



Universität St.Gallen

What Makes Development Good?

Course Conference on November 11th, 2016

Palais de Nations Geneva, Switzerland

University of St. Gallen Course AS16 7,748,1.00

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Context of the Course

When development economics emerged as an independent field in the post-1945 years, the answer to the question of what development is was rather simple: Development equals GNP growth. The subsequent seven decades of development studies have produced rich and varied outputs, however the achievement of economic growth as development target remains omnipresent and tends to dominate the debate.

But what does that mean for the majority of the world's population living in low-income economies? And, what does it mean for those living in prosperous societies? How much do per capita incomes really say about the developmental state of a society? Why is there oftentimes little correlation between per capita income and other relevant factors such as happiness, life expectancy or literacy rates and what is the role of business in development?

Given the apparent limitations of a singular focus on income to accurately describe the developmental state of a society this course reviews the evolution of development thinking and the resultant policy formulations and implementation measures. We analyze the early growth theories that were revised and expanded to form the modernization theory which soon stood competing over the analytical high ground with the dependency movement. This stimulating discourse was then silenced by the Washington Consensus and, soon after, the post-Washington Consensus emerged. In parallel to and in conflict with the latter two, the last chapter in the evolution of development thinking unfolded with the emergence of the capability approach.

These development theories have led to distinct policy prescriptions and the implementation of programs and projects that reflect the different theoretical positions: Large scale infrastructure projects to trigger self sustaining growth; urbanization programs to catapult traditional societies into modernity; import substitution policies to break with dependency; privatization programs to unleash the positive power of market forces; or capacity building programs for self determined entrepreneurial livelihoods. With best intentions at heart all development theories are a product of their time and all have their merits and short comings while they share the genuine intention to improve the state of the world.

Aims of the Course

The aim of this course is to provide participants with foundational knowledge on the evolution of development thinking, the characteristics of distinct theoretical approaches and the contributions they have made to development efforts. The participants gain an overview of policies and activities that were derived from specific theoretical approaches as well as the impact they have generated.

Following their own research and team presentations at the University of St Gallen the course is going on a one day excursion to Geneva, one of the global hubs for development work. The aim of this excursion is to provide an opportunity to engage with development practitioners and to experience how theory is put into practice.

In addition this course aims to further develop the reflective capacity of its participants and encourages them to mirror their personal aspirations also in light of the challenges we are facing as a global community.

Program

November 11. 2016, 09:30h - 18:00 Geneva, Switzerland

09:30h - 12:30h	Workshop on the Development Impact of a Tourism Project
13:00h - 14:00h	Lunch
14:00h - 15:00h	Guided tour of Palais des Nations
15:15h - 15:45h	Welcome by Robert Thomson, program officer in Global Health at the Permanent Representation of Switzerland to the United Nations Office and to the other International Organizations in Geneva
15:45h - 16:00h	Coffee Break
16:00h - 17:30h	Panel Discussion with Development Practitioners
17:30h - 18:00h	Concluding Reflections, Course Evaluation and Farewell

Speakers

Swiss Mission: **Robert Thomson**

Robert THOMSON is Adviser, Global Health and Development Governance at the Permanent Mission of Switzerland to the United Nations Office and to the other international organizations in Geneva. Before joining the Federal Administration in 2010, he provided technical assistance in the field of adolescent health for 25 years through the United Nations system, based in Africa, the Middle East, eastern Europe and Central Asia. Guided by Swiss foreign policy goals, his work now is to assist the Swiss Agency for Development and Cooperation in its decision-making concerning global health and development governance objectives and defend Swiss interests in that domain. This is achieved by identifying and using key opportunities for Switzerland to contribute substantively to the overall global health and development governance agenda, extending the Swiss network of global actors, enhancing respect for the Agency and generating interest in collaboration from new civil society organizations as partners. He facilitates the financial and policy dialogue concerning the Swiss voluntary contribution to the World Health Organisation (including for polio eradication, sexual and reproductive health and tropical disease research) totalling 5.5 mio CHF annually and follows the disbursement of the 20 mio CHF annual contribution to the Global Fund to fight AIDS, Tuberculosis and Malaria. His human resources management responsibility is for the Swiss-funded junior professional officer deployment programme at WHO. His first degree in theology was followed by a masters in clinical psychology and executive training in diplomacy. He is a visiting lecturer in a couple of university programmes in Sweden and Switzerland.



Workshop Lead: **Emmanuel Barreto**

Emmanuel grew up in Brazil, moved to the United States at age 17, and developed his professional career from Europe. He earned his bachelor's in International Economics from the University of California Los Angeles, subsequently a Masters in Economic Development from



the London School of Economics, and lately an advanced management diploma from IMD in Switzerland.

Emmanuel worked in over 50 countries and spent 20 years developing sustainable, environmentally-conscious business models and anchoring companies' strategic positioning in the tourism sector. He was CEO of Eurofin Hospitality for 3 years and responsible for spearheading projects for an international clientele, developing strategies for the tourism and property markets, and driving the firm's activities towards sustainable development. Previously, Emmanuel headed strategy and operations at the Trade in Services Unit of the International Trade Centre (a joint UN-WTO agency) in Geneva. He helped design and manage projects across the entire tourism value chain. He acted as tourism advisor to many governments.

Emmanuel is a humble listener, and able to translate bottlenecks into opportunities. He is a convincing speaker who can effectively motivate teams. He is fluent in English, French, Spanish and Portuguese.

Panelist: Jane Connors

Jane Connors is International Advocacy Director Law and Policy for Amnesty International based in Geneva.

Jane was previously Director of the Research and Right to Development Division at the United Nations Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights (OHCHR), a post from which she retired in March 2015. From 1996 and 2002 she was the Chief of the Women's Rights Section in the Division for the Advancement of Women in the Department of Economic and Social Affairs in New York. In 2002 she joined OHCHR, where she worked in the Human Rights Treaties Division and as Chief of the Special Procedures Branch.

Before joining the United Nations, she was a law teacher at the School of Oriental and African Studies in the University of London, the Universities of Lancaster and Nottingham, in the United Kingdom, and the University of Canberra and the Australian National University in Australia.

She has written and continues to write on United Nations human rights mechanisms, in particular human rights treaty bodies and the Human Rights Council's special procedures, the human rights of women, and violence against women and



children. She is a trustee of the UK charity, Keeping Children Safe and frequently teaches at universities around the world.

Panelist: Ricardo Murillo

Ricardo Murillo is Project Manager for the Debt Management and Financial Analysis System (DMFAS) Programme at the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development (UNCTAD) since 2002. He has been implementing technical cooperation projects for DMFAS to assist Debt Management Offices (DMOs) of central banks and ministries of finance in the Middle East, French and Portuguese speaking Africa, and Latin America. He was also DMFAS focal point for West Africa at UNDP headquarters between 2010 and 2012 in Bamako, Mali.



Before joining the UN, he was Parliamentary Economic Advisor in the State of Jalisco, Mexico to assess law initiatives and government programs in the areas of urbanization, water management, budgeting, and concessions. He has studied international affairs and economics at the American University of Paris (AUP), the University of Guadalajara in Mexico (UdG), and the International Institute of Public Administration in France (IIAP).

Panelist: Friedrich von Kirchbach

Friedrich von Kirchbach brings 30 years of leadership experience with the WTO-affiliated International Trade Centre (ITC), most recently as the Director of Country Programmes. He has led the development of ITC's market analysis tools (e.g. Trade Map, Market Access Map and Standards Map) in his previous capacity as Chief of the Market Analysis Section. Friedrich previously served as a Research Fellow at the Euro-Asia Centre of INSEAD in France, and as an expert in the United Nations Joint Unit



on Transnational Corporations in Bangkok. He also has experience consulting to various private initiatives and other international institutions, such as the International Institute for Labour Studies.

For over twenty years, Friedrich has owned and operated an agricultural enterprise in Börlin, Germany. He co-registered a design patent for battery collection with the World Intellectual Property Organization. He has a Ph.D. in International Economics from the University of Regensburg and received his Masters of Economics in Heidelberg, both with the support of the Studienstiftung des Deutschen Volkes, Germany's leading academic scholarship program.

Course Faculty: **Ernst von Kimakowitz**

Ernst von Kimakowitz is Director of the *Humanistic Management Center*, an independent think tank, learning institution and advisory firm and of the executive education provider *Ethics First*. He is also a lecturer in leadership skills at the University of St Gallen,

Switzerland and the University of Tübingen, Germany and was visiting professor at Soka University's Business Department in Tokyo, Japan in 2016. He holds several board member, editorial and reviewer positions and frequently gives talks to audiences ranging from student groups to senior executive teams around the globe.

In addition to general questions of business ethics his topical foci are humanistic management, stakeholder engagement, development theory and impact investing. He researches, publishes, teaches and delivers advisory services on these topics to strengthen the positive impact of business towards a more equitable and more sustainable world. Previously he has worked in strategy consulting with a leading management consulting firm based in London, England.

Ernst holds a M.Sc. from the London School of Economics (LSE) and an award winning Ph.D. from the Institute for Business Ethics at the University of St Gallen.



Logistics

Palais de Nations, Geneva, Switzerland

Date: 11.11.2016

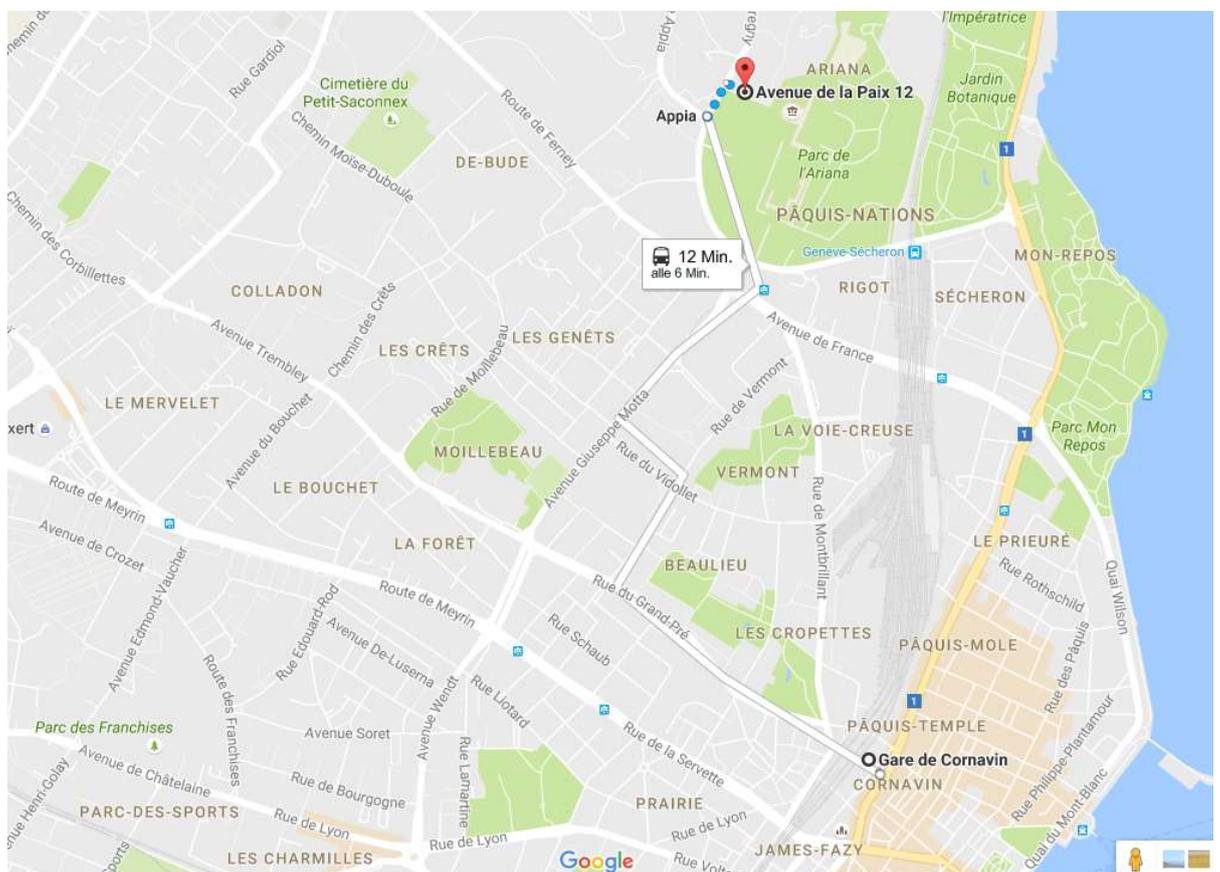
Time: 09:30h - 18:00h

Venue: Palais des Nations, Geneva, Switzerland

[Link to map](#)

Getting there: From Cornavin Train Station use the Tram to “Nations” and walk up Avenue de la Paix or the Bus to “Appia” and the Pregny Gate is on the other side of Avenue de la Paix.

Meeting Point: The group will meet at 09:10h at the Pregny Gate, Palais des Nations, Geneva to jointly pass the security screening for entering the United Nations Grounds.



Sponsor

We wish to thank the Permanent Representation of Switzerland to the United Nations Office and to the other International Organizations in Geneva very much for their most generous support.



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