



# IDEV\*1000DE Understanding Development and Global Inequalities

Summer 2023

Section: DE01

Guelph Institute of Development Studies

Credit Weight: 0.50

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## Course Details

### Calendar Description

The objective of the course is to provide an introduction to the study of international development as a contested and evolving effort to counteract global inequalities. Students will learn about the historical and political origins of the international development system, as well as the main development actors and institutions. The course will provide an introduction to foundational concepts within development studies, including poverty, inequality, human rights, foreign aid, and sustainable development.

**Pre-Requisite(s):** None

**Co-Requisite(s):** None

**Restriction(s):** None

**Method of Delivery:** Distance Education (asynchronous online)

### Final Exam

**Date:** TBD

**Time:** TBD

Note: Please read the important information about exam timing in the **Assessment Description** section under **Final Exam** in this Outline.

**Location:** Online via the **Quizzes** tool in CourseLink using Respondus LockDown Browser

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# Instructional Support

## Instructor

**Dr. Lauren Sneyd, PhD**

**Email:** [lsneyd@uoguelph.ca](mailto:lsneyd@uoguelph.ca)

**Website:** laurenqsneyd.com

Dr. Lauren Sneyd currently serves as a lecturer for courses linked to her areas of expertise in food, environment and development at the University of Guelph. She was previously a visiting Assistant Professor (CL) with the Development Studies Program and the Coady International Institute at St. Francis Xavier University, and a SSHRC Postdoctoral Fellow at the Balsillie School of International Affairs. Dr. Sneyd completed her doctorate in Geography and International Development Studies at the University of Guelph. She earned a thesis-based Master of Arts degree in Anthropology at Dalhousie University, and a second coursework-based Master of Arts degree in Development Studies at the University of Auckland. Her BA (Hons.) was in Anthropology with a subsidiary in Development Studies.

**Office Hours via Microsoft Teams:** Please note that further details will be posted in the **Announcements**. See also **Communicating with Your Instructor**.

## Teaching Assistant(s)

**Name:** Meghan Brockington

**Email:** [mbrockin@uoguelph.ca](mailto:mbrockin@uoguelph.ca)

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# Learning Resources

## Required Resources

Each student will be required to select and read **one of the three books** from the list below (see assignment instructions for the Analytical Book Review for more details).

- 1. Title:** This House Is Not a Home  
**Author(s):** Katlià  
**Year:** 2022  
**Publisher:** Halifax: Fernwood  
**ISBN:** 978-1773635620
- 2. Title:** A Hope More Powerful Than the Sea: One Refugee's Incredible Story of Love, Loss, and Survival  
**Author(s):** Melissa Fleming  
**Year:** 2018

**Publisher:** New York, NY: Flatiron Books  
**ISBN:** 978-1250106001

3. **Title:** The Big Truck That Went By: How the World Came to Save Haiti and Left Behind a Disaster  
**Author(s):** Jonathan Katz  
**Year:** 2014  
**Publisher:** New York, NY: St. Martin's Press  
**ISBN:** 978-1137278975

You may purchase the books at the [Guelph Campus Co-op Bookstore](https://www.bookstore.coop/) or the [University of Guelph Bookstore](http://www.bookstore.uoguelph.ca/). Please note that DE textbooks are located in the Distance Education section of the University of Guelph Bookstore.

<https://www.bookstore.coop/>

<http://www.bookstore.uoguelph.ca/>

## Course Materials

This course requires the use or purchase of a webcam and microphone to complete the course activities and/or assessments. It is your responsibility to ensure that you have all of the required materials for the course.

## Course Website

[CourseLink](https://courselink.uoguelph.ca/) (powered by D2L's Brightspace) is the course website and will act as your classroom. It is recommended that you log in to your course website every day to check for announcements, access course materials, and review the weekly schedule and assignment requirements.

[https://courselink.uoguelph.ca](https://courselink.uoguelph.ca/)

## Ares

For this course, you may be required to access course reserve materials through the University of Guelph McLaughlin Library. To access these items, select **Ares** on the navbar in CourseLink. Note that you will need your Central Login ID and password in order to access items on reserve.

For further instructions on accessing reserve resources, visit [How to Get Course Reserve Materials](#).

If at any point during the course you have difficulty accessing reserve materials, please contact the e-Learning Operations and Reserve Services staff at:

Tel: 519-824-4120 ext. 53621

Email: [libres2@uoguelph.ca](mailto:libres2@uoguelph.ca)

Location: McLaughlin Library, First Floor, University of Guelph

<https://www.lib.uoguelph.ca/find/course-reserves-ares>

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# Learning Outcomes

## Course Learning Outcomes

This distance education course is designed to introduce first-year students to the world of international development and the contested and evolving efforts to counteract global inequalities. It is taught through a media lens to expose a variety of issues related to global development and underdevelopment that surround us today. Students will learn about the historical and political origins of the international development system, as well as main development actors and institutions. The course provides an introduction to foundational concepts within development studies, including poverty, inequality, human rights, foreign aid, and sustainable development. Students will learn how to evaluate the objectives and effectiveness of development assistance and engage in debates about the role of gender, indigeneity and identity. Students will analyze and critique representations and framings of development in order to develop and improve their intercultural competence. Course material includes popular non-fiction, news media, reports, blog entries, speeches, poems and documentaries to integrate multiple perspectives and encourage students to critically reflect on their own values and place within development studies.

This course will assist students in gaining an introductory understanding of global development and inequality. Specifically, each student will be able to:

1. Participate in debates about contemporary development challenges by evaluating ideas and perspectives from popular non-fiction books, documentaries, media, and other sources;
2. Analyze the historical and political origins of the international development system;
3. Describe key actors and institutions within international development and identify different perspectives about their roles;
4. Outline how culture, gender, and other aspects of identity play a role in multiple issue areas across development studies; and
5. Explain the practical and ethical challenges of working in intercultural contexts, and, by reflecting on cultural identities, develop intercultural skills.

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# Teaching and Learning Activities

## Course Structure and Methods of Learning

Instead of relying on traditional methods of instruction, this course is taught through a media lens to engage learners. The creative learning environment draws on a variety of