

SOU33092 —Globalisation and Development 2

Module Information	
Module Code	SOU33092
Module Title	Globalisation and Development 2
Department	Sociology
Year Group	Junior Sophister
Module Personnel	Professor Anne Holohan
Academic Year	2026-27
Credit Weighting	5 credits
Semester	Semester 2
Contact Hours	22 hours, 1 lecture and 1 tutorial per week

Module Content	
Module Description	This module looks at the history of development and globalisation and assesses the current state of inflection. We look at how ‘development’ was conceived of, how it is governed, and how it is measured, and the serious problems with that empirically and in terms of social justice. We look at what is ‘globalisation’ historically, and in its most recent incarnation from the 1990s to the 2010s, was and is theorized and practiced, and who has benefited and who has lost. Globalisation is neither inherently good nor inherently bad. It depends on how it is done. What is clear is that it is not working out as prescribed by the powerful institutions and countries in the 1990s and early 2000s. To understand why and how, we look at the paths of key countries and groups of countries, the US, China, India, Brazil, Russia, and collectives including the expanding BRICS and G20, in the longer historical perspective and in the more recent 40 years of globalisation.
Module Learning Aims	We use the different measures of ‘growth’ or progress – GDP, HDI – and their critique through feminist economics, decoloniality, and a growing interdisciplinary critical perspective, to assess what is happening in each of these countries and what the lessons are to help shift from the path we’re on. We also look at international and regional

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	governance and its historical and current role in 'development' and 'globalisation'. Theories we look at include Karl Polanyi's theory of 'embeddedness' and the 'Double Movement' – the constant tension between the promotion of the mythical 'self-regulating market' and the many sources in society (trade unions, feminist movements, environmentalists, business groups to name a few) that counter the threat to human life that the subordination of everything to the market brings- to help explore how this is producing different outcomes in each country, but struggles to achieve it at the regional or global level.
Learning Outcomes	On successful completion of the module students should be able to: • Critically engage with what is 'development' and 'progress' and 'growth' • Have a knowledge and critical understanding of different units of and measures of 'development' • Critically engage with what is 'globalisation' • Understand feminist critique of concepts and measures of social progress and economic growth • Understand the continuity between colonial practices and contemporary global practices • Critically assess the role of neoliberal economics in the global system and governance • Understand the tension between institutions, the state and global orthodoxies in India, China, Russia, and Brazil • Understand 'institutionalism' and how it helps make sense of economic policy • Understand Karl Polanyi's 'Double Movement' and apply it to the United States, Russia, India, Brazil and China's experiences over the last 40 years • Be able to synthesize multiple perspectives to develop new approaches to knowledge, development to tackle inequalities and climate change • Improve their writing, problem-solving, debating and policy assessment skills.
Indicative Reading / Resources	• Hickel, J. The divide: A brief guide to global inequality and its solutions. Random House. 2017. • Zach Ward Perkins et al. The Econocracy. Manchester University Press. 2016. • Amartya Sen and Jean Dreze, An Uncertain Glory: India and its Contradictions. Penguin. 2013, 2020.

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	• Weber, I. M. How China escaped shock therapy: The market reform debate. Routledge. 2021 • Karl Polanyi The Great Transformation: The Political and Economic Origins of Our Time. Beacon Press: Boston. 1944, 1957, 2001. • Joseph Stiglitz Globalization and its Discontents Revisited. Penguin. 2017 • Dipali Mathur Available to be Poisoned: Toxicity as a Form of Life. Rowan & Littlefield: London. 2022. • Reid, Michael. 2014. Brazil: The Troubled Rise of a Global Power Yale University Press.
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Assessment

Assessment Components	Exam 80%, Presentation 20%
Assessment Details	In person two hour exam.

Additional Information

Prerequisites	None
Co-requisites	None
Any other information	