

Princeton University
Woodrow Wilson School Graduate Program

WWS 594f Foreign Aid

Wednesdays, 7:00 – 9:00 p.m.
Robertson 035
Spring Semester 2004 (Session II)
Office: 345 Wallace

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Office Hours: Wednesdays, 4 – 5 pm

Course Objective

The purpose of this seminar is to introduce and debate the key contemporary issues in official foreign aid. The emphasis will be on the United States in comparative perspective. Background will be given on the key arguments and principles underlying foreign aid by the major wealthy countries. The seminar sessions are organized around the following substantive issues: the numbers and whether they matter; explanations for national variation in foreign aid policy; the questions of impact, effectiveness, and selectivity; the current Bush Administration's innovation, the Millennium Challenge Account; efforts by other states to increase effectiveness through cooperation and multilateral funding initiatives, seen in part in opposition to the current US approach; and substantive policy trends on the horizon.

Course Assignments and Grading

1. Students will be expected to read all of the required readings in advance of each seminar and to participate actively in a discussion of the issues raised by the readings: 20 percent of the grade.

2. Each seminar session will be organized as a debate, organized by students who have chosen to be responsible for that particular session. In the first half of that evening's seminar, before the break, those students will: (1) identify the key issues and lines of dispute on that topic; (2) make as strong a case for each side as possible, if necessary, bringing in other materials to support your position; (3) state clearly what the policy implications of each side would be; and (4) identify the data necessary to implement and monitor such a policy. In the second half of the seminar, after the break, the other students in the seminar will "debate" the debate: e.g., raise questions or identify other issues, nuances, undeveloped points, etc., that have not been raised: 35 percent of the grade.

3. Students will write one final analytical paper for the seminar, due by email May 17 at 5:00 p.m. (or sooner), and give an oral presentation on it to the full seminar: 45 percent of the grade. Details to be discussed during the first seminar class.

Required Books

The following books have been ordered at the Princeton University Store:

- Michael O’Hanlon and Carol Graham, A Half Penny on the Federal Dollar: The Future of Development Aid (Washington, DC: The Brookings Press, 1997)
- David Halloran Lumsdaine, Moral Vision in International Politics: The Foreign Aid Regime, 1949-1989 (Princeton: Princeton University Press, 1993)
- Carol Lancaster, Aid to Africa: So Much to Do, So Little Done (University of Chicago Press: 1999)
- Steven Radelet, Challenging Foreign Aid: A Policymaker’s Guide to the Millennium Challenge Account (Washington, DC: Center for Global Development, May 2003)

Seminar Sessions and Reading Assignments

March 24 The United States in Comparative Perspective

Required reading:

Michael O’Hanlon and Carol Graham, A Half Penny on the Federal Dollar: the Future of Development Aid (Washington, DC: The Brookings Press, 1997)

“Ranking the Rich,” Foreign Policy (May 1, 2003).

J. Mohan Rao, “Ranking Foreign Donors: An Index Combining the Scale and Equity of Aid Giving,” World Development 25:6 (1997): 947-961.

Joanna Macrae, ed., The New Humanitarianisms: a review of trends in global humanitarian action (Overseas Development Institute: HPG Report 11: April 2002), chapters 1-2, pp. 5-28

James K. Boyce, “Unpacking Aid,” Development and Change 33:2 (2002): 239-246.

Recommended reading:

“Americans on Foreign Aid and World Hunger: A Study of U.S. Public Attitudes” (February 2, 2001, PIPA (Program on International Policy Attitudes, University of Maryland), www.pipa.org)

March 31 Causes: Ideology, Party, Politics

Required reading:

David Halloran Lumsdaine, Moral Vision in International Politics: The Foreign Aid Regime, 1949-1989 (Princeton: Princeton University Press, 1993)

Recommended reading:

Alain Noel and Jean-Philippe Therien, “Political Parties and Foreign Aid,” American Political Science Review 94:1 (March 2000): 151-162.

Alain Noel and Jean-Philippe Therien, "From Domestic to International Justice: The Welfare State and Foreign Aid," International Organization 49:3 (1995): 523-55.

Marijke Breuning, "Words and Deeds: Foreign Assistance Rhetoric and Policy Behavior in the Netherlands, Belgium, and the United Kingdom," International Studies Quarterly 39 (1995): 235-254.

April 7 Consequences: The Issue of Impact

Required reading:

Carol Lancaster, Aid to Africa: So Much to Do, So Little Done (University of Chicago Press: 1999)

James Petras and Henry Veltmeyer, "Age of Reverse Aid: Neo-liberalism as Catalyst of Regression," Development and Change 33:2 (2002): 281-293.

Rehman Sobhan, "Aid Effectiveness and Policy Ownership," Development and Change 33:3 (2002): 539-548.

Recommended reading:

David Sogge, Give and Take: What's the Matter with Foreign Aid? (New York: Palgrave, 2002).

Gus Edgren, "Aid is an Unreliable Joystick," Development and Change 33:2 (2002): 261-267.

Robert Klitgaard, Tropical Gangsters: One Man's Experience with Development and Decadence in Deepest Africa (Basic Books: 1990)

Peter Uvin, Aiding Violence: The Development Enterprise in Rwanda (1998)

Craig Burnside and David Dollar, "Aid, Policies, and Growth," World Bank: November 1996

April 14 Improving Effectiveness: The US Response

Required reading:

Steven Radelet, Challenging Foreign Aid: A Policymaker's Guide to the Millennium Challenge Account (Washington, DC: Center for Global Development, May 2003)

Gene Sperling and Tom Hart, "A Better Way to Fight Global Poverty," Foreign Affairs 82:2 (March/April 2003): 9-15.

Steve Radelet, "Bush and Foreign Aid," Foreign Affairs (September/October 2003): 104-117.

Wil Hout, "Good Governance and Aid: Selectivity Criteria in Development Assistance," Development and Change 33:3 (2002): 511-527.

Lael Brainard and Allison Driscoll, "Making the Millennium Challenge Account Work for Africa," The Brookings Institution Policy Brief #123 (September 2003).

Recommended reading:

Lael Brainard, Carol Graham, Nigel Purvis, Steven Radelet, and Gayle Smith, The Other War: Global Poverty and the Millennium Challenge Account (Washington, DC: Brookings Institution/Center for Global Development, 2003)

Read as much as possible on the topic from the CGD website

April 21 Improving Effectiveness: The Multilateral Response

Jan Pronk, "Aid as a Catalyst," Development and Change 32:4 (2001): 611-629.

Gordon Brown, James Wolfensohn, and President da Silva, speeches at conference Making Globalization Work for All (UK Treasury, February 16, 2004),

www.hm-treasury.gov.uk

DAC, Harmonising Donor Practices for Effective Aid Delivery (Paris: OECD, 2003)

United Nations, The Millennium Development Goals,

<http://millenniumindicators.un.org/unsd>

Shepard Forman, Stewart Patrick, and Dirk Salomons, Recovering from Conflict: Strategy for An International Response (New York University, Center on International Cooperation, Policy Paper Series, Paying for Essentials: 2000).

Samtosh Mehrotra, "International Development Targets and Official Development Assistance," Development and Change 33:3 (2002): 529-538.

April 28 A New Agenda? Security, Fragile States, Changing Demographics – and the Voice of the South?

Milton Esman, concluding chapter in Milton Esman and Ronald Herring, eds., Carrots, Sticks, and Ethnic Conflict: Rethinking Development Assistance (Ann Arbor: University of Michigan Press, 2001)

USAID, "Fragile States Strategy" (to be provided)

Susan E. Rice, "The New National Security Strategy: Focus on Failed States," The Brookings Institution Policy Brief 3116 (February 2003).

Nancy Birdsall, "Asymmetric Globalization," The Brookings Review (Spring 2003)

Susan Raymond, "Foreign Assistance in an Aging World," Foreign Affairs 82:2 (March/April 2003): 91-105.

Ajit Singh, "Aid, Conditionality and Development," Development and Change 33:2 (2002): 295-305.

A. Geske Dijkstra, "The Effectiveness of Policy Conditionality: Eight Country Experiences," Development and Change 33:2 (2002): 307-334.

May 14, 7 – 10 pm, or May 15, 2 – 5 pm Presentation of final papers