

Achieving the Millennium Development Goals (POL20130)

In this course we examine some of the world's most topical and pressing development issues. We do this through an examination of the UN Millennium Development Goals (MDGs). We start the course by asking what the MDGs are, whether they are being achieved and whether they conform to our notion of 'development'. We then move on to consider key areas related to the eight different MDGs, covering the most relevant academic and policy debate. Throughout the course students are set tasks and forced to ask questions of the material they are presented. Class participation and active learning is emphasised throughout. The course adopts a multi-disciplinary perspective: history, politics, economics, public health, sociology and anthropology are all relevant to the study of development.

To get a better feel for the course take some time to look at the 'course topics' section and the suggested readings. The course is accessible to those with little or no social science background and will be useful to a number of future career paths - not just those interested in development work. As the world becomes ever more closely integrated a good understanding of the developing world is increasingly valuable and important.

Introductory Reading

The 2003 and 2005 Human Development Reports are recommended as good starting points. They provide overviews of current progress and problems being met on the path towards the MDGs. They provide a useful introduction to some of the content and themes of this course.

The [UNDP Human Development Report \(2005\)](http://hdr.undp.org/reports/global/2005) *International cooperation at crossroads: Aid, trade and security in an unequal world.* (<http://hdr.undp.org/reports/global/2005>)

The [UNDP Human Development Report \(2003\)](http://hdr.undp.org/reports/global/2003/): *Millennium Development Goals: A compact among nations to end human poverty* (<http://hdr.undp.org/reports/global/2003/>).

The books by Stiglitz and Sen, both Nobel Prize winners, are accessible and make for interesting reading. No specialist knowledge is needed. Stiglitz's book focuses largely on policy and stands out as a significant landmark in the development literature. Sen, who takes a more philosophical approach, is more concerned with the human aspects of development. Both books can be bought cheaply from shops or on the internet.

Stiglitz, Joseph E. (2002) *Globalization and its discontents*. [Buy "Globalisation and its Discontents"](#) from Amazon.co.uk

Sen, Amartya Kumar (2001). *Development as freedom*. [Buy "Development as Freedom"](#) from Amazon.co.uk

The Millennium Development Goals

“We will spare no effort to free our fellow men, women and children from the abject and dehumanising conditions of extreme poverty, to which more than a billion of them are currently subjected. We are committed to making the right to development a reality for everyone and to freeing the entire human race from want”. (The United Nations Millennium Declaration, 2000)

The United Nations Millennium Declaration marked a commitment by world leaders to place development at the centre of the global agenda in the new millennium. As a measure of this commitment developed and developing nations alike agreed to a series of Millennium Development Goals, which if achieved, will seriously reduce poverty and promote development by 2015. The eight Millennium Development Goals bind the international community to join forces in the fight against poverty, hunger, disease, illiteracy, environmental degradation, and discrimination. The eight goals and their targets are as follows:

Goal	Target(s)
1. Eradicate Extreme Poverty and Hunger	Halve the proportion of people with less than one dollar a day. Halve the proportion of people who suffer from hunger.
2. Achieve universal primary education	Ensure that boys and girls alike complete primary schooling
3. Promote gender equality and empower women	Eliminate gender disparity at all levels of education
4. Reduce child mortality	Reduce by two thirds the under-five mortality rate
5. Improve maternal health	Reduce by three quarters the maternal mortality ratio
6. Combat HIV/AIDS, malaria and other diseases	Halt and reverse the spread of HIV/Aids. Halt and reverse the spread of malaria and tuberculosis.
7. Ensure environmental sustainability	Integrate sustainable development into country policies and reverse loss of environmental resources. Halve the proportion of people without access to potable water. Significantly improve the lives of at least 100 million slum dwellers
8. Develop a global partnership for development	Increase official development assistance, especially for countries applying their resources to poverty reduction. Expand market access. Encourage debt sustainability

For more information check out the UN Millennium Development Goal web site

http://www.un.org/millennium_goals/

<http://www.developmentgoals.com>

Assessment

The course is assessed with three short individual written assignments, worth 50%, and a one hour exam, accounting for the other 50%.

Frequently Asked Questions (FAQ)

Isn't there too much work?

There are three short assignments but while students will find themselves busy nearly all will enjoy the assignments!

Is there any technical background needed for the course?

There will be content from leading academics across Social, Medical and Environmental Science but the presentations and readings are organised so that the technical sides of an argument are presented in simple and clear English.

Do I need a social sciences background?

Development is interdisciplinary and in the course we welcome the contributions of those in both arts and sciences. The course allows students from different backgrounds to share the insights of their particular areas of expertise. Medics, chemists, physicists, to name a few, can enjoy and contribute greatly.

What is active learning?

It is getting involved, thinking about and discussing issues and not being afraid of making mistakes.

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Patrick Paul Walsh took up the Chair in International Development Studies in School of Politics and International Relations on July 1st 2007. He received a Ph.D. from the London School of Economics and Political Science in 1993. He left Trinity College Dublin an Associate Professor, College Fellow and Dean of Social and Human Sciences (1992-2007). He was a Research Scholar, Harvard University, during the academic year 2002-2003 and a Visiting Professor at K.U. Leuven during the academic years 1997-1999. His professional activities include being Editor of the *Journal of the Statistical and Social Inquiry Society of Ireland* and a Research Fellow, IZA, Bonn. Amongst other publications he has published in the *Economic Journal*, *Journal of Industrial Economics*, *International Review of Law and Economics*, *Review of Industrial Organization*, *Journal of Comparative Economics*, *Economics of Transition* and *Economic Systems*. His current research explores how institutions, companies and households interact across countries at various stages of Development

TOPIC 1: HUMAN DEVELOPMENT

Key Readings

[The State of Human Development, HDR 2005 Ch.1:](http://hdr.undp.org/reports/global/2005/pdf/HDR05_chapter_1.pdf)

http://hdr.undp.org/reports/global/2005/pdf/HDR05_chapter_1.pdf

[Human Development Report 2003, Chapter 1](http://hdr.undp.org/reports/global/2003/pdf/hdr03_chapter_1.pdf)

http://hdr.undp.org/reports/global/2003/pdf/hdr03_chapter_1.pdf

Further Readings

The [United Nations Millennium Declaration](http://www.un.org/millennium/). In September 2000 at the United Nations Millennium Summit 189 members agreed make the elimination of poverty and the fulfillment of human rights their highest priorities. This gave rise to the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs) with eight objectives for the year 2015. There are a variety of sources that are useful for getting an overview of the MDGs. Perhaps the best, most comprehensive, is the [2003 Human Development Report](http://hdr.undp.org/reports/global/2003/) (published by UNDP). <http://hdr.undp.org/reports/global/2003/>

Another useful set of reports are published by the [The Millennium Project](http://www.unmillenniumproject.org/). <http://www.unmillenniumproject.org/>.

For a comprehensive update on MDG progress. [World Bank Update on Progress Towards MDGs](http://siteresources.worldbank.org/IDA/Resources/Updatercentdevelopments.pdf): Comprehensive update on MDG progress.

<http://siteresources.worldbank.org/IDA/Resources/Updatercentdevelopments.pdf>

TOPIC 2: MEASURING HUMAN DEVELOPMENT

Key Readings

[What is human development?](http://hdr.undp.org/hd/) A brief introduction to the concept.

(<http://hdr.undp.org/hd/>).

[Growth as a means to human development, HDR 1996, Ch.2](http://hdr.undp.org/reports/global/1996/en/pdf/hdr_1996_ch2.pdf)

(http://hdr.undp.org/reports/global/1996/en/pdf/hdr_1996_ch2.pdf).

[Good and Bad Growth: The Human Development Reports](http://hdr.undp.org/reports/global/1996/en/pdf/hdr_1996_ch2.pdf) Ravallion's 1997 article provides a strong critique of the HDR approach.

[Selection of readings from UNDP](http://hdr.undp.org/statistics/indices/readings.cfm) for more info on the indices and criticisms.

<http://hdr.undp.org/statistics/indices/readings.cfm>

Further Readings

Sudhir Anand; Martin Ravallion [Human Development in Poor Countries: On the Role of Private Incomes and Public Services](#) The Journal of Economic Perspectives, Vol. 7, No. 1. (Winter, 1993), pp. 133-150.

[Human Development: Means and Ends](#) Streeten, P. American Economic Review, 1994.

Fukuda-Parr and Shiva Kuma (2003) ['Readings in Human Development'](#).

[Human Development: A New Paradigm or Reinvention of the Wheel?](#), pp. 238-243, T. N. Srinivasan

[Poverty, Human Development, and Growth: An Emerging Consensus?](#), pp. 244-249, Harsha Aturupane; Paul Glewwe; Paul Isenman

TOPIC 3: INCOME INEQUALITY

Key readings

[Human Development Report 2005 Chapter 2 on Inequality](#)

[World Bank World Development Report 2006](#)

[Is Globalization Reducing Poverty and Inequality?](#) World Development, Volume 32, Issue 4, April 2004, Pages 567-589

Further Readings

Kuznets, 1955. S. Kuznets , [Economic growth and income inequality](#). The American Economic Review 45 1 (1955), pp. 1x2013;28.

Atkinson, A B (1997), ['Bringing income distribution in from the cold'](#), The Economic Journal, Vol. 107, No. 441, Mar., 1997.

Atkinson, A B and F Bourguignon (2000), Handbook of Income Distribution, Vol. 1, North-Holland.

Kanbur, R (2000) 'Income Distribution and Development', in Atkinson and Bourguignon (2000).

Palma, J G (2002) 'The Kuznets Curve Revisited: a neo-structuralist approach', International Journal of Development Issues, Vol.1, N.1.

Székely, M, and M Hilgert (1999a) 'What's Behind the Inequality We Measure?' [An](#)

[Investigation Using Latin American Data](#)', Inter-American Development Bank, Research Department, Working Paper 409. UNCTAD (1996), [Trade and Development Report](#).

Wider (2000), [World Income Inequality Database](#), (a large database with selection of [interesting articles](#) as well)

Werner Baer and William Maloney (1997) [Neoliberalism and Income Distribution in Latin America](#), World Development, Pages 311-327 Volume 25, Issue 3, PaErik

Thorbecke and Chutatong Charumilind (2002) [Economic Inequality and Its Socioeconomic Impact](#) World Development, Volume 30, Issue 9, Pages 1477-1676 (September 2002)

Alesina and Rodrik, 1994. A. Alesina and D. Rodrik , Distributive politics and economic growth. Quarterly Journal of Economics 109 2 (1994), pp. 465x2013;490.

Alesina and Rodrik, 1996. Alesina, A., & Rodrik, D. (1996). Distributive politics and economic growth. In Economic growth: theory and evidence, Vol. 2 (pp. 367x2013;392).

TOPIC 4: HEALTH AND MDGs: HIV/AIDS

Key Readings

[Global Aids Epidemic Update](#) (UNAIDS 2005)

[2004 Report on the global AIDS epidemic](#) (UNAIDS)

[False economies: a global health crisis](#). Brett Paris, The OECD observer, May 2004.

Further Reading

Journal of International Development, May 2001 Vol 13. issue 4, [special issue on HIV/AIDS](#), includes:

AIDS: the makings of a development disaster? Geoff P Garnett, Nicholas C Grassly, Simon Gregson

AIDS in the twenty-first century: disease and globalization (2002) Tony Barnett and Alan Whiteside

TOPIC 5: GENDER AND MDGS

Key Readings

[Human Development Report 1995 : Gender and human development](#)

[UNDP Summary of Progress Towards Gender Goal](#)

[The Costs of Missing the MDGs on Gender Equity](#) (World Development).

Further Readings

Moser, C. O., Gender Planning and Development : Theory, practice and training.

Bandarage, A., Women in Development: Liberalism, Marxism, and Marxist Feminism, Development and Change, vol. 15, 1984.

Rathgeb, E., WID, WAD and GAD: Trends in Research and Practice, Journal of Developing Areas, vol. XXIV, July, 1990.

UNDP, 1998. [Building Capacity for Gender Mainstreaming](#).

Elson, D.,1995. Ed. Male Bias in the Development Process.

TOPIC 6: AID

Key Readings on Aid

World Bank. 1998. [Assessing aid overview](#) Washington, D.C. Oxford University Press.

HDR 2003, Chapter 8: '[Policy, not charity: what rich countries can do to help achieve the goals](#)'

World Bank 2000. [Aid and Reform in Africa](#). Ten more detailed African country case studies (useful for essays).

Further Readings on Aid

Collier, P., Dollar, D. '[Aid allocation and poverty reduction](#)', European Economic Review, vol. 46, pp. 1475-1500.

Hansen, H. and F. Tarp (2001), '[Aid and Growth Regressions](#)', Journal of Development Economics, Vol. 64, pp. 547-570.

Boone, P. (1996), '[Politics and the Effectiveness of Foreign Aid](#)', European Economic Review, Vol. 40: 289-329.

Burnside, C and Dollar, D. (2000). '[Aid, policies and growth](#)', American Economic Review, vol.90, September, 847-868.

Collier, P. (1997). 'The failure of conditionality' in C. Gwin and J. Nelson (eds.) Perspectives on Aid and Development, Washington DC: Overseas Development Council.

M Easterly, W. 1997. '[The Ghost of the Financing Gap.](#)' World Bank Working Paper. Journal of International Development Special Issue on Aid. 2000.

Lensink and Hermes, 2001. Changing the Conditions for Development Aid: Frank Cass. This book is based on a special issue of Journal of Development Studies, 2001.

Mosley, P, J Harrigan, and J Toye. 1991. Aid and Power: Routledge (two volumes).

Rolph van der Hoeven [Assessing Aid and Global Governance: Why poverty and redistribution objectives matter](#)

Sanford, J. 2002. "World Bank: IDA Loans or IDA Grants?" World Development, 30:5, pp. 741-62.

TOPIC 7: DEBT RELIEF

Key reading on Debt Relief

HDR 2003, Chapter 8: '[Policy, not charity: what rich countries can do to help achieve the goals](#)' Section on Debt relief, p.152 onwards.

Further readings on Debt Relief

Eichengreen, Barry J. 1991. '[Historical research on international lending and debt.](#)' Journal of Economic Perspectives, 5, pp. 149-69.

Hanlon, Joseph. 2000. '[How much debt must be cancelled?](#)' Journal of International Development, 12:6, pp. 877-901.

Kenen, Peter B. 1990. '[Organizing debt relief: the need for a new institution.](#)' Journal of Economic Perspectives, 4, pp. 7-18.

Kesteren, Karel van. 1994. '[Use of aid money for debt reduction: a view from inside.](#)' Journal of International Development, 6, pp. 241-52.

Sachs, G. 1989. Developing Country Debt and the World Economy.

Sachs, Jeffrey D. 1990. ["Strategy for efficient debt reduction."](#) Journal of Economic Perspectives, 4, pp. 19-29.

Special Issue on Debt Relief, [1990](#) Journal of Economic Perspectives.
Yeats, Alexander J. 1982. "Development assistance: trade versus aid and the relative performance of industrial countries." World Development, 10, pp. 863-69.

Weeks, John. 2000. ["Latin America and the 'high performing Asian economies': growth and debt."](#) Journal of International Development, 12:5, pp. 625-54.

White, Howard. 2001. ["Will the new aid agenda help promote poverty reduction?"](#) Journal of International Development, 13:7, pp. 1057-70.

Bird, Graham; Milne, Alistair, 2000. [Debt relief for poor countries: Distinguishing rhetoric from reality.](#) New Economy.

Copestake, James and Philip Weston. 2000. ["Pitfalls of debt reduction: a counterfactual case study of Zambia during the early 1990s."](#) Journal of International Development, 12:4, pp. 585-600.

Diaz-Alejandro, C. 1984. ["Latin American Debt: I don't think we are in Kansas anymore."](#) Brooking Papers on Economic Activity.

Easterly, W. 2002. ["How Did Heavily Indebted Poor Countries Become Heavily Indebted? Reviewing Two Decades of Debt Relief."](#) World Development, 30:10, pp. 1677-96.

Topic 8: Trade

Key reading on Trade

[UNCTAD Trade and Development Report 2002](#)

You are advised to look at Chapters 3 and 4 as well as the introduction which has a useful summary of the main arguments.

Further Readings

Lewis, W. Arthur. 1980. ["The slowing of the engine of economic growth."](#) American Economic Review, Papers and Proceedings, 70:4 pp. 60.

Riedel, James. 1984. ["Trade as the engine of growth in developing countries, revisited."](#) Economic Journal : The Journal of the Royal Economic Society, 94, pp. 56-73.

Dornbusch, Rudiger. 1992. "[Case for trade liberalization in developing countries.](#)" Journal of Economic Perspectives, 6, pp. 69-85. Winter (Symposia: Trade Liberalization and Development)

Khor, M., [Globalization and the South: some critical issues.](#) UNCTAD Discussion Paper 147, 2000, Section II (pp. 10-22)

Krueger, A., Comparative Advantage and Development Policy Twenty Years Later in M. Syrquin, L. Taylor & L. Westphal (eds.), Economic Structure and Performance.

Rodriguez, F. & Rodrik, D., [Trade Policy and Economic Growth](#) : A Sceptic's Guide to the Cross-National Evidence, NBER Working Paper no. 7081, 1999 (for a critical look at the empirical evidence) see also [other working papers in this series](#) .

Rodrik, Dani. 1992. "Limits of trade policy reform in developing countries." Journal of Economic Perspectives, 6, pp. [87]-105.

World Bank, [World Development Report 1987, ch. 5](#) (also see H. Singer's critique in Journal of Development Studies, 1988)

Balassa, B., Outward Orientation in H. Chenery & T. Srinivasan (eds.), Handbook of Development Economics, ch. 31

Bell, M., Ross-Larson, B. & Westphal, L., Assessing the Performance of Infant Industries, Journal of Development Economics, 1984, nos. ½

Chang, H-J., Kicking Away the Ladder, forthcoming (2002), ch. 2. DS Library and Marshall Library.

Chakravarty, S. & Singh, A., The Desirable Forms of Economic Openness in the South, WIDER working paper, 1988

Carlos F. Diaz-Alejandro 1978 [International Markets for LDCs--The Old and the New](#) The American Economic Review, Vol. 68, No. 2, Papers and Proceedings of the Ninetieth Annual Meeting of the American Economic Association. (May,), pp. 264-269.

Devarajan, Shantayanan and Dani Rodrik. 1989. " [Trade liberalization in developing countries: do imperfect competition and scale economies matter?](#)" American Economic Review, Papers and Proceedings, 79, pp. 283-87.

Dollar, David, "Outward-Oriented Developing Economies Really Do Grow More Rapidly: Evidence from 95 LDCs, 1976-85," Economic Development and Cultural Change, 1992, 523-544. Marshall.

Edwards, Sebastian, "[Openness, Trade Liberalization, and Growth in Developing Countries.](#)" *Journal of Economic Literature*, XXXI(3), September 1993, 1358-1393.

Dosi, G., Tyson, L. & Zysman, J., Trade, Technologies and Development: A Framework for Discussing Japan in C. Johnson, L. Tyson & J. Zysman (eds.), *Politics and Productivity* (photocopy in the Marshall Library)

Evans, D., Visible and Invisible Hands in Trade Policy Reform in C. Colclough & J. Manor (eds.), *States or Markets?*

Helleiner, G., Trade Strategy in medium-term Adjustment, *World Development*, 1990, no. 6. DS and Marshall.

Bhagwati, Jagdish N. and T. N. Srinivasan. 2002. "Trade and poverty in the poor countries." *American Economic Review, Papers and Proceedings*, 92:2, pp. 180-73.

Bhagwati, Jagdish and Arvind Panagariya. 1996. "The theory of preferential trade agreements: historical evolution and current trends." *American Economic Review, Papers and Proceedings*, 86:2, pp. 82-87.

Burgstaller, Andre. 1987. "Industrialization, deindustrialization, and North-South trade." *American Economic Review*, 77, pp. 1017-18.

Dollar, David. 1993. "Technological differences as a source of comparative advantage." *American Economic Review, Papers and Proceedings*, 83, pp. 431-35.

Edwards, Sebastian. 1997. "Trade liberalization reforms and the World Bank." *American Economic Review, Papers and Proceedings*, 87:2, pp. 43-48.

Grossman, Gene M. and Elhanan Helpman. 1993. "Politics of free trade agreements." *National Bureau of Economic Research. Working Paper Series*, No. 4597:4, pp. 1-[50].

Ingham, Barbara. 1991. "Manchester years, 1947-58: a tribute to the work of Arthur Lewis." *Journal of International Development*, 3, pp. [531]-36.

Irwin, Douglas A. 1995. "GATT in historical perspective." *American Economic Review, Papers and Proceedings*, 85, pp. 323-28.

Krueger, Anne O. 1992. "Government, trade, and economic integration." *American Economic Review, Papers and Proceedings*, 82, pp. 109-14.

Krueger, Anne O. 1997. "Trade policy and economic development: how we learn." *National Bureau of Economic Research. Working Paper Series*, No. 5896, pp. 1-[55].

TOPIC 9: TRANSNATIONAL CORPORATIONS

Nolan, P. 2001. China and the global business revolution. New York: Palgrave.

Nolan, P, D.P. Sutherland, and J. Zhang. 2002. Draft copy of "The challenge of the global business revolution." Contributions to Political Economy, 21, pp. 91-111.

UNCTAD, various years. [United Nations Conference on Trade and Development. World Investment Report](#). New York: United Nations.

UNCTAD, 2003. [United Nations Conference on Trade and Development. World Investment Report](#). New York: United Nations.

Ghemawat, P. and F. Ghadar. 2000. "The dubious logic of global mega-mergers." Harvard Business Review, 78:4.

Herrigel, G, (2004) ["Emerging Strategies and Forms of Governance in High Wage Component Manufacturing Regions,"](#)

Helper, S MacDuffie, J.P. and Sabel, C. 2000. ['Pragmatic Collaborations. Advancing Knowledge While Controlling Opportunism'](#). Industrial and Corporate Change, Volume 9, Number 3.

Gereffi, G., J. Humphrey, and T. Sturgeon. 2003. "Governance in Global Value Chains: An Analytic Framework." Ids working paper / University of Sussex, Institute of Development Studies.

Hannah, L. 1998b. ["Survival and size mobility among the world's largest 100 industrial corporations, 1912-1995."](#) American Economic Review, Papers and Proceedings, 88, pp. 62-65.

Ruigrok, W. and R. van Tulder. 1995. The logic of international restructuring. London; New York: Routledge.

Singh, A. 2002. ["Competition and competition policy in emerging markets: international and developmental dimensions."](#) G-24 Discussion Paper Series, UNCTAD. UNCTAD: Geneva.

TOPIC 10: POVERTY AND HUNGER

Key Readings

Sen, Amartya. 1981. "[Ingredients of Famine Analysis: Availability and Entitlements](#)" Quarterly Journal of Economics, 96:3, pp. 433-64

Devereux, S. 2001. Famine in the Twentieth Century. IDS working paper. Excellent overview, covering theory and history.

Further Readings

Devereux, Stephen. 1993. Theories of famine. New York ; London: Harvester Wheatsheaf.

Drèze, Jean. 1999. The economics of famine. Cheltenham, UK ; Northampton, MA:

Edward Elgar. Drèze, Jean and Amartya Kumar Sen. 1989. Hunger and public action. Oxford: Clarendon Press.

Drèze, Jean, Amartya Kumar Sen, and Athar Hussain. 1995. The political economy of hunger: selected essays. Oxford New York: Clarendon Press.

Kumar, B.G. 1990. "Ethiopian Famines 1973-1985" in The Economics of Famines.

Sen, Amartya. 1981. "Food and Famine." World Development, 17:6, pp. 769-81. an essay on entitlement and deprivation Oxford : Clarendon Press, 1982.