HGO4501 - Development

Course content

The aim of this course is to introduce students to a selection of key contemporary issues in the global south from a development perspective.

As part of a global economy, countries in the global south face a number of challenges concerning the economic, social and political development of their respective societies. The course addresses five key issues for the global south today: natural resource extraction, environmental justice, urban development, social protection, and international migration. Through analyses of selected issues and empirical cases, we want students to understand the dynamics at work in these key areas, how they are addressed in policy-making and how they are incorporated (or not) in overall strategies of development.

Learning outcomes

Knowledge

Upon completion of this course, you will be able to:

- Describe the dynamics of key contemporary issues addressed in the course from a development perspective.
- Apply concepts and analytical perspectives addressed in the course to similar cases in different geographical settings.
- Assess the role of the state and key stakeholders in the economic, social and/or political processes addressed in the course.

Skills

Upon completion of the course, you will be able to:

- Explain the economic, social and/or political processes at work in each of the key issues addressed in the course.
- Compare the policies and strategies applied to address key issues across sectors/issues in the global south.
- Recognise interconnections between the key issues addressed in the course, both analytically and empirically.
- Formulate your independent view on key contemporary issues in the global south.

Competences

The course trains the students in independent and critical thinking about key contemporary issues in the global south from a development perspective. You will be able to:

- Assess critically development issues in different empirical contexts.
- Contribute to the new creative and independent thinking about development in the global south.
- Communicate your analysis in a systematic way both verbally and in writing.

Teaching

The teaching consists of lectures that aim at a dialogue between lecturer and student. At each lecture, a relevant case will be presented and discussed based on the reading materials and/or media items. Students are expected to participate actively in discussions, both in plenum and small groups.

All teaching will be given in English.

Examination

The exam for HGO4501 is a term paper.

- The topic for the term paper is decided by each student and must be within the thematic focus of the course.
- The term paper will address two of the five themes of the course.
- The term paper must demonstrate active engagement with the syllabus. Additional sources can also be applied.
- The topic and focus of the term paper will be assessed and approved by the course coordinator within a set deadline.
- The length of the paper will be maximum 6000 words plus references.

Previous exams