



SOUTH AFRICA:

GLOBALISATION & DEVELOPMENT

Focused Study: Development Advocacy

October 29- November 5, 2007

RDS Module V Syllabus, Schedule and Reader

SIT Study Abroad
South Africa: Globalisation and Development

RDS Module V Syllabus
October 29- November 5, 2007

Focused Study: Development in South Africa

Coordinator:

Ntokozo Mthembu

E-mail: mthembun@ukzn.ac.za

031-260 2116 or 076 1694 690

Overview:

In this focus week, we explore development advocacy in a variety of forms, with specific attention to the concrete development problems faced by poor and working people in Durban and surrounding areas. We will be 'co-taught' by 10 members of community organisations who can link theory, policy and national/local issues to their own community/household struggles and power relations. The course will run each morning from 10am and break at 3:30pm. A variety of lecturers, researchers and leaders from CCS and community allies will be facilitating the discussions.

Participants will receive a reading package with core materials – one paper for each seminar session – on 29 October. *The facilitators will assume that participants will have read each of the papers provided, and be prepared to discuss them.*

In addition, all participants will have access to a DVD and CD that include both three dozen videos plus a vast library of seminal readings on development, some of which may be accessed during the week.

Two site visits will be arranged with objectives to give SIT students exposure to real development challenges in especially areas of housing, land, and basic services, along with consideration of development advocacy strategies, tactics and alliances by civil society organisations.

The agenda, with facilitators/issues, is below:

PROGRAMME

29 OCTOBER: *DEVELOPMENTAL ISSUES*

NB: ALL SESSIONS WILL BE CONDUCTED AT CCS BOARDROOM

Monday, 10am-11am: *Molefi Ndlovu* – Introduction to development

Monday, 11-12pm: - *Patrick Bond* - The underdevelopment of Africa

Break to get lunch, 12-12:30

Monday, 12:30-2pm: *David Wiley* (Michigan State University) – The militarization of Africa

30 OCTOBER: *GLOBAL FOCUS*

Tuesday, 10-11am: *Annsilla Nyar* - Writing Socio-Political Commentary: a Civil Society Imperative

Tuesday, 11-12: *Film/discussion on Durban social movements*

Break to get lunch, 12-12:30

Tuesday, 12:30-2pm: *Dennis Brutus*- International Social Justice Activism

Tuesday, 2:00-3pm: *Film/discussion on national/global social movements*

31 OCTOBER: *LOCAL FOCUS*

Wednesday, 10am-11am: *Ntokozo Mthembu* – Globalisation Impact and the community experience, including the film *Abasebenzi e-Wyatt Rd*

Wednesday, 11am-12noon: *Baruti Amisi* - Business social networks, a pathway to social and economic integration or self-exclusion: A study of Durban Congolese and Somali Refugees.

Break

Wednesday, 1pm-2pm: *Baruti Amisi* – Rethinking Social Capital: A Study of Congolese Refugee Women

1 NOVEMBER: *LOCAL DEVELOPMENT REALITY TRIPS*

Thursday, 10am-3:30PM: *Dudu Khumalo* – Field trip – Inanda Dam: Focus on basic service delivery and community participation in post apartheid South Africa

2 NOVEMBER

Friday, 10am-2:30PM: *Orlean Naidoo* – Field trip – Chatsworth and Crossmore: Focus on the contemporary community struggles

Friday,

2:30pm-3:30pm: *Course summary*

We will begin at 10am sharp each morning. Each of the above presentations will include a preliminary reading, a presentation, class discussion and a five minute break at the end. The one-hour lunch break will be strictly adhered to, as we will recommence at 2pm each day sharp.

Community participants will be required to contribute in some way (to be determined) to a concrete analysis of Durban eco-socio-economic development challenges.

SIT participants will be required to provide an 'op-ed' article of *no more than 800* words, as the basis for assessment. The article will be marked as if by a professional newspaper editor, for style and substance, and participants encouraged to submit to a periodical for publication. 'Tips' on writing an op-ed article are below, and Patrick Bond will offer advice.

Logistics

The SIT Shuttles will run between your homestays and the UKZN Centre for Civil Society, to arrive by 9:45am. (Please note that if you miss the shuttle you will need to make your own way to the Programme Centre in time for your lecture or other scheduled activity). Shuttles will pick up outside CCS.

Writing Socio-Political Commentary: a Civil Society Imperative

By Annsilla Nyar

Developing and enhancing a culture of serious political debate in South Africa is an ongoing challenge for civil society. With the current challenges posed to media freedom by market forces and endemic politicking (considering the fact that the media is controlled by a small handful of media conglomerates, often blocking or obstructing substantive independent political opinion or thought,) it is more important than ever to retain a critical node in society which develops and influences the intellectual climate as well as advances people's capacities to reach informed understandings about critical socio-political issues. Opinion editorials or political commentary are an excellent way to present ideas, opinions or arguments in a persuasive and influential way. It is a great way to gain expression for one's writing and to produce concise, effective and persuasive arguments. It helps enhance students ability to debate responsibly and constructively. By choosing a subject based on public interest and current relevancy, by learning what issues are most important to the community or society, that opinion piece become part of the public discourse when that opinion is published and subsequently debated.

This session is useful to those students who are interested in print journalism, editorial processes and public policy discourse. It will teach the essentials of creating a carefully crafted argument that is logically structured, clearly expressed and convincing to the readers. It will teach effective techniques for writing so as to develop and hone argumentative and persuasive writing skills.

This session will revolve around several key points:

How to choose your theme

How to do construct an argument (how to choose headlines, bylines, lead paragraphs etc)

How to do effective and rigorous research

How to present opinion pieces in the public domain

A writing assignment will be set which will be evaluated at the end of the course.