

**RHODES UNIVERSITY**

*Grahamstown • 6140 • South Africa*

## **Sociology of Development**

Sociology 2

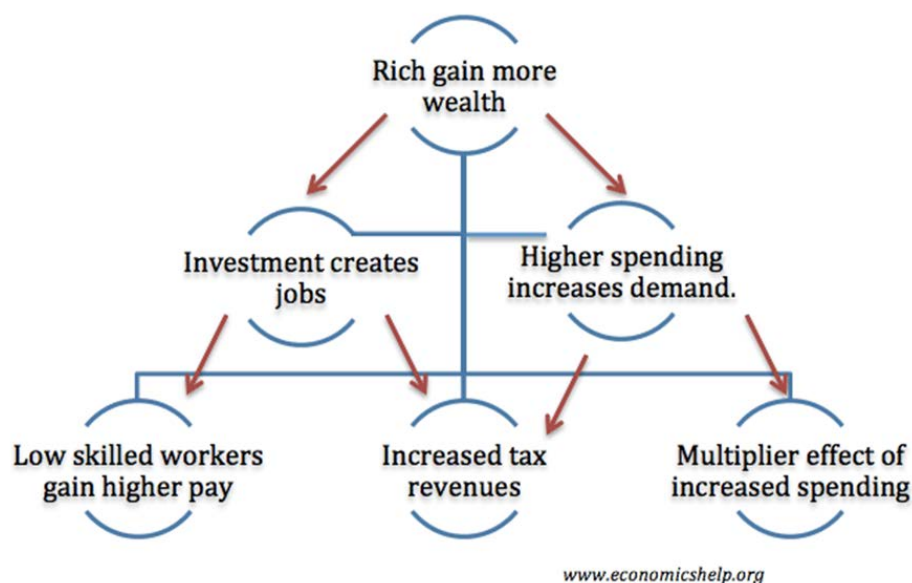
1<sup>st</sup> Term, 2020

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## Introduction

Welcome to the course on the sociology of development. From its inception sociology was committed to explaining and analysing the nature, conditions and possibilities of social change - i.e. development. Development studies emerged as a distinct area of research in the post-second world war period, and were associated with the growing concern for the political and economic development of the post-colonial world. The first sociological account of development was *modernisation theory*, which holds the view that the less developed countries would eventually catch up with the industrialized world, provided they follow the economic and social systems of Western capitalism. Modernisation theory was largely based on *structural functionalism*. Development was conceptualized as a staged transition from tradition to modernity where progression to an ideal economic stage was brought by the operations of the market and foreign investment; at the social level by the adoption of appropriate western institutions, values, and behaviours; and at the political level by the implementation of parliamentary democracy. A product of the Cold War, and motivated by the concern to challenge socialist ideas in the post-colonial world, modernisation theory was criticised for its optimism, over-simplification and presentation of development as linear progress, and for its ethnocentrism. It has also been criticised for its trickle-down approach to the distribution of wealth.

### Trickle down effect



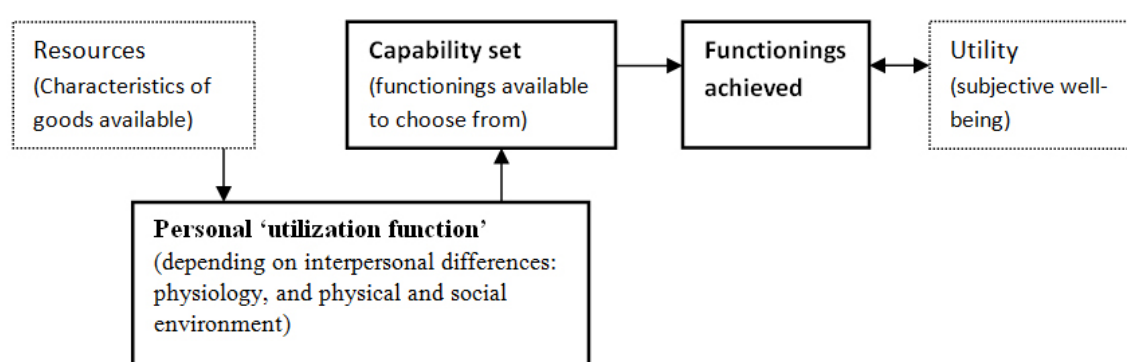
Modernisation theory has been succeeded by *neo-liberalism*, which is the economic belief that free market forces, achieved by minimising government restrictions on business, provide the only route to economic growth (Bond, 2001: 231-249). Neo-liberal economic policies are based on three main planks:

1. At the macroeconomic level, it assumes that the market is efficient and the state is inefficient. Therefore, relative prices should be determined by resource availability and consumer preferences, and the market should address such economic problems as employment creation, industrial development and international competitiveness.

2. The state should essentially provide legal and economic infrastructure for the development of markets, mediate between social groups in order to expand market relations, defend the country against foreign aggression.
3. Beneficial economic policies here include deregulation (e.g. privatisation and the abolition of state planning), fiscal and monetary policy discipline (tax reforms, expenditure cuts and the shift of government investment towards basic goods and services), financial liberalisation (to increase the availability of savings and the rate of return of investment) and labour market 'flexibilisation' (supposedly to raise productivity and employment).

Until the 1960s, modernisation theory was the most popular sociological analysis of development, but it was displaced by the Marxist *dependency theory*, and other related theories, such as Immanuel Wallerstein's *world systems theory*. The focus in these theories was, and still is, on the unequal relationship between the 'core' (developed) and 'periphery' (developing/underdeveloped) countries. Dependency theorists ask why such inequalities exist, therefore a central concern is to understand the causes of inequality and to redress them. Like modernisation theorists, dependency and world systems theorists focus their analysis on macro-economic development, and to a certain extent, also assume a 'trickle-down effect' of wealth distribution.

We will briefly discuss the above macro theories of development, as the focus in this course will be on the human development approach. This micro perspective arose in 1990, and it built on the earlier 'basic needs approach to development' (ILO, 1976 cited in Reinert, 2018) and Sen's (1979; 1999) *capability approach*. The basic objective of development from these micro approaches is "to create an enabling environment for people to live long, healthy and creative lives. ... Human development is a process of enlarging people's choices. The most critical ones are to lead a long and healthy life, to be educated and to enjoy a decent standard of living. Additional choices include political freedom, guaranteed human rights and self-respect" (UNDP, 1990: 9-10). To achieve 'real' and 'meaningful' development, a participatory approach is advocated as it is seen as crucial to any strategy for human development.



Outline of the core relationships in the capability approach

<https://www.iep.utm.edu/sen-cap/>

The course will draw on case studies on human development from the Southern Africa Development Community (SADC) countries - Angola, Botswana, Democratic Republic of Congo, Lesotho, Madagascar, Malawi, Mauritius, Mozambique, Namibia, Seychelles, South Africa, Swaziland, Tanzania, Zambia and Zimbabwe.

## Learning Outcomes

At the conclusion of this course, you should be able to:

- Understand the impact of colonialism on development in SADC countries;
- Describe the key assumptions of modernisation theory, dependency theory, neo-liberalism and the human development approach;
- Evaluate the human development approach within SADC countries;
- Explain why SADC countries struggle to meet their developmental goals;
- Explain how global inequality (wealth, health and economic) impacts development in SADC countries.

## Course Outline

**10<sup>th</sup> February:**

**Introduction**

Reading

Stewart, F., Gustav, R. & Samman, E. (2018). The evolution of development thought: from growth to human development. In: F. Stewart, R. Gustav & E. Samman. (2018). *Advancing human development: Theory and practice*. Oxford, United Kingdom: Oxford University Press [E-Book – RU Library].

**12<sup>th</sup> – 14<sup>th</sup> February:**

**Colonialism as underdevelopment**

Readings

Rodney, W. (1982). *How Europe underdeveloped Africa*. Washington, D. C: Howard University Press.

Taoua, P. (2018). *African freedom: how Africa responded to independence*. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press.

**17<sup>th</sup> – 28<sup>th</sup> February:**

**Theories of development**

Readings

Bond, P. The IMF and World Bank reconsidered. In: J. K. Coetzee, J. Graaf, F. Hendricks, F. & G. Wood (eds.). *Development: Theory, policy and practice*, pp. 27-44. Cape Town: Oxford University Press.

Coetzee, J. K. (2001). Modernization theory. In: J. K. Coetzee, J. Graaf, F. Hendricks, F. & G. Wood (eds.). *Development: Theory, policy and practice*, pp. 27-44. Cape Town: Oxford University Press.

Graaf, J. & Venter, D. (2001). Understanding the world system. In: J. K. Coetzee, J. Graaf, F. Hendricks, F. & G. Wood (eds.). *Development: Theory, policy and practice*, pp. 77-96. Cape Town: Oxford University Press.

Sen, A. (1999). *Development as freedom*. Oxford: Oxford University Press.

Stewart, F., Gustav, R. & Samman, E. (2018). *Advancing human development: Theory and practice*. Oxford, United Kingdom: Oxford University Press [E-Book – RU Library]

**2<sup>nd</sup> – 26<sup>th</sup> March:**

## **Case studies in SADC countries**

### **Readings**

- das Nair, R., Chisoro, S. & Ziba, F. (2018). The implications for suppliers of the spread of supermarkets in southern Africa. *Development Southern Africa*, Vol. 35 (3), pp. 334-350
- Helliker. K., Chiweshe, M. K. & Bhatasara, S. (eds.). (2018). *The political economy of livelihoods in contemporary Zimbabwe*. Abingdon, Oxon: Routledge.
- Fourie, F. (ed.). (2018). *The South African informal sector: creating jobs, reducing poverty*. Cape Town: HSRC Press.
- Mulenga, B. P., Tembo, T. & Richardson, B. (2018). Electricity access and charcoal consumption among urban households in Zambia. *Development Southern Africa*, Vol. 36 (5), pp. 585-599.
- Mupedziswa, R. & Kubanga, K. P. (2017). Climate change, urban settlements and quality of life: the case of the Southern African Development Community region. *Development Southern Africa*, Vol. 34 (2), pp. 196-209.

**27<sup>th</sup> March:**

## **Conclusion and exam discussion**

### **Assessment**

You are required to attend **two compulsory** academic writing workshops, which will be conducted on **21<sup>st</sup>** and **28<sup>th</sup> February** (14.15pm – 15.55pm). The workshops will assist you in writing the class assignment due on **6<sup>th</sup> March**. The Administrator will provide information on the workshop groups and venues in the first week of term.

The aim of the workshops is to reinforce essay composition and to introduce you to the practice of writing for academic purposes, specifically academic writing in sociology. Participation in the workshop will enable you to:

- Read prescribed article (available on RUconnected) for the workshop assignment;
- Answer the assignment question;
- Write a basic essay structure, including introduction, body and conclusion;
- Integrate theory/reading into the body of the assignment;
- Understand the principles of effective paragraph structure;
- Apply the Department of Sociology referencing style, both in-text and on the reference list (read **Handout 1** - available on RUconnected);
- Avoid plagiarism.

### **Class assignment:**

Choose a country from SADC (Angola, Botswana, Democratic Republic of Congo, Lesotho, Madagascar, Malawi, Mauritius, Mozambique, Namibia, Seychelles, South Africa, Swaziland, Tanzania, Zambia & Zimbabwe), and:

- Provide a brief economic and social profile of the country;
- Using one or two theories discussed in this course, explain why the chosen country is struggling to meet its developmental goals.

### **Class test and exam:**

You will write a test on **27<sup>th</sup> March** at **14.15pm** (venue to be announced). The class mark is made up as follows:

- Assignment - 40%.
- Test – 60%

You will write a two-hour exam in **June**. The course mark comprises:

- Class mark – 40%
- Exam – 60%

### **Recommended readings**

Key readings will be highlighted in class, and a few prescribed readings are placed on RUconnected (key **dev2020**). All the readings on this list are on short loan in the library, and some are electronic copies accessed through OPAC. You are encouraged to read beyond prescribed chapters/articles and recommended websites, especially for SADC case studies.

- Allen, T. & Thomas, A. (eds.) (1992). *Poverty and development in the 1990s*. Oxford: Oxford University Press.
- Allen, T. & Thomas, A. (eds.) (2000). *Poverty and development into the 21<sup>st</sup> century*. Oxford: Oxford University Press. **Chapters 2, 11, 13 & 16**
- Apter, D. E. (1987). *Rethinking development: Modernization, dependency, and postmodern politics*. Newbury, California: Sage **Chapters 1 & 2**
- Binns, T., Dixon, A. & Nel, E. (2012). *Africa: diversity and development*. Oxford: Routledge
- Bøås M. & McNeill, D. (2004). *Global institutions and development: Framing the world?* London: Routledge.
- Bond, P. (2001). The IMF and World Bank reconsidered. In: J. K. Coetzee, J. Graaf, F. Hendricks & G. Wood (eds.). 2001. *Development: Theory, policy and practice*. Cape Town: Oxford University Press.
- Castells, M. (2003). *The information age: economy, society and culture* (second edition). Cambridge, Massachusetts: Blackwell.
- Coetzee, J. K. & Graaf, J. (eds.) (1996). *Reconstruction, development and people*. Johannesburg: International Thomson. **Chapters 14 & 15**
- Coetzee, J. K., Graaf, J., Hendricks, F. & Wood, G. (eds.) (2001). *Development: Theory, policy and practice*. Cape Town: Oxford University Press. **Chapters 3, 5, & 6**
- Cowen, M. P. & Shenton, R. W. (1996). *Doctrines of development*. London: Routledge. **Pages 12-21 & Chapter 6 (case studies)**
- Daniel, J., Naidoo, P., Pillay D. & Southall R. (eds.) (2013). *New South African review3: The second phase - tragedy or farce?* Johannesburg: Witwatersrand University Press
- Giugale, M. M. (2014). *Economic development: What everyone needs to know*. New York: Oxford University Press.

- Goldthorpe, J. E. (1996). *The sociology of post-colonial societies: Economic disparity, cultural diversity, and development*. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press. **Chapters 1, 3, 10, 11, 12 & 13**
- Goudzwaard, B. & de Lange, H. (1995). *Beyond poverty and affluence: Toward an economy of care with a twelve-step program for economic recovery*. Grand Rapids, Michigan: Wm. B. Eerdmans Publishing Co.
- Graaf, J. (2003). *Poverty and development*. Cape Town: Oxford University Press.
- Greenfeld, L. (2001). *The spirit of capitalism: nationalism and economic growth*. Cambridge, Massachusetts: Harvard University Press.
- Hammouda, H. B. (2003). *The political economy of post-adjustment: Towards new theories and strategies of development*. Hants: Ashgate Publishing Limited.
- Harrison, D. (1988). *The sociology of modernization and development*. Winchester, Massachusetts: Unwin Hyman Ltd. **Chapters 1, 2, 3, & 5**
- Hart, G. P. (2002). *Disabling globalization: Places of power in post-apartheid South Africa*. Pietermaritzburg: University of Natal Press.
- Hollands, G. & Ansell, G. (eds.) (1998). *Winds of small change: Civil society interaction with the African state: Proceedings of multilateral workshops on good governance, sustainable development and democracy, Graz, Austria 1995 – Kampala, Uganda 1998*. East London: Afesis-Corplan.
- Larrain, J. (1989). *Theories of development: capitalism, colonialism, and dependency*. New York: Blackwell **Chapters 2, 4, 5, & 6**
- Lensink, R. (1996). *Structural adjustment in sub-Saharan Africa*. New York: Longman.
- Leys, C. (1996). *The rise and fall of development theory*. London: James Currey. **Chapter 2**
- Meer, S. (ed.) (1997). *Women, land and authority: Perspectives from South Africa*. Oxford: Oxfam.
- Mengisteab, K. & B. I. Logan. (eds.) (1995). *Beyond economic liberalization in Africa: Structural adjustment and alternatives*. London: Zed Books. **Chapter 1**
- Mkandawire, T. (2001). Thinking about development states in Africa. *Cambridge Journal of Economics*, Vol. 25 (3), pp. 289-313
- Paul, S. (1987). *Community participation in development projects: The World Bank experience*. Washington, D. C.: World Bank.
- Peet, R. & Hartwick, E. R. (2009). *Theories of development contentions, arguments, alternatives*. New York: Guilford Press.
- Preston, P. W. (1982). *Theories of development*. London: Routledge and Kegan Paul. **Chapter 4**
- Preston, P. W. (1996). *Development theory: An introduction*. Oxford: Blackwell. **Chapters 8, 9, 10, 13 & 15**
- Reinert, K. A. (2018). *No small hope: Towards the universal provision of basic goods*. New York, NY: Oxford University Press. [E-Book]
- Rodney, W. (1982). *How Europe underdeveloped Africa*. Washington, D. C: Howard University Press. **Chapters 1, & 5**
- Roxborough, I. (1979). *Theories of underdevelopment*. London: Macmillan. **Chapters 4 & 5**
- Sachs, W. (ed.). (1992). *The development dictionary: A guide to knowledge as power*. London: Zed Books.
- Sall, A. (2003). *Africa 2025: What possible futures for sub-Sahara Africa?* Pretoria: University of South Africa and Africa Futures.
- Sen, A. (1979). Equality of what? The Tanner Lecture on Human Values. Delivered at Stanford University, May 22. 1979.
- Sen, A. (1989). "Development as Capability Expansion," *Journal of Development Planning*, Vol. 19, pp. 41–58.

- Sen, A. (1999). *Development as Freedom*. Oxford: Oxford University Press.
- Sen, A. (2004a). UN Human Development Report. Chapter 1: Cultural Liberty and Human Development. Available at:  
[http://hdr.undp.org/sites/default/files/reports/265/hdr\\_2004\\_complete.pdf](http://hdr.undp.org/sites/default/files/reports/265/hdr_2004_complete.pdf)
- Sen, A. (2004b). Capabilities, lists and public reason: continuing the conversation. *Feminists Economics*, Vol. 10 (3), pp. 77-80
- Simon, D. (2006). *Fifty key thinkers on development*. Oxford: Routledge.
- Sklair, L. (ed.) (1994). *Capitalism and development*. London: Routledge.
- Smith, B. C. (2003). *Understanding Third World politics: Theories of political change and development*. Hampshire: Palgrave Macmillan
- Stewart, F., Gustav, R. & Samman, E. (2018). *Advancing human development: Theory and practice*. Oxford, United Kingdom: Oxford University Press [E-Book]
- Swanepoel, H. & de Beer, F. (eds.). (1997). *Introduction to development studies*. Johannesburg: International Thomson.
- United Nations Development Programme. (1990). *Human Development Report*. Available at:  
[http://hdr.undp.org/sites/default/files/reports/219/hdr\\_1990\\_en\\_complete\\_nostats.pdf](http://hdr.undp.org/sites/default/files/reports/219/hdr_1990_en_complete_nostats.pdf)
- Wallerstein, I. (2000). *The essential Wallerstein*. New York: New York Press. **Chapters 4, 7 & 8**
- Webster, A. (1990). (second edition). *Introduction to the sociology of development*. London: MacMillan Publishers. **Chapters 3 & 4**
- Willis, K. (2005). *Theories and practices of development*. London: Routledge
- World Bank. (2013). *Atlas of global development: a visual guide to the world's greatest challenges*. <http://data.worldbank.org/products/atlas>

## Recommended Websites/Journal

African	Development	Bank
<a href="https://www.afdb.org/fileadmin/uploads/afdb/Documents/Generic-Documents/Brochure_Job_Africa-En.pdf">https://www.afdb.org/fileadmin/uploads/afdb/Documents/Generic-Documents/Brochure_Job_Africa-En.pdf</a>		
Development Southern Africa <a href="https://0-www.tandfonline.com.wam.seals.ac.za/loi/cdsa20">https://0-www.tandfonline.com.wam.seals.ac.za/loi/cdsa20</a>		
Southern Africa Development Community (SADC): <a href="http://www.sadc.int/">http://www.sadc.int/</a>		
Southern Africa Development Community – Council of Non-Governmental Organizations <a href="http://www.sadc-cngo.org/">http://www.sadc-cngo.org/</a>		
United Nations Development Programme (UNDP): <a href="http://www.undp.org/undp/">http://www.undp.org/undp/</a>		
United Nations Development Programme (UNDP): <a href="http://hdr.undp.org/en/humandev">http://hdr.undp.org/en/humandev</a>		
World Bank: <a href="http://www.worldbank.org/">http://www.worldbank.org/</a>		
World Health Organisation: <a href="http://www.who.int/en/">http://www.who.int/en/</a>		