ANTH815

Development Theory and Practice

S1 Evening 2014

Anthropology

Contents

General Information

Unit convenor and teaching staff
Unit Convenor
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Credit points
4

Prerequisites
Admission to MAppAnth or PGDipAppAnth or MDevCult or PGDipDevCult or PGCertDevCult or MIntRel or MPASR or PGDipPASR or PGCertPASR or MSocEntre or PGCertSocEntre or 4cp in ANTH units at 800 level

Corequisites

Co-badged status

Unit description
This unit examines themes underpinning international aid to developing countries. It does so from two inter-related perspectives: anthropology of development, which examines theoretical approaches to development over the past 50 years, and development anthropology, which engages with contemporary practices within development programs. The course uses specific themes and case study material to examine how development works in practice. We will look at individual projects run by NGOs and also by the Asian Development Bank as well as related literature to consider what works and what doesn't in the delivery of livelihood improvement to impoverished people. We will also discuss the broader context in which development takes place and examine topics such as Australia's aid policies, structural adjustment and debt relief, consulting agencies and NGOs, sustainable development, gender issues, development-induced displacement and changing approaches to social impact mitigation.

Important Academic Dates

Information about important academic dates including deadlines for withdrawing from units are available at https://www.mq.edu.au/study/calendar-of-dates

Learning Outcomes

On successful completion of this unit, you will be able to:

Understand why international aid remains such a contested arena within international

relations and such a problematic context for altruistic notions of help.

Learn to think critically and reflexively about recent debates informing development, the motivations behind international aid and the attendant difficulties in its delivery

Read widely and actively participate in discussions concerning the nature of interactions between development agencies and target communities within the developed and the developing world and thereby gain detailed picture of what international aid entails.

Examine the social outcomes that emerge from programs of international aid by looking beyond the rhetoric and developing an appreciation of the many background factors that influence these outcomes

Assessment Tasks

Name	Weighting	Due
Book review	25%	April 10
Research Proposal	15%	May 8
Essay	60%	June 12

Book review

Due: **April 10**
Weighting: **25%**

On successful completion you will be able to:

- Understand why international aid remains such a contested arena within international relations and such a problematic context for altruistic notions of help.
- Learn to think critically and reflexively about recent debates informing development, the motivations behind international aid and the attendant difficulties in its delivery
- Read widely and actively participate in discussions concerning the nature of interactions between development agencies and target communities within the developed and the developing world and thereby gain detailed picture of what international aid entails.
- Examine the social outcomes that emerge from programs of international aid by looking beyond the rhetoric and developing an appreciation of the many background factors that influence these outcomes

Research Proposal

Due: **May 8**
Weighting: **15%**

Research Proposal (1000 words, due on May 8; worth 15%)

On successful completion you will be able to:
- Understand why international aid remains such a contested arena within international relations and such a problematic context for altruistic notions of help.
- Learn to think critically and reflexively about recent debates informing development, the motivations behind international aid and the attendant difficulties in its delivery
- Read widely and actively participate in discussions concerning the nature of interactions between development agencies and target communities within the developed and the developing world and thereby gain detailed picture of what international aid entails.

Essay

Due: **June 12**
Weighting: **60%**

 Major Essay (3000 words due on June 12th. Worth 60%)

On successful completion you will be able to:
- Understand why international aid remains such a contested arena within international relations and such a problematic context for altruistic notions of help.
- Learn to think critically and reflexively about recent debates informing development, the motivations behind international aid and the attendant difficulties in its delivery
- Read widely and actively participate in discussions concerning the nature of interactions between development agencies and target communities within the developed and the developing world and thereby gain detailed picture of what international aid entails.
- Examine the social outcomes that emerge from programs of international aid by looking beyond the rhetoric and developing an appreciation of the many background factors that influence these outcomes

Delivery and Resources

The class operates in a seminar fashion with discussion amongst the class of the week's readings framed by ideas introduced by the convenors and students.

Readings for seminars and lists of background readings will be posted on ilearn

Unit Schedule

Schedule   **ANTH 815: Seminar Topics**

Detailed description of topics and readings in unit guide on ilearn

Week One   Thursday March 6   Introduction

Week Two   Thursday March 13   Development Theories

Week Three   Thursday March 20   Discursive Development

Week Four   Thursday March 27 NGOs and new social movements

Week Five   Thursday April 3   Student presentations

Week Six   Thursday April 10   Student presentations

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Week Seven   Reading/Consultation week

Week Eight   Thursday May 8   OECD vs Chinese Development

Week Nine   Thursday May 15   Infrastructure and displacement

Week Ten   Thursday May 22   Affective politics of the precariat

Week Eleven   Thursday May 29   Health and development

Week Twelve   Thursday June 5   Mitigating Risk

Week Thirteen   Thursday June 12   to be announced

Policies and Procedures

Macquarie University policies and procedures are accessible from Policy Central. Students should be aware of the following policies in particular with regard to Learning and Teaching:

Academic Honesty Policy http://mq.edu.au/policy/docs/academic_honesty/policy.html

Assessment Policy http://mq.edu.au/policy/docs/assessment/policy.html

Grading Policy http://mq.edu.au/policy/docs/grading/policy.html

Grade Appeal Policy http://mq.edu.au/policy/docs/gradeappeal/policy.html

Grievance Management Policy http://mq.edu.au/policy/docs/grievance_management/policy.html

Disruption to Studies Policy http://www.mq.edu.au/policy/docs/disruption_studies/policy.html *The Disruption to Studies Policy is effective from March 3 2014 and replaces the Special Consideration Policy.*

In addition, a number of other policies can be found in the Learning and Teaching Category of Policy Central.

Student Code of Conduct

Macquarie University students have a responsibility to be familiar with the Student Code of Conduct: https://students.mq.edu.au/support/student_conduct/

Student Support

Macquarie University provides a range of support services for students. For details, visit http://students.mq.edu.au/support/

Learning Skills

Learning Skills (mq.edu.au/learningskills) provides academic writing resources and study strategies to improve your marks and take control of your study.

- Workshops
- StudyWise
- Academic Integrity Module for Students
- Ask a Learning Adviser

Student Services and Support

Students with a disability are encouraged to contact the Disability Service who can provide appropriate help with any issues that arise during their studies.

Student Enquiries

For all student enquiries, visit Student Connect at ask.mq.edu.au

IT Help

For help with University computer systems and technology, visit http://informatics.mq.edu.au/help/.

When using the University's IT, you must adhere to the Acceptable Use Policy. The policy applies to all who connect to the MQ network including students.

Graduate Capabilities

PG - Discipline Knowledge and Skills

Our postgraduates will be able to demonstrate a significantly enhanced depth and breadth of knowledge, scholarly understanding, and specific subject content knowledge in their chosen fields.

This graduate capability is supported by:

Learning outcome

- Understand why international aid remains such a contested arena within international relations and such a problematic context for altruistic notions of help.

PG - Critical, Analytical and Integrative Thinking

Our postgraduates will be capable of utilising and reflecting on prior knowledge and experience, of applying higher level critical thinking skills, and of integrating and synthesising learning and knowledge from a range of sources and environments. A characteristic of this form of thinking is the generation of new, professionally oriented knowledge through personal or group-based critique of practice and theory.

This graduate capability is supported by:

Learning outcome

- Learn to think critically and reflexively about recent debates informing development, the motivations behind international aid and the attendant difficulties in its delivery

PG - Research and Problem Solving Capability

Our postgraduates will be capable of systematic enquiry; able to use research skills to create new knowledge that can be applied to real world issues, or contribute to a field of study or practice to enhance society. They will be capable of creative questioning, problem finding and problem solving.

This graduate capability is supported by:

Learning outcome

- Read widely and actively participate in discussions concerning the nature of interactions between development agencies and target communities within the developed and the developing world and thereby gain detailed picture of what international aid entails.

PG - Engaged and Responsible, Active and Ethical Citizens

Our postgraduates will be ethically aware and capable of confident transformative action in relation to their professional responsibilities and the wider community. They will have a sense of connectedness with others and country and have a sense of mutual obligation. They will be able to appreciate the impact of their professional roles for social justice and inclusion related to national and global issues

This graduate capability is supported by:

Learning outcome

- Examine the social outcomes that emerge from programs of international aid by looking beyond the rhetoric and developing an appreciation of the many background factors that influence these outcomes