GEOG 370 - Sustainable Development in Developing Countries
Fall 2013
Monday and Thursday, 13:10 to 14:25 pm
Hunter North 1022

Dr. Mohamed Babiker Ibrahim
Office: Hunter North 1048
Tel: 212-772-5267
mibrahim@hunter.cuny.edu

Office Hours
Monday, 4:15 pm to 5:15 pm
Thursday 5:30 pm to 7:00 pm
Also by Appointment

No textbook. The following are suggested references and articles:


There are a large number of electronic peer-reviewed journals dealing with different topics of sustainable development found at the Hunter College library.

Goals/objective and the outcome:

The main goal and objective of this class is to study and understand the new approaches of development in the developing countries. It aims at learning the new bottom-up approaches of sustainable development as oppose to the old top-down approaches. By the end of this course, you should have a better understanding of the complex and dynamic interrelations between sustainable development in the developing countries with much emphasis on policies, strategies, available resources, and progress and sustainability of development in regions that suffer from physical and socio-economic challenges.
Learning Outcomes:

- A general and broad knowledge of the major issues of sustainable development in the developing countries.
- Understand that sustainable development as a holistic approach that links the process of environmental, economic and social change together now and in the future.
- Knowledge of some of the key geographic, development, environmental and social justice issues facing our world today.
- Ability to think and write critically about these issues.

Week 1: Aug. 29

**Introduction**
Failure of Top-down approach and the need for sustainable development

Readings:

Mon. Sept. 2
Thur. Sept. 5

NO CLASS
NO CLASS

Week 2: Sept. 9 -12

**History of development and Modernization Theory**
Development before 1960s

Readings:

Week: 3: Sept. 16 -19

**History of development and Modernization Theory**
Development in the period 1960s - 1990s

Readings:

**Week 4: Sept. 23 -26**

**Definition of sustainable development**

Readings:


**Week 5: Sept. 30 – Oct.3**

**Elements of sustainable development**

Readings:


**Week 6: Oct. 7 - 10**

**Challenges for sustainability in the developing countries**

Government policies  
Dual economy  
Population growth

Readings:

Week 7: Oct. 15 (Tue.)-17

**Challenges for sustainability in the developing countries**

Poverty
lack of resources (land, water, credit and technical assistant)
Climate change
Environmental degradation

Readings:


**Monday Oct. 21, 2013**

**MID-TERM EXAMINATION**

**Week 8: Oct. 21 -24**

**Population growth and sustainable development**

Factors affecting birth rates

Factors affecting death rates

**Readings:**


**Week 9: Oct. 28 -31**

**Population growth and sustainable development**

Population control and sustainability

**Readings:**


**Week 10: Nov. 4 – 7**

**The role of women in sustainable development**

Reasons for empowerment of rural women

**Readings:**


Week 11: Nov. 11-14  \textbf{The role of women in sustainable development}  
Contribution of women to development  

Week 12: Nov. 18-21  \textbf{Sustainability of food production?!}  
Readings:  

Week 13: Nov. 25  \textbf{Sustainability of food production?!}  
Readings:  

Thursday Nov. 28, 2013  NO CLASS  

Week 14: Dec. 2 – 5  \textbf{Agroforestry and sustainable development}  
The importance of forests in maintaining global ecosystem  
Readings:  

Week 15: Dec. 9 – 12  \textbf{Agroforestry and sustainable development}  
Benefits of combining trees and food crops in farms
Thursday December 19, 2013

FINAL EXAMINATION
1:45 to 3:45 PM

Grading system:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Component</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Mid-term examination</td>
<td>40%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Final examination</td>
<td>40%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Term paper</td>
<td>20%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

The entire midterm exam is a take-home examination in a form of short essays (4 essays). You need to support your writing with examples from peer-reviewed articles. Half of the final examination (2 essays) is a take-home exam in a form of short essays. These essays should be supported with examples from peer-reviewed articles. The other half (2 short essays) will be essays that should be answered in class.

Please note the following guidelines for your term paper:

1. The professor must approve your topic. Choose one topic from the listed topics in the lecture schedule.
2. The paper must be double-spaced, one inch margins on all sides, 12 point font, and at least 14 pages long plus bibliography.
3. It should include a minimum of 10 cited references from books and peer-reviewed articles.
4. The paper should include tables, maps or graphs (notate the source).
5. In case of citation of references in the text, use APA format (parentheses) and NOT the MLA format (You will be given printout examples in the class).
6. There should be a cover page showing the title, your name, course number, instructor’s name and the semester (i.e. Fall 2013).
7. Sub-headings should be used in the paper along an introduction and a conclusion.
8. The bibliography should be written properly at the end of the paper.
9. The deadline for submission of the first draft of the paper is October 15, 2013.
10. Not following of any of these points will reduce your grade.

If you have any question(s) come and see me.

Attendance and Grading Policies:
There is a direct correlation between good grades and good attendance. Come to the class prepared, read the appropriate articles of the reading list, take notes, study for your exams and you will be successful. Attendance is taken in every class meeting.

HUNTER COLLEGE’S STATEMENT ON ACADEMIC HONESTY:
Hunter College regards acts of academic dishonesty (e.g., plagiarism, cheating on examinations, obtaining unfair advantage, and falsification of records and official documents) as serious offenses against the values of intellectual honesty. The College is committed to
enforcing the CUNY Policy on Academic Integrity and will pursue cases of academic dishonesty according to the Hunter College Academic Integrity Procedures. And I might add that creative originality and integrity are essential if you want to develop the kind of knowledge that is going to do you any good in life. When you cheat at school, the one you are really cheating is ultimately your future self.

**ADA Policy**

In compliance with the American Disability Act of 1990 (ADA) and with Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, Hunter College is committed to ensuring educational parity and accommodations for all students with documented disabilities and/or medical conditions. It is recommended that all students with documented disabilities (Emotional, Medical, Physical, and/or Learning) consult the Office of ACCESSABILITY, located in Room E1214B, to secure necessary academic accommodations. For further information and assistance, please call: (212) 772-4857 or (212) 650-3230.