MSc Development Studies
Preliminary reading list
2017-2018

Students planning to follow the MSc in Development Studies may well want to get a start on reading the required books to which we will be referring throughout our core course in 2017-18. If you read nothing else before you come, you should get a hold of Ha-joon Chang’s *Economics: The User’s Guide* (2014). For students who have never studied economics, this book will provide you with most of the foundation you need to engage with the economic ideas you will discover on the course. For students who have studied economics, the book will provide you with a perspective on the discipline that you may not have encountered before.

In a new edition of Lourdes Benería’s (2015) *Gender, development and globalisation*, she is joined by Bewrik and Floro to provide a comprehensive account of how gender issues have been engaged with in development theory and practice. James Ferguson (1990) is a classic anthropological criticism of development practice inspired by the ideas of Michel Foucault. Atul Kohli (2004) is a landmark comparative study, anchored in political science, of the differential roles the state has played in development processes in Africa, Asia and Latin America. Dani Rodrik (2008) provides an interesting comparative interpretation of key dimensions of development experience from a mainstream economist who writes in a highly accessible fashion. Amartya Sen’s classic work (1999) explores the philosophical foundations of a full-blown liberal approach to development based on a defence of individual rights and free markets. Finally, the World Bank’s flagship publication, *World Development Report 2017*, lays out an important (potential) shift if the way the Bank is thinking about development, for the first time engaging more directly with issues of politics and power.

**Required Reading – Books (books you should have read by the end of the course)**


**Basic Background Readings**


**Additional Background Reading**


Easterly, W. (2006) *The White Man’s Burden: Why The West’s Efforts to Aid the Rest Have Done so Much Ill and So Little Good* (Oxford), cc HC59.7 E11


You will also find the following books to be valuable background reading or reference reading:


Cramer, C. (2006) *Civil War is Not a Stupid Thing: Accounting for Violence in Developing Countries*. London: Hurst. (Published in the US as *Violence in Developing Countries: War, Memory, Progress*, Indian UP) cc HN981.V5 C88


List, F (1930[1841]) *The National System of Political Economy* HB165 L77


Marx, K (1859): *A Contribution to the Critique of Political Economy* HB175 M39


