



MASTER IN SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT AND GLOBAL GOVERNANCE

SYLLABUS FOR COURSE: *Development, international cooperation and finance.*

TEACHER: Gonzalo Fanjul (gfanjuls@gmail.com)

(January 31-March 14: Tuesdays 15:30-18:45)

1. Course description

This course aims to provide students with an introductory understanding of some of the major challenges of the Global South in terms of development, international cooperation and financing. Most importantly, it aims to provide them with the ability and curiosity to make an intelligent connection between these different issues, develop a critical understanding of the solutions in place, and respond to their complexity from the perspective of diverse professional profiles. For these purposes, the course will cover some of the key determinants of development and its transformation, while looking at them in practice with the support of renowned professionals that are working in related areas.

2. Some of the issues covered in the course include:

- The architecture and challenges of the global and regional governance of development. An introduction to the role of key actors in the process of designing and implementing sustainable development.
- A vision on the contemporary system of international cooperation and its relation with power rivalry at a global scale.
- The challenges of financing for development in the era of systemic global crises.
- A thematic look at the governance, institutions, agreements, commitments and its credibility of major specific challenges such as climate, global health and human mobility.
- An understanding of the debate on 'decolonization' of aid and development, and its implications on global finances and strategy.

3. Course structure and requirements

The course is organized into seven sessions (see calendar below), each of which will consist of two parts:

- First 90 minutes: An introductory lecture of 1 hour, where the teacher will present the main facts, arguments and data related to the topic of the day. Although the role of the students in this part is more passive, participation and discussion are encouraged.

In the last 30 minutes of this block, students, divided by groups, will be asked to present a policy dilemma previously prepared and based on the previous session, and we will

engage in a general conversation and debate. All students will have to present in at least one of these sessions, so groups will be prepared accordingly.

- Second 90 minutes: A practical case study, with the full contribution of students and required reading. Most often, this section will be enriched by the participation of professional external experts that will provide students with a very practical perspective of the issues at stake.

Each of the sessions includes a list of required reading materials. Students are advised to read these documents in order to participate adequately in the class debates. Further references and material will be provided in advance or during each of the sessions.

4. Grading

- A 10% of the final grade corresponds to the evaluation of the active participation of each student in the classes.
- A 30% of the final grade corresponds to the debate activity that will take place in the interactive slots.
- A 60% of the final grade corresponds to the final paper. These will be short (2,500-3,000w), in the form of a Briefing Policy Paper and must address one of the core issues covered in the course (to be discussed individually with the teacher). Papers will be due after the end of the course (final date TBC).

5. Course schedule

(NOTE: all the required reading that is not hyperlinked can be found in the course section of the Aula Global).

Week 1: January 31

Part 1:

- Introductions, course review, and practicalities.
- Lecture: *A photograph of sustainable development in 2022: facts, figures and expectations.*

Part 2:

- Debate: *Optimists and catastrophists in sustainable development: Where can we actually do better? A discussion on the margins for improvement on the current strategies.* With the participation of **Kevin Watkins** (former ED ODI and Save the Children UK, author of various editions of UNDP and UNESCO flagship reports).

Required material to be revised

- Plunkett, James (2021) End State: 9 Ways Society is Broken and How We Fix it. Introductory chapter.
- [Is the world getting better or worse? A look at the numbers.](#) TED talk by Steven Pinker (May 21st, 2018).



- Banerjee, Abhijit y Esther Duflo (2012). *Poor economics: A radical rethinking of the way to fight global poverty* (Public Affairs editors). Chapter 1: *Think again, again: Trapped in poverty?*
- Wolf, Martin (January 10, 2023). *The threat of a lost decade in development*. Financial Times.

Week 2: February 7

Part 1:

- Lecture: *Challenges and opportunities in the system of international cooperation*.
- Presentation and discussion of Group 3.

Part 2:

- Case study: *What future for International Cooperation and its actors?* With the participation of **Asier Hernando** (founder of [The Sherwood Way](#), former Programmes Director of Oxfam in Latin America).

Required material to be revised:

- [The Future of Aid in the Time of Pandemic: What do global aid trends reveal?](#) Chapter 3.1 of the Reality of Aid 2020/21 report.
- Easterly, William (2006). *The White Man's Burden: Why the West's Efforts to Aid the Rest Have Done So Much Ill and So Little Good* (Penguin Press Eds.). Read Part 1: *Why Planners Cannot Bring Prosperity*.
- Gleenie, Johnatan (2021). *The future of aid*. Routledge Eds. Chapter 7: Narrative: From charity to investment.
- World Bank (2021). [A Changing Landscape - Trends in Official Financial Flows and the Aid Architecture](#).

Week 3: February 14

Part 1:

- Lecture: *The financing of development: Expanding resources for expanding needs*.
- Presentation and discussion of Group 2.

Part 2:

- Case study: *Climate financing and the debate on 'loss and damages'*. With the participation of **Isabel Kreisler**, senior policy advisor of Spain's Minister of Ecological transition and former UNDP, Oxfam.

Required material to be revised:

- OECD (2022). *Global Outlook for Financing for Sustainable Development*. Read chapter 2: *Financing for Development at a Tipping Point*.
- Yuan, Jingdong; Fei Su; and Xuwan Ouyang. [China's Evolving Approach to Foreign Aid](#). SIPRI Policy Paper no. 62, May 2022.



- Fanjul, Gonzalo. [Los países del Sur global abren una grieta en el muro del negacionismo climático](#). Publicado en El País el 5 de diciembre de 2022.
- Aboneaaj, Rakan; Jocilyn Estes; and Clemence Landers (2022). [The ABCs of Sovereign Debt Relief](#). Centre for Global Development Brief.
- The Economist (July 2022). World Bank (2021). *The 53 fragile emerging economies*.
- Oxfam (2023). [Survival of the richest: How we must tax the super-rich now to fight inequality](#). Oxfam Briefing Paper. (Read the executive summary)

Week 4: February 21

Part 1:

- Lecture: *Governing global development: Norms, policies and institutions in the era of fragmented globalization*.
- Presentation and discussion of Group 1.

Part 2:

- Case study: The governance of the pandemic response. With the participation of **Rafael Vilasanjuan** (Policy and Global Development Director at ISGlobal, member of GAVI's board and former ED of MSF International).

Required material to be revised:

- OECD (2021). Perspectives on Global Development 2021. Read Chapter 5: *Global governance in the era of discontent*.
- Gates, Bill (2022). *How to prevent the next pandemic* (Allen Lane Books). Read Introduction and chapters 8 and 9.
- Rodrik, D; Stephen Waltz (2022). *How to build a better order: Limiting Great Power Rivalry in an Anarchic World* (Foreign Affairs, Sept./Oct. 2022).

Week 5: February 28

Part 1:

- Lecture: *Looking at development crossroads in practice: The cases of climate, global health and migration*.
- Presentation and discussion of Group 4.

Part 2:

- Case study: *Migration: The best guarded secret of international development*. This session will be led directly by **Gonzalo Fanjul**.

Required material to be revised:

- Clemens, Michael (2010). [The Biggest Idea in Development That No One Really Tried](#). The Annual Proceedings of the Wealth and Well-Being of Nations, p. 25, Emily Chamlee-Wright, ed., Beloit College. (You may also watch his TED-talk-like presentation in [this video](#)).

- Various authors (2022). [The 2022 report of the Lancet Countdown on health and climate change: health at the mercy of fossil fuels](#). The Lancet, November 2022.
- Mary Robinson Foundation. [Principles of climate justice](#).

Week 6: March 7.

Part 1:

- Lecture: *The frontiers of development: Post-development, decolonization, new forms of campaigning and other 'hot' and emerging topics in the development and poverty debates.*
- Presentation and discussion of Group 5.

Part 2:

- Case study. *How change happens in development?* With the participation of **Duncan Green**, author and editor of [From Poverty to Power](#) blog.

Required reading:

- [Rethinking humanitarianism podcast: Decolonising aid](#). Podcast (48') of a conversation with Tamman Aloudat, Syrian doctor, senior strategic advisor to MSF.
- Uzodinma Iweala. *Reparations as Philanthropy: Radically rethinking 'giving' in Africa.*
- Green, Duncan (2016). [How Change Happens](#). Read Part IV-Chapter 12: *A Power and Systems Approach to Making Change Happen.*

Week 7: March 14

Part 1:

- Lecture: *Wrapping up: Key take-aways from this course.*
- Open session for final questions and comments on the contents of the course.

Part 2:

- Open discussion: Your future professions in international development: What to expect, what to aim for, and how to get there?

No required reading for this session.