

**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:

- 1- Elliott, Jennifer (4th Ed.). 2013. *An Introduction to Sustainable Development*. London: Taylor & Francis.
- 2 – Potter, R. B., Binns, T., Elliot, J., Smith, D .2008. *Geographies of Development: An Introduction to Development Studies*. New York: Prentice Hall
- 3- World Commission on Environment and Development (1991) *Our Common Future*. New York: Oxford University Press (pp. 27-42).
- 4- Jolly, R., Emmerij, L., Ghai, D., Lapeyre, F. 2004. *UN Contributions to Development Thinking and Practice*. Bloomington: Indiana University Press.

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:

Chapter 1- Elliott, Jennifer (4th Ed.)(2013) *An Introduction to Sustainable Development*. London: Taylor & Francis.

Mon. Sept. 2

NO CLASS

Thur. Sept. 5

NO CLASS

Week 2: Sept. 9 -12

History of development and Modernization Theory

Development before 1960s

Readings:

Chapter 1- Potter, R. B., Binns, T., Elliot, J., Smith, D .2008. *Geographies of Development: An Introduction to Development Studies*. New York: Prentice Hall

Week 3: Sept. 16 -19

History of development and Modernization Theory

Development in the period 1960s - 1990s

Readings:

Herath, Dhammika .2009. The Discourse of Development; has it reached maturity? *Third World Quarterly* 30 (8): 1449-1464.

Ellis, Frank and Stephen Biggs .2001. Evolving Themes in Rural Development 1950s – 2000. *Development Policy Review* 19 (4): 437-448.

Week 4: Sept. 23 -26

Definition of sustainable development

Readings:

World Commission on Environment and Development (1991) *Our Common Future*. New York: Oxford University Press (pp. 27-42).

Chapter 1 - Elliott, Jennifer (4th Ed.).2013. *An Introduction to Sustainable Development*. London: Taylor &Francis.

Week 5: Sept. 30 – Oct.3

Elements of sustainable development

Readings:

Loomis, Terrence M. 2000. Indigenous Populations and Sustainable Development: Building on Indigenous Approaches to Holistic, Self-Determined Development. *World Development* 28 (5): 893-910.

Briggs, John and Joanne Sharp (2004). Indigenous knowledges and development: a postcolonial caution. *Third World Quarterly* 25 (4): 661-676.

Fonchigong, C.C. and L.N. Fonjong .2002. The concept of self-reliance in community development Initiatives in the Cameroon grasslands. *GeoJournal* 57: 83-94.

Olowa, Dele (1989). Local Institutes and Development; The African Experience. *Canadian Journal of African Studies* 23 (2): 201-231.

Uphoff, N. n.d. *Local Institutions and Participation for Sustainable Development*. GATEKEEPER SERIES No. 31. International Institute for Environment and Development, London.

Week 6: Oct. 7 - 10

Challenges for sustainability in the developing countries

Government policies
Dual economy
Population growth

Readings:

Merat, Jacques .2004. Taxation and Local Government: Accountability in a Clientelist Context: Colombia *Public Administration and Development* 24: 247-254.

Jorgenson, D. W. 1961. The Development of a Dual Economy. *The Economic Journal* 71(282): 309-334.

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:

Csaki, Csaba .2001. Reaching the Rural Poor. *Development Policy Review* 19 (4): 563-573.

Chemin, Matthieu .2008. The Benefits and Costs of microfinance: Evidence from Bangladesh. *Journal of Development Studies* 44 (4): 463-484.

Harvey, peter A. and Rober A. Reed .2006. Community-managed water supplies in Africa: sustainable or dispensable? *Community Development Journal* 42 (3): 365-378.

Kumar, Chetan .2005. Revisiting 'community' in community-based natural resource management. *Community Development Journal* 40 (3): 275-285.

Barrios, et.al. 2008. The impact of climate change on Agricultural production: Is it different for Africa? *Food Policy* 23: 287-298.

Davidson, Ogunlade, et.al. .2003. The development and climate nexus: the case of sub-Saharan Africa. *Climate Policy* 3S1: S97-S113.

Aluko, M. A. O. 2004 Sustainable Development, Environmental Degradation and the Entrenchment of Poverty in the Niger Delta of Nigeria. *J. Hum. Ecol.* 15(1): 63-68.

Alam, S. 2010. Globalization, Poverty and Environmental Degradation: Sustainable Development in Pakistan. *Journal of Sustainable Development* 3 (3): 103-114.

Nwagbara, E. N., Abia, R. P., Uyang, F. A. and Ejeje, J. A. 2012. Poverty, Environmental Degradation and Sustainable Development: A Discourse. *Global Journal of HUMAN SOCIAL SCIENCE* 12(11): 1-8.

Postel, S. L. 2000. Entering an Area of Water Scarcity: The Challenges Ahead. *Ecological Applications* 10(4): 941-948.

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:

United Nations Population Fund. *Population Matters for Sustainable Development*. New York. New York.

Week 9: Oct. 28 -31

Population growth and sustainable development

Population control and sustainability

Readings:

Alam, G. M. 2009. The role of science and technology education at network age population for sustainable development of Bangladesh through human resource advancement. *Scientific Research and Essay* 4 (11):1260-1270,

Bennett, A. J. 2000. Environmental consequences of increasing production: some current perspectives. *Agriculture, Ecosystems and Environment* 82 : 89-95

Week 10: Nov. 4 – 7

The role of women in sustainable development

Reasons for empowerment of rural women

Readings:

Hashemi, Syed, et. al. (1996). Rural Credit programs and Women's Empowerment in Bangladesh. *World Development* 24 (4): 635-653.

Kandiyoti, D. 1990. Women and Rural Development Policies: The Changing Agenda. *Development and Change* 21(1): 5-22.

Week 11: Nov. 11- 14

The role of women in sustainable development
Contribution of women to development

Week 12: Nov. 18 -21

Sustainability of food production?!

Readings:

Postel, S. L. 1998. Water for Food Production: Will There Be Enough in 2025 ?. *BioScience* 48(8): 629-637.

Connor, D., J., and Minguéz, M. I. 2012. Evolution not revolution of farming systems will best feed and green the world. *Global Food Security* 1:106–113

Week 13: Nov. 25

Sustainability of food production?!

Readings:

Riley, Mark .2008. Experts in their fields: farmer-expert knowledges and environmentally friendly farming practices. *Environment and Planning* 40: 1277-1293.

Wallace, J. S. 2000. Increasing agricultural water use efficiency to meet future food production. *Agriculture, Ecosystems and Environment* 82 :105–119.

Thursday Nov. 28, 2013

NO CLASS

Week 14: Dec. 2 – 5

Agroforestry and sustainable development
The importance of forests in maintaining global ecosystem

Readings:

Michon, G., and de Foresta, 1999. Agro-Forests: Incorporating a Forest Vision in Agroforestry . In Buck, L. E (Eds.) *Forestry in Sustainable Agricultural Systems*. Boca Raton: Lewis Publishers. pp. 381-406.

D.P. Garrity, D. P. 2004. Agroforestry and the achievement of the Millennium Development Goals. *Agroforestry Systems* 61: 5–17

Week 15: Dec. 9 – 12

Agroforestry and sustainable development
Benefits of combining trees and food crops in farms

Current, D., Lutz, E and Sara J. Scherr, S. J. 1995.
The Costs and Benefits of Agroforestry to Farmers.
The World Bank Research Observer 10 (2):151-80.

Thursday December 19, 2013

FINAL EXAMINATION
1:45 to 3:45 PM

Grading system:

Mid-term examination	40%
Final examination	40%
Term paper	20%

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.