REGIONAL DEVELOPMENT
GEO 2420 SECTION: 4B47

Instructor: Aline Carrara (acarrara@ufl.edu)
Online Class
Credits: 3

COURSE DESCRIPTION

What is Regional Development?
What drives Regional Development?
Under which conditions do regions develop?

Development is a broad dynamic domain that reflects and contributes to the conditions of the contemporary world. It is a field of inquiry and an academic discipline with its own traditions, objectives and approaches to the changing world. This course aims to engender a critical geographical perspective on the past, present and future development of regions and the world. This critical viewpoint is of crucial importance in the generation of a broad and informed understanding of global and regional issues.

This course aims to build critical thinking when analysing the relationship between economics, politics, environmental and social processes and how it affects development in a regional scale. This will be done as an attempt to disrupt the hegemonic and colonial narratives on development by examining how Western knowledge systems contributed to separations of the world as we know it.

The course delves in understanding the history of development theory and main concepts, its roots and implications as well as the way these concepts have been shaped and applied by different regions. We will look at actors and actions to understand the role of development in promoting or contributing to local and global changes. We will do so by asking challenging questions focusing on social, economic, political, cultural and human-environment processes and how they change over space and time due to different notions of and approaches to development. The course will invite students into several subfields of study and aim to honour the diversity inherent in humanity.

COURSE CONTENT: GEO 4554 provides 3 credit hours of S-Social Sciences General Education Requirement (GER) and 6,000 words of Gordon Rule Communication requirement.

The course requires students to engage with readings from the textbooks and virtual field trips using many different audio-visual materials (movies, documentaries, etc).

REQUIRED READINGS: The course will use 2 textbooks, which will be available to the students (no need to buy!):

- Local and Regional Development: Pike, A., Rodriguez-Pose, A., & Tomaney, J. (2017). Local and Regional Development (Second). Routledge.

- Pluriverse: A Post-Development Dictionary: Kothari, A., Salleh, A., Escobar, A., Demaria, F., & Acosta, A. (2018). Pluriverse: A Post-Development Dictionary. New Delhi: Tulika Books.

COURSE STRUCTURE
PART I: The Roots of Regional Economic Development
Module 1 – The World as We know It
Module 2 - Understanding Regional Development
Module 3 - The role of Economics and Other Approaches
Module 4 - Power, Politics and the Role of Institutions

PART II: Shifting the Paradigm
Module 5- Materializing Development
Module 6 - Place-based Development
Module 7 - Foreign Investments and Transnational Corporations

PART III: The Future is Local
Module 8 - Post-Development
Module 9 - Development and Its Crisis
Module 10 - Local/Regional Transformative Initiatives

REQUIREMENTS AND GRADE DISTRIBTION
Total course grade: 1.000 points. Grades will be distributed on the following items:

- **Module Discussion – 30%**
We will have an open discussion session for each module on CANVAS. This will require students to engage with the material and fellow students. Students are invited to interact with others by posting comments, questions, audio-visual material (images, links, songs, videos, etc.) inducing conversations and discussions. Every student must engage in the discussions and state the word count for each entry.

- **Critical Thinking Process – 30%**
At the end of each part of the course, students must submit a content review through paper written in clear, professional style. Papers must be typed, double-spaced, 12-point (times new roman font), 1-inch margins top/bottom/right/left. Papers must start with student's name and UFID and title and end with word-count. The paper may include figures, tables, maps, pictures, references, etc. in the appendix session and must have a minimum of 500 words. Module Review must be submitted via CANVAS.

- **Final Project – 15%**
Each student should present their acquired knowledge by submitting a final project. Students must find their own ways to express themselves and present the content. This can include poetry, Power Point presentation, videos, voice record, drawings, design a mind map, make a collage, photo album, etc. Final project must be presented in a clear, professional and creative style. Projects must start with student's name, UFID and title followed by an abstract. Projects may include figures, tables, maps, pictures, references, etc. in the appendix session and must include citations. Final projects must be submitted via CANVAS.

- **Quizzes – 15%**
For every two modules the class will have a quiz covering the content of both modules. Questions will be some combination of multiple-choice, short answer, and fill-in-the-blank questions. Quizzes are open book and timed. Once started, a quiz's time cannot be extended for any reason.

- Exam – 10%
As with the quizzes, the questions on the final exam will be some combination of multiple-choice, short answer, and fill-in-the-blank questions. Content will be cumulative but will be weighted towards material covered in the latter part of the class.

GRADING SCALE
Grades will be on a 100-point scale. Final marks will be determined from the following scale:

Numerical grade (N)			Letter Grade
$93 \leq$	N	≤ 100	A
$90 \leq$	N	< 93	A-
$87 \leq$	N	< 90	B+
$82 \leq$	N	< 87	B
$80 \leq$	N	< 82	B-
$77 \leq$	N	< 80	C+
$70 \leq$	N	< 77	C
$67 \leq$	N	< 70	C-
$62 \leq$	N	< 67	D+
$60 \leq$	N	< 62	D
$0 \leq$	N	< 60	E

Note: A grade of C- is not a qualifying grade for major, minor, Gen Ed, or College Basic distribution credit. For further information on UF's Grading Policy, see:
https://catalog.ufl.edu/UGRD/academic-regulations/grades-grading-policies/#hgrades%20
https://student.ufl.edu/minusgrades.html

Due dates for all assignments will be posted on Canvas. You should always refer to the online schedule on our class' Canvas page as that will contain the most up-to-date information.

CLASSROOM POLICIES:
Academic Integrity
You should read the University's Guide to academic honesty, which is available online
at Plagiarism and other violations of academic honesty are unacceptable. If you are found to have
cheated, you will be penalized by the reduction of your course grade, and may be
subject to further penalties. You should expect the minimum penalty to be a failing
grade for the course.

Attendance & makeup policy: Requirements for class attendance and make-up exams, assignments, and other work in this course are consistent with university policies that can be found in the online catalogue at: https://catalog.ufl.edu/UGRD/academic-regulations/attendance-policies/

Grade Disputes: Should a student wish to dispute any grade received in this class (other than simple addition errors), the dispute must be in writing and be submitted to the

instructor within a week of receiving the grade. The dispute should set out very clearly, the grade that the student believes the assignment should have received as well as why he or she believes that he or she should have received such a grade.

NOTE: Make-ups cannot be given, except in documented emergencies in which the instructor has been contacted in advance or as soon afterward as possible. Requests for such exceptions must be submitted in writing, with full explanations and documentation attached. The format of any make-up will be at my discretion. The penalty for non-exam work turned in late is 10% of the total possible points per day late.

UF POLICIES:
Academic Honesty: UF students are bound by The The Honor Code (https://sccr.dso.ufl.edu/process/student-conduct-code/), which specifies a number of behaviours that are in violation of this code and the possible sanctions. Furthermore, you are obligated to report any condition that facilitates academic misconduct to appropriate personnel. If you have any questions or concerns, please consult with the instructor or TAs in this class.

Accommodations for Students with Disabilities: Students requesting classroom accommodation must first register with the Dean of Students Office. The Dean of Students Office will provide documentation to the student who must then provide this documentation to the Instructor when requesting accommodation. Please Contact the Disability Resources Center for information about available resources for students with disabilities: https://disability.ufl.edu/

Counseling and Mental Health Resources: Students facing difficulties completing the course or who are in need of counseling or urgent help should call the on-campus Counseling and Wellness Center (352-392-1575); https://counseling.ufl.edu/

Online Course Evaluation Process: Students are expected to provide feedback on the quality of instruction in this course by completing online evaluations at https://evaluations.ufl.edu.

Evaluations are typically open during the last two or three weeks of the semester, but students will be given specific times when they are open.