medical need that have been discussed with the professor before class are allowed. Violation of this policy will result in a warning after the first violation per class and a second violation will result in a grade of 0 in class participation for the class in which the violation occurs.

**Internships**
If you have an interest in development work beyond the scope of the course, I may be able to help you locate an internship in various fields for the duration of the semester and potentially beyond. Please see me during my office hours if you are interested.

**Reading List**
The required reading for this course includes books, journal articles, and attention to current events in the media. The journal readings will be provided to you electronically. You must purchase the following books and bring them to class with you.
Before coming to class please browse:

Human Development Report 2015

**Books to Purchase**
Moyo, Dambisa. *Dead Aid: Why Aid Is Not Working and How There Is a Better Way for Africa*

**Recommended Books**


Various journal articles will be posted on Canvas to supplement these six core books.

**Recommended Journals and Links**

African Journal of Economic and Sustainable Development ...
African Journal of Development Economics (AJDE)
www.developmenteconomics.elewa.org/
Economic Development Quarterly
edq.sagepub.com/
Journal of African Economies: Oxford Journals | Economics ...
jae.oxfordjournals.org/
Journal of Development Economics - Elsevier
www.journals.elsevier.com/journal-of-development-economics
The Journal of Modern African Studies - Cambridge Journals
journals.cambridge.org/action/displayJournal?jid=MOA
www.allafrica.com
View on Africa: Terrorism in western Sahel
https://www.issafrica.org/events/view-on-africa-terrorism-in-western-sahel

**Disclaimer 1 & 2.**

1. **Adjustments:**
   (*The instructor reserves the right to adjust and/or alter the course content according to the pace of student learning and pedagogical needs)*

2. **Scenes and Language from films, music, etc.**
   (**Audiovisual material will be screened in English, Arabic, French, Spanish and Dutch. It may include scenes of violence, sex and/or inappropriate language)**

   *(Expect weekly updates on Fridays—Please consult Canvas)*
Class Schedule

January 12th (Th.) Debating Development: Course Overview
a) What is Economic development?
b) Africa-Geo Game
c) Human Development Report 2015
d) Does Underdevelopment Cause Terrorism?

Typology of Approaches to Development:
1) The Alarmist Approach
2) The Participatory Approach
3) The Deterministic Approach
4) The Reflexive Approach
5) The Randomistas Approach

Kickoff Speaker Dr. Omer Pasi, epidemiologist at the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention & president of the Congolese community in Atlanta: The Impact of Ebola on Africa

January 19th (Th.) Aid & Development: A Short History
Readings: Dambisa Moyo, Dead Aid
Part I: The World of Aid
1. The Myth of Aid
2. A brief History of Aid
3. Aid is not working
4. The Silent killer of Growth

January 24th (Tue) Approaches to Development: The Alarmist Approach
Readings: Dambisa Moyo, Dead Aid
Part II: A World without Aid
1. The Republic of Dongo
2. The Radical Rethink of the Aid-Dependency Model
3. A Capital Solution
4. The Chinese Are Our Friends
5. Let’s trade
6. Banking on the Unbankable: Dongo Revisited
7. Making Development Happen

February 2nd (Th.) Approaches to Development: The Participatory Approach
Readings: Paul Collier, The Bottom Billion

Part I & II:  What’s the issue? & The Traps
1. Falling behind and Falling Apart: The Bottom Billion
2. The conflict trap
3. The natural resources trap
4. Landlocked with bad neighbors
5. Bad governance in a small country

February 9th (Th.) Does Underdevelopment Cause Terrorism?
Readings: Paul Collier, The Bottom Billion
Part III - V:  Globalization, Instruments & Agenda
6. Aid to Rescue
7. Military Intervention
8. Laws and Charters
9. Trade Policies for Reversing Marginalization
10. An Agenda for Action

Optional Reading:
FDI, Aid, Terrorism: Conditional Threshold Evidence from Developing Countries
https://www.econstor.eu/dspace/bitstream/10419/114569/1/AGDI_Asongu_Efobi_Beecroft_terrorism_WP_15_019.pdf

February 16th (Th.) Approaches to Development: The Deterministic Approach
Readings: Jeffery D. Sachs, The End of Poverty
1. A Global Family Portrait
2. The Spread of Economic Prosperity
3. Why Some Countries Fail to Thrive
4. Clinical Economics
5. The Voiceless Dying

February 23rd (Th.) Poverty & Financial Dignity
Readings: Jeffery D. Sachs, The End of Poverty
12. The Ground Solutions for the End of Poverty
13. Making the investments needed to End Poverty
14. A Global Compact to End Poverty
15. Can the Rich Afford to Help the Poor?
16. Myths and Magic Bullets
17. Why we should do it
18. Our Generation’s Challenge

Topics for final papers and projects due!
March 2nd (Th.)  Environmental Aspects of Development
Readings: The Africa Climate Talks: Democratizing global climate change governance and building an African consensus toward COP21 and beyond
http://climdev-africa.org/cop21/act
http://pages.au.int/cop21
http://www.sciencedirect.com/science/article/pii/S1364032104001431

Optional Reading:


Spring Break! (March 6-10, 2017)

March 16th (Th.)  Approaches to Development: The Nihilist Approach
Readings: William Easterly, The White Man’s Burden
Part I & II: Why Planners Cannot Bring Prosperity
1. Planners Versus Searchers
2. The Legend of Big Push
4. Planners and gangsters
5. The rich have markets and the poor have bureaucrats
6. Bailing out the Poor
7. The Healers: Triumph and Tragedy

March 23rd (Th.)  Remittances, Diaspora, IT Revolution & Homeland Development
Readings: William Easterly, The White Man’s Burden
8. From Colonialism to Post colonialism
9. Invading the Poor
10. Homegrown Development
11. The Future of Western Assistance
March 30th (Th.) Approaches to Development: The Reflexive Approach
Readings: Amartya Sen, Development as Freedom
1. The perspective of freedom
2. The ends and the means of development
3. Freedom and the foundation of justice
8. Women’s Agency and Social Choice

April 6th (Th.) Approaches to Development: The Randomistas Approach
Readings: Banerjee, Abhijit and Esther Duflo, Poor Politics
1. Think Again, Again
2. A Billion Hungry People?
3. Low-Hanging Fruit for Better Global Health?

April 13th (Th.) Social Entrepreneurship & Informal Economy
(Today, Class starts at 4:30 PM because I will be at speaking at the Ethics Center 1-4 PM)
Readings: Banerjee, Abhijit and Esther Duflo, Poor Politics
8. Saving Brick by Brick
9. Reluctant Entrepreneurs
10. Policies, Politics

April 20th (Th.) Course review
The Development Industry: Horizontal vs. Vertical Strategies

&

Final Projects and Group Presentations (No Reading Assigned)

(Final Paper Due May 1, 2017)

*Note: All scheduling, grading, class policies and syllabus contents are subject to change during the semester. Please be flexible as opportunities arise we may alter the schedule to accommodate our distinguished speakers and guests.