



COURSE: IDEV*6850

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COURSE DESCRIPTION

This course offers a doctoral seminar in development research and practice and provides students with the opportunity to develop their research proposals in conjunction with the literature in the field. The goal is to provide a broad interdisciplinary perspective on development research and practice, with an eye to linking these to disciplinary study in the students’ respective departments. The course is intended to complement the theoretical and methodological grounding and disciplinary training that students receive in their departmental doctoral programs. It provides a methodological and practical introduction to the challenges of conducting field research in a context of social diversity and economic disparity. It also situates the dominant social science research traditions in relation to the study and practice of international development.

LEARNING OBJECTIVES

- Introduce key philosophical, epistemological, political and ethical issues central to development research;
- Familiarize students with the research process and identify appropriate research approaches and methods of data collection and analysis;
- Develop skills to design a research proposal

EVALUATION

1. Seminar Participation.....	(10%)
2. Letter of Intent.....	(20%)
3. Research Proposal and Oral Presentation	(70%)

REQUIRED READINGS

- Laws, Sophie, Caroline Harper, Nicola Jones, and Rachel Marcus. Research for Development: A Practical Guide. 2nd edition. London, UK: Sage, 2013. (Call No. HD77.L39 2013)
- Scheyvens, Regina, ed. Development Field Work: A Practical Guide. 2nd edition. London, UK: Sage, 2014. (Call No. H62.5.D44 D48 2014)
- Sumner, Andrew and Michael Tribe. International Development Studies: Theories and Methods in Research and Practice. London, UK: Sage, 2008. (Call No. HD77.S86 2008)