



ANTH8015

Development Theory and Practice

Session 1, In person-scheduled-weekday, North Ryde 2022

Macquarie School of Social Sciences

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General Information

Unit convenor and teaching staff

Timothy Lynch

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Credit points

10

Prerequisites

Admission to MDevStud or MGlobalHlthDevStud or MPH or GradCertGlobalHlthDevStud or MDevStudGlobalHlth or GradCertDevStudGlobalHlth or MAppAnth or MDevCult or MIntRel or MPASR or GradDipPASR or MPASRMDevStud or GradDipIntRel or GradDipPP or MPPP or MSocEntre or GradCertSocEntre or MPlan or MSecStrategicStud or MCrim or MIntell or MCTerrorism or MPPPMDevStud or MPPPMPASR or MPPPMIntRel or MSecStrategicStudMCrim or MSecStrategicStudMIntell or MSecStrategicStudMCyberSec or MSecStrategicStudMCTerrorism or MIntellMCrim or MIntellMCyberSec or MIntellMCTerrorism or MCTerrorismMCrim or MTransInterMIntRel or GradDipSIA or GradCertSIA or 10cp in ANTH units at 8000 level

Corequisites

Co-badged status

Unit description

This unit examines international aid to developing countries. Through close examination of historical and anthropological accounts, as well as particular case studies, students will come to understand donor-driven development as both a way of thinking and a set of practices that affect recipient populations in profound ways. To understand how international aid has emerged as a key means of closing the gap between rich and poor in the contemporary world, the unit will focus on four key topics. Specifically, we will explore the history of global poverty and economic inequality, the emergence of human rights as a key vocabulary for staking claims to economic improvement, and the complexity of the relationship between culture and development, examining in some detail the ways in which culture can both impede and aid development projects. Finally, we will pay critical attention to why programs designed to help people in the developing world have sometimes fallen short of their goals.

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:

ULO1: Demonstrate an understanding of why international aid remains such a contested arena within international relations and such a problematic context for altruistic notions of help.

ULO2: Read widely and actively participate in discussions concerning interactions between development agencies and target communities within the developing world and thereby gain a detailed picture of what international aid entails.

ULO3: Think critically and reflexively about recent debates informing development, the motivations behind international aid, what makes development assistance successful in improving lives and/or why there are often difficulties in achieving this.

ULO4: Examine the social outcomes that emerge from programs of international aid by looking beyond the rhetoric and developing an appreciation of the complex factors that influence these outcomes.

ULO5: Demonstrate command of anthropological knowledge and theories relevant to international aid.

Assessment Tasks

Name	Weighting	Hurdle	Due
<u>Short essay</u>	20%	No	Friday of Week 6
<u>Research Essay</u>	30%	No	Friday of Week 13
<u>Leading discussion</u>	15%	No	Designated weeks
<u>Seminar participation</u>	20%	No	Weekly
<u>Discussion preparation guide</u>	15%	No	Weekly

Short essay

Assessment Type ¹: Essay

Indicative Time on Task ²: 20 hours

Due: **Friday of Week 6**

Weighting: **20%**

Students will write a short essay on designated topics on unit themes.

On successful completion you will be able to:

- Demonstrate an understanding of why international aid remains such a contested arena within international relations and such a problematic context for altruistic notions of help.
- Think critically and reflexively about recent debates informing development, the motivations behind international aid, what makes development assistance successful in improving lives and/or why there are often difficulties in achieving this.
- Examine the social outcomes that emerge from programs of international aid by looking beyond the rhetoric and developing an appreciation of the complex factors that influence these outcomes.
- Demonstrate command of anthropological knowledge and theories relevant to international aid.

Research Essay

Assessment Type ¹: Essay

Indicative Time on Task ²: 30 hours

Due: **Friday of Week 13**

Weighting: **30%**

Students will prepare a final research paper on a relevant topic of their choosing

On successful completion you will be able to:

- Demonstrate an understanding of why international aid remains such a contested arena within international relations and such a problematic context for altruistic notions of help.
- Read widely and actively participate in discussions concerning interactions between development agencies and target communities within the developing world and thereby gain a detailed picture of what international aid entails.
- Think critically and reflexively about recent debates informing development, the motivations behind international aid, what makes development assistance successful in improving lives and/or why there are often difficulties in achieving this.
- Examine the social outcomes that emerge from programs of international aid by looking beyond the rhetoric and developing an appreciation of the complex factors that influence these outcomes.
- Demonstrate command of anthropological knowledge and theories relevant to

international aid.

Leading discussion

Assessment Type ¹: Participatory task

Indicative Time on Task ²: 10 hours

Due: **Designated weeks**

Weighting: **15%**

Depending on enrolment, students will lead seminar discussion in small groups two to three times over the course of the session. Students will be tasked with completing all readings for the week and leading an inclusive and compelling conversation on weekly themes.

On successful completion you will be able to:

- Demonstrate an understanding of why international aid remains such a contested arena within international relations and such a problematic context for altruistic notions of help.
- Read widely and actively participate in discussions concerning interactions between development agencies and target communities within the developing world and thereby gain a detailed picture of what international aid entails.
- Think critically and reflexively about recent debates informing development, the motivations behind international aid, what makes development assistance successful in improving lives and/or why there are often difficulties in achieving this.

Seminar participation

Assessment Type ¹: Participatory task

Indicative Time on Task ²: 13 hours

Due: **Weekly**

Weighting: **20%**

Students will participate in an active and engaged manner in weekly seminar discussions.

On successful completion you will be able to:

- Read widely and actively participate in discussions concerning interactions between development agencies and target communities within the developing world and thereby gain a detailed picture of what international aid entails.
- Think critically and reflexively about recent debates informing development, the

motivations behind international aid, what makes development assistance successful in improving lives and/or why there are often difficulties in achieving this.

- Demonstrate command of anthropological knowledge and theories relevant to international aid.

Discussion preparation guide

Assessment Type ¹: Reflective Writing

Indicative Time on Task ²: 15 hours

Due: **Weekly**

Weighting: **15%**

Weekly preparation and submission of a discussion preparation guide — a number of short answer questions designed to get students thinking about the reading in ways that will support discussion in seminar.

On successful completion you will be able to:

- Read widely and actively participate in discussions concerning interactions between development agencies and target communities within the developing world and thereby gain a detailed picture of what international aid entails.
- Think critically and reflexively about recent debates informing development, the motivations behind international aid, what makes development assistance successful in improving lives and/or why there are often difficulties in achieving this.

¹ If you need help with your assignment, please contact:

- the academic teaching staff in your unit for guidance in understanding or completing this type of assessment
- the [Writing Centre](#) for academic skills support.

² Indicative time-on-task is an estimate of the time required for completion of the assessment task and is subject to individual variation

Delivery and Resources

All required readings are available through Legato (on the iLearn page). Other resources are available through Macquarie university Library.

Policies and Procedures

Macquarie University policies and procedures are accessible from [Policy Central](https://policycentral.mq.edu.au) (<https://policycentral.mq.edu.au>)

[s.mq.edu.au](https://students.mq.edu.au)). Students should be aware of the following policies in particular with regard to Learning and Teaching:

- [Academic Appeals Policy](#)
- [Academic Integrity Policy](#)
- [Academic Progression Policy](#)
- [Assessment Policy](#)
- [Fitness to Practice Procedure](#)
- [Assessment Procedure](#)
- [Complaints Resolution Procedure for Students and Members of the Public](#)
- [Special Consideration Policy](#)

Students seeking more policy resources can visit [Student Policies \(https://students.mq.edu.au/support/study/policies\)](https://students.mq.edu.au/support/study/policies). It is your one-stop-shop for the key policies you need to know about throughout your undergraduate student journey.

To find other policies relating to Teaching and Learning, visit [Policy Central \(https://policies.mq.edu.au\)](https://policies.mq.edu.au) and use the [search tool](#).

Student Code of Conduct

Macquarie University students have a responsibility to be familiar with the Student Code of Conduct: <https://students.mq.edu.au/admin/other-resources/student-conduct>

Results

Results published on platform other than [eStudent](#), (eg. iLearn, Coursera etc.) or released directly by your Unit Convenor, are not confirmed as they are subject to final approval by the University. Once approved, final results will be sent to your student email address and will be made available in [eStudent](#). For more information visit ask.mq.edu.au or if you are a Global MBA student contact globalmba.support@mq.edu.au

Academic Integrity

At Macquarie, we believe [academic integrity](#) – honesty, respect, trust, responsibility, fairness and courage – is at the core of learning, teaching and research. We recognise that meeting the expectations required to complete your assessments can be challenging. So, we offer you a range of resources and services to help you reach your potential, including free [online writing and maths support](#), [academic skills development](#) and [wellbeing consultations](#).

Student Support

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

The Writing Centre

[The Writing Centre](#) provides resources to develop your English language proficiency, academic writing, and communication skills.

- [Workshops](#)
- [Chat with a WriteWISE peer writing leader](#)
- [Access StudyWISE](#)
- [Upload an assignment to Studiosity](#)
- [Complete the Academic Integrity Module](#)

The Library provides online and face to face support to help you find and use relevant information resources.

- [Subject and Research Guides](#)
- [Ask a Librarian](#)

Student Services and Support

Macquarie University offers a range of [Student Support Services](#) including:

- [IT Support](#)
- [Accessibility and disability support](#) with study
- Mental health [support](#)
- [Safety support](#) to respond to bullying, harassment, sexual harassment and sexual assault
- [Social support including information about finances, tenancy and legal issues](#)

Student Enquiries

Got a question? Ask us via [AskMQ](#), or contact [Service Connect](#).

IT Help

For help with University computer systems and technology, visit http://www.mq.edu.au/about_us/offices_and_units/information_technology/help/.

When using the University's IT, you must adhere to the [Acceptable Use of IT Resources Policy](#). The policy applies to all who connect to the MQ network including students.