International Development: Public & Community Health

Course Details

Course Designator & Number: SNGL 4003  
Number of Credits: 4  
Language of Instruction: French  
Contact Hours: 60  
Instructors: Aicha Awa BA, M.A.  
Dr. Mohamed Lamine Ly

Course Description

The Political Economy of International Development (PIED) critically explores the role of the international development agenda, with a specific focus on its impact on the African continent. Students will acquire knowledge on the foundation of this agenda while capturing the complexity and paradoxes of its implementation. Students will also build on this understanding to analyze the power relationships at stake between the various actors (donors, governments, international institutions, development beneficiaries, private sector, etc.). Grounded in a theoretical approach, this course will nevertheless explore practical case studies and experiences to favor in-depth analysis.

This course will dedicate particular attention to the social experiences of the populations in developing countries from a political and historical perspective. Furthermore, students will be better inclined to critically appreciate the contribution of institutional mechanisms in the bi-lateral, multilateral, and non-government sectors in the development of Sub-Saharan African nations. Students will examine multidisciplinary ways of thinking that can be used to synthesize and analyze local, national, and global issues, and the connections among these experiences.

Students will then examine constructs of public and community health in developing countries in general and Senegal in particular. This course will present students with an overview of the social-health system in Senegal and critically discuss the main obstacles that Senegal has had to overcome in the realm of public health. It will highlight health determinants, explain the
choice of the Senegalese to prioritize the fight against certain illnesses, and present the organization of its public health services.

Course Objectives

The primary objective of the first half of the course is to present students with an overview of the international development agenda and implementation in Africa. Understanding how the development theories studied are applied in Africa and how they are impacting individuals, institutions, events, and ideas about development in Senegal. The second half of the course will focus on public and community health policies and practices in Senegal.

By the end of this course, students will be able to:
- Describe the theories of international development as they apply in Sub-Saharan Africa
- Critically explain the African development models and the paradoxes of the international development agenda
- Understand the paradigms and concepts of new African development alternatives
- Understand the Senegalese health system
- Analyze the economic, political, and cultural environments of health policies formation and implementation in Senegal
- Understand the role and participation of communities in health promotion in Senegal
- Recognize the challenges of the health system and the limitations it presents to the Senegalese communities
- Research and present experiences and models of public and community health policies and practices in Senegal

Methodology

The course on international development and the corresponding theme is rooted in constant, constructive, and instructional dialogue between and among course participants and their instructor. This first half of the course begins with 25 hours of general discussion about international development, and the second half applies these principles to questions of public and community health. The course methodology is based in large part on instructor-student interactions. Following a logic of mutual enrichment, the participants and instructor will analyze questions from multiple angles to evaluate them through the optics of sustainable development. Another no less important aspect of the course is the interaction that students will have with actors on the ground (those who experience the effects we’ve studied daily). Their point of view on these issues will be of critical importance to our analyses. Our pedagogical outings will allow us to collect multiple points of view.

The course is structured around the following elements:
1. A presentation delivered by the instructors that introduces the theme of development and micro entrepreneurship, followed by a debate with students.
2. Written reflections by the students in the form of a focus paper (FOR and POR).
3. Student presentations on particular themes and theories related to African development. These presentations allow the students to develop their research, reasoning, and critical thinking skills.
4. Visits to sites selected for their relevance to the course material.
5. Invited guest speakers who will present on specific course topics.

Course Prerequisites

Four semesters college-level French or the equivalent (FREN 1004 at the University of Minnesota).

Required Reading / Materials

International development


Public & Community Health
2. A l’hôpital traditionnel de Keur Massar au Sénégal, la réussite des « médecins aux pieds nus »
3. Le Quotidien Sénégal, Taux de mortalité maternelle élevé au Sénégal : Les mères adolescentes paient le lourd tribut
4. Hane, Fatoumata, Les invisibles du système de santé au Sénégal, The conversation
5. Sylvain Birane Faye, Covid-19 : Le Sénégal risque d’être plongé dans une transmission communautaire massive

Recommended Readings


22. Abt Associates, Universal health coverage measurement in a lower-middle-income context: a Senegalese case study.


27. https://www.who.int/publications/i/item/WHO-IER-CSDH-08.1

28. OMS, Éléments essentiels au bon fonctionnement d’un système de santé.

29. OMS, Instaurer l’équité en santé en agissant sur les déterminants sociaux.

30. https://www.who.int/publications/i/item/WHO-IER-CSDH-08.1

31. Skolnik Richard ; Global Health 101 (livre).

# Grading

## Grading Rubric

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Letter Grade</th>
<th>Score or Percentage</th>
<th>Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>A</td>
<td>93–100</td>
<td>Achievement that is outstanding relative to the level necessary to meet course requirements.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>A-</td>
<td>90–92</td>
<td>Achievement that is significantly above the level necessary to meet course requirements.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>B+</td>
<td>87–89</td>
<td>Achievement that meets the course requirements in every respect.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>B</td>
<td>83–86</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>B-</td>
<td>80–82</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>C+</td>
<td>77–79</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>C</td>
<td>73–76</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>C-</td>
<td>70–72</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>D+</td>
<td>67–69</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>D</td>
<td>60–66</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>F</td>
<td>0–59</td>
<td>Represents failure (or no credit) and signifies that the work was either (1) completed but at a level of achievement that is not worthy of credit or (2) was not completed and there was no agreement between the instructor and the student that the student would be awarded an I.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
### Summary of How Grades Are Weighted

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Assignments</th>
<th>Percentage of Grade</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Focus papers for international development (2)</td>
<td>30%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Project literature review and presentation for public and community health</td>
<td>20%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Project final paper for public and community health</td>
<td>30%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Project final presentation for public and community health</td>
<td>10%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>In-class participation (5% assigned by each instructor)</td>
<td>10%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Overall grade</td>
<td>100%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Assessment Details

All the assignments for this course should be in French. The instructor can accept assignments in English if it is important in the production of learning outcomes.

**Focus Paper**
A focus paper is an in-depth look at a particular topic discussed in class with observations from your lived experiences in Senegal. This paper should be approximately 4 pages (typed; font size 12, space 1.5).

Focus Paper N°1: Education and development: how religion, colonization, and globalization influence education policies in Senegal Due: Unit 4

Focus Paper N°2: Development policies in Senegal: Analysis of the impacts in rural areas as compared to Dakar Due: Unit 6

**Student Project**
This project is designed to allow students the opportunity to show how the international development strategies learned in the first half of the course apply to a specific topic within their chosen theme.
Each student will choose a topic of interest related to their international development theme. The instructor for the theme will offer assistance to narrow the project and validate the subject choice.

**Project Literature Review & Presentation**
With guidance from the instructor, the student will identify relevant documents for the literature review related to the topic. The review should include a minimum of 10 sources.

The student will review the literature during the course phase and give a 10-minute oral presentation (in French) during the last session of the theme course (classroom phase). A PowerPoint should be prepared to outline and summarize the literature review findings. Students will be assessed on their research efforts, disciplinary lens, quality of the presentation, and use of time.

**Final Paper**
During the internship or research phase, the student will make observations relevant to their subject and discuss with experts in their field of study.

One week before the end of the internship or research phase, the student will send their instructor a five-page paper (1.5 space).

The paper should include, among other things, a review of the literature, the purpose and methodology of the project, a comparative analysis of theory and field experience, conclusions and recommendations, and references.

Students will be assessed on their field research efforts, the organization of the paper, quality of the analysis and disciplinary reasoning, writing style, and correct grammar, spelling, and punctuation.

**Final Presentation**
During the final seminar week at the end of the semester, the student will present a 10-minute overview (in French) in front of their peers, the instructor, and some staff members of MSID Senegal. A PowerPoint should be prepared to highlight all findings presented in the paper above.

Students will be assessed on their disciplinary analysis and reasoning, quality of the presentation, creative use of presentation techniques, and effective use of time.
Course Content

Unit 1

Orientation Week: International Development—Pre-colonial Africa, colonialism, & decolonisation: How Europe underdeveloped Africa?

- Readings
  - Cesaire, A. (1950). Discours sur le Colonialisme. [S.L]: AAKAR BOOKS.

- Experiential Learning
  - Intro to Development (Film screening)

Unit 2

International Development—Development & poverty: The emergence of an apolitical discourse and the establishment of the international development agenda

- Readings

Unit 3

International Development—Politics of vulnerability: Child protection & gender

- Readings

Assignment
Focus Paper N°1: Education and development: how religion, colonization, and globalization shape education policies in Senegal.

Unit 4
Public & Community Health—Basics of public health
- Examine general public health concepts, principles, and theories
- Overview of these concepts within the Senegalese health system

Unit 5
International Development—Narratives and representations of contemporary Africa:
Power, knowledge, & resistance in postcolonies
Readings
- Sarr, F. (2019). AFROTOPIA. [S.l]: UNIV OF MINNESOTA PRESS.

Unit 6
Public & Community Health—Health promotion, primary healthcare, & universal health coverage
- Examine the transmissible diseases in Senegal, the strategies to flight them, and the successes and challenges of the flight
- Examine the non-transmissible diseases in Senegal, the reduction strategy, and the successes and challenges of the strategy
Readings
Unit 7

Excursion to Toubacouta

- During the Toubacouta excursion, students will participate in all activities, discussions and presentations. In particular, students in the Public & Community Health theme should pay particular attention to, and critically analyze, the following activities:
  - Visit to a village to discuss development policies and their impacts in rural communities
  - Visit to a rural health clinic to discuss public and community health practice in rural settings
  - Community panel discussion on development policies: who is left behind and how to increase inclusion
  - Visit to a maternity clinic to discuss maternal and reproductive health in rural areas

Unit 8

International Development—Modernization & the dependency theory

- Readings
  - Sarr, F. (2019). AFROTOPIA. [S.l]: UNIV OF MINNESOTA PRESS.

- Assignment
  - Focus Paper N°2: Development policies in Senegal: Analysis of the impacts in rural areas as compared to Dakar.

Unit 9

Public & Community Health—Traditional medicine & mental health

- Introduction in traditional medicine
- Guest speaker about mental health
- Readings
  - A l’hôpital traditionnel de Keur Massar au Sénégal, la réussite des « médecins aux pieds nus »

- Experiential Learning
  - Visit the Keur Massar Traditional Medicine Hospital

- Assignment
○ Project topic choice and validation: Choose a topic for your project and explain your interest in the topic, the objectives of the research, and how you intend to collect and to analyze data (1 page).

Unit 10

International Development—Aid conditionality & philanthrocapitalism
● Readings

Unit 11

Public & Community Health—Emerging diseases (Ebola, COVID-19, etc.)
● Examine epidemics and the Senegalese response strategy and readiness
● Reading
○ Sylvain Birane Faye, Covid-19 : Le Sénégal risque d’être plongé dans une transmission communautaire massive

Unit 12

International Development—Humanitarian aid & the development/security paradigm
● Readings
○ Middle East Masculinity Studies: Discourses of “Men in Crisis,” Industries of Gender in Revolution (2020).

Unit 13

Public & Community Health—Child & maternal health
● Examine the strategies and programs for child health in Senegal (vaccination and nutrition)
• Examine reproductive health development in Senegal (pregnancy surveillance and family planning)
• Reading
  ○ « les mères adolescentes paient le lourd tribut »
• Experiential Learning
  ○ Excursion
• Assignment
  ○ Homework on the anti-vaccination movement Senegal

Unit 14

International Development—Toward an endogenous development of Africa?

• Readings
  ○ Sarr, F. (2019). AFROTOPIA. [S.l.]: UNIV OF MINNESOTA PRESS.

Unit 15

Public & Community Health—Community health in Senegal

• Examine the role and engagement of communities in health in Senegal, the existing policies, and how they are implemented
• Reading
  ○ Hane, Fatoumata, Les invisibles du système de santé au Sénégal, The conversation.
• Assignment
  ○ Literature review presentation

Unit 16

Final Seminar

• During this final week of the semester, students will have returned from their internship or research placements and will participate in the following activities:
  ○ Final course wrap-up session for both international development and public and community health
Discussion about how the on-site experience in the internship or research placement challenged and supported what was covered in this class during the semester

● Assignment
  ○ Final presentation
Policies

Attendance Policy
Students are expected to be on time and attend all classes while abroad. Many instructors assess both attendance and participation when assigning a final course grade. Attendance alone does not guarantee a positive participation grade; the student should be prepared for class and engage in class discussion. See the on-site syllabus for specific class requirements.

University of Minnesota Policies & Procedures
Academic integrity is essential to a positive teaching and learning environment. All students enrolled in University courses are expected to complete coursework responsibilities with fairness and honesty. Failure to do so by seeking unfair advantage over others or misrepresenting someone else's work as your own can result in disciplinary action. The University Student Conduct Code defines scholastic dishonesty as follows:

Scholastic Dishonesty
Scholastic dishonesty means plagiarizing; cheating on assignments or examinations; engaging in unauthorized collaboration on academic work; taking, acquiring, or using test materials without faculty permission; submitting false or incomplete records of academic achievement; acting alone or in cooperation with another to falsify records or to obtain dishonestly grades, honors, awards, or professional endorsement; altering forging, or misusing a University academic record; or fabricating or falsifying data, research procedures, or data analysis.

Within this course, a student responsible for scholastic dishonesty can be assigned a penalty up to and including an “F” or “N” for the course. If you have any questions regarding the expectations for a specific assignment or exam, ask.

Student Conduct
The University of Minnesota has specific policies concerning student conduct. This information can be found on the Learning Abroad Center website.