

UNIVERSITY COLLEGE OF THE FRASER VALLEY

COURSE INFORMATION

DEPARTMENT: SOCIAL SCIENCES

DATE: June 1994

Sociology 250  
NAME & NUMBER OF COURSE

Sociology of Development -  
the Third World Experience  
DESCRIPTIVE TITLE

3  
UCFV CREDIT

CATALOGUE DESCRIPTION:

A great deal of attention is given to the problems of the underdeveloped world. In this course we look at the major explanations of underdevelopment and consider what policy implications they may carry. Case studies from Latin America and elsewhere are used to evaluate critically the alternative paths of development. As such, the course will be of interest to anybody concerned with the present and future of some of the world's poorest inhabitants.

COURSE PREREQUISITES: None. Soc. 101 is recommended

COURSE COREQUISITES:

HOURS PER TERM FOR EACH STUDENT	Lecture	30 hrs	Student Directed	
	Laboratory	hrs	Learning	hrs
	Seminar	30 hrs	Other - specify:	
	Field Experience	hrs		hrs
			<u>TOTAL</u>	60 HRS

UCFV CREDIT  
TRANSFER

UCFV CREDIT  
NON-TRANSFER

NON-CREDIT

TRANSFER STATUS (Equivalent, Unassigned, Other Details)

UBC credits      SOCI (3)

SFU credits      SA 292 (3) & SA (3) with UCFV SOC 220

UVIC units      SOCI 200 lev (1.5)

OLA      SOCI (3)

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COURSE DESIGNER

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DEAN OF ACADEMIC STUDIES

Sociology 250

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<b>COURSES FOR WHICH THIS IS A PREREQUISITE:</b> None	<b>RELATED COURSES</b> Soc 101; Anth 220
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TEXTBOOKS, REFERENCES, MATERIALS (List reading resources elsewhere)TEXTS:Paul Harrison: Inside the Third WorldAndrew Webster: Introduction to the Sociology of DevelopmentOBJECTIVES:

The course is designed to provide students with an appreciation for the general nature and situation of Third World societies, and of efforts to direct change within those societies. By the conclusion of the course, students should have:

- an appreciation and understanding of the underdeveloped world in general, and of differences within that world
- developed a critical understanding of modernization theory and its implications
- developed a critical understanding of dependency theory and its implications
- developed a critical understanding of "non-industrialization options" for the third world
- the ability to link major theories of development to the major sociological perspectives and traditions
- developed a critical awareness of the benefits and disadvantages of foreign aid policies
- a greater knowledge of the work done by non-governmental organizations in the Third World, and the assumptions underlying that work
- the ability to assess the future alternatives for the Third World.

METHODS:

The course will be taught through lectures and seminar discussions. Film will be used often so long as budget conditions permit. It is hoped that the course will include guest speakers who have experience working in the field.

**STUDENT EVALUATION PROCEDURE:**

Two take-home exams                      35% each  
Participation                                      30%

Students will have the option to undertake a third take-home exam should they wish to improve their grade.

The grade for the take-home exams will be based upon the following criteria:

Your essay will be based upon the following criteria:

- ability to employ a sociological approach and/or sociological models
- ability to identify and use relevant material
- ability to use sociological language and concepts correctly and logically, without becoming jargonistic
- ability to present a logical argument through a logical progression of ideas
- writing skills in general (e.g. correct use of sentences, paragraphs, footnoting, spelling and so forth).

Your participation grade is based upon the following criteria:

- Attendance
- Willingness to participate in discussion
- Quality of that participation (see first four criteria for written assignments above)
- Demonstration through discussion that reading assignments have been completed
- Willingness to work with, and help, others when necessary
- Willingness to ask for assistance when needed
- Independent and critical thought
- Ability to synthesize material and to use that synthesis in discussion
- Ability to build creatively on learned material

**LITERACY:**

Students are expected to be able to read and write the English language to an extent that enables them to communicate their ideas clearly and concisely, without consistent grammatical or spelling errors.

Students are graded on what they have communicated of their knowledge and understanding of course material. Poor communication skills inevitably mean poorer grades in this course as it does in any course requiring essay assignments. You are required to follow the generally accepted rules concerning essay writing, and your grade will suffer if such rules are not adhered to.

**ATTENDANCE:**

Non-attendance does not necessarily result in failure; however our experience is that invisible students tend to do poorly. The expectation is that students will attend all classes unless prevented from doing so for legitimate reasons.

Non-attendance for exams and quizzes will result in a zero grade for that activity unless the instructor has been notified of your absence prior to the exam or quiz. You will be expected to provide acceptable proof of the legitimacy of your absence (e.g. a doctor's note).

You should note that part of your grade is based upon participation in class, and that non-attendance does tend to make participation more difficult.

## **COURSE CONTENT**

**The course begins with an examination of the Third World experience as it is lived by individuals, classes, communities and whole nations. From this we shall develop a general profile of the social, political, economic and cultural facts of life in the underdeveloped world. With this profile in mind the historical development of the Third World will be analysed.**

**The main focus of the course is a survey of the major sociological explanations of underdevelopment and social change, leading to a critical assessment of the contrasting programmes suggested by those explanations. Case studies of such programmes will be analyzed to assist this task.**

**Material from the Third World in general will be considered, but particular emphasis will be placed on the Latin American experience.**