

# PIA5339: LABOUR, SUSTAINABILITY AND DEVELOPMENT

---

## Effective Term

Semester A 2025/26

## Part I Course Overview

### Course Title

Labour, Sustainability and Development

### Subject Code

PIA - Public and International Affairs

### Course Number

5339

### Academic Unit

Public and International Affairs (PIA)

### College/School

College of Liberal Arts and Social Sciences (CH)

### Course Duration

One Semester

### Credit Units

3

### Level

P5, P6 - Postgraduate Degree

### Medium of Instruction

English

### Medium of Assessment

English

### Prerequisites

Nil

### Precursors

Nil

### Equivalent Courses

AIS5339 Labour and Development

### Exclusive Courses

Nil

## Part II Course Details

### Abstract

This course examines the relation between economic political and social development, and labour relations, labour movements and labour organization. The course examines theories of development which focus on labour as part of their framework as well as ask what development means to workers. The course will explore current problems and issues facing labour (forced precarity, modern slavery, gender discrimination, human trafficking etc) and illustrate how labour is responding at various levels. As such the course will explain why labour is central to development but disenfranchised from the processes of development, and then how they organise to challenge the current developmental ethos.

### Course Intended Learning Outcomes (CILOs)

CILOs		Weighting (if app.)	DEC-A1	DEC-A2	DEC-A3
1	Understand the concept of the developmental state, its various historical and empirical variations and its embeddedness in social and political relations.		x	x	
2	Critically analyse the economic, social and political role of labour for development in general and the developmental state in Asia more specifically		x	x	
3	Develop an understanding of different types of labour movements and their impact on social and economic development		x	x	

#### A1: Attitude

Develop an attitude of discovery/innovation/creativity, as demonstrated by students possessing a strong sense of curiosity, asking questions actively, challenging assumptions or engaging in inquiry together with teachers.

#### A2: Ability

Develop the ability/skill needed to discover/innovate/create, as demonstrated by students possessing critical thinking skills to assess ideas, acquiring research skills, synthesizing knowledge across disciplines or applying academic knowledge to real-life problems.

#### A3: Accomplishments

Demonstrate accomplishment of discovery/innovation/creativity through producing /constructing creative works/new artefacts, effective solutions to real-life problems or new processes.

### Learning and Teaching Activities (LTAs)

LTAs		Brief Description	CILO No.	Hours/week (if applicable)
1	1	Reading assignments: The students will actively engage in the reading material.	1, 2, 3	
2	2	In-class discussions: Students engage in debates and explorations	1, 2, 3	
3	3	Research: Students use relevant materials to write a series of short papers.	1, 2, 3	

### Assessment Tasks / Activities (ATs)

	ATs	CILO No.	Weighting (%)	Remarks ("-" for nil entry)	Allow Use of GenAI?
1	Essay	1, 2, 3	40	-	No
2	Research paper	1, 2, 3	60	-	No

**Continuous Assessment (%)**

100

**Assessment Rubrics (AR)****Assessment Task**

Essay on a seminar text, to be delivered during the teaching period (30%) (for students admitted before Semester A 2022/23 and in Semester A 2024/25 & thereafter)

**Criterion**

Writing of an essay that summarizes key arguments of a seminar text

**Excellent**

(A+, A, A-) The essay gives an excellent overview about a text and uses references in a correct way

**Good**

(B+, B, B-) The essay gives a good overview about a text and uses references in a correct way

**Fair**

(C+, C, C-) The paper gives some overview about a text and is making mistakes with referencing

**Marginal**

(D) The paper attempts to give an overview about a text and is broadly adequate in representing its arguments

**Failure**

(F) The paper fails to address what is said in a text and misrepresents its arguments grossly.

**Assessment Task**

Research paper on a seminar text, to be delivered after the teaching period (60%) (for students admitted before Semester A 2022/23 and in Semester A 2024/25 & thereafter)

**Criterion**

Writing of an argumentative research paper

**Excellent**

(A+, A, A-) The paper makes a very good innovative argument in a clear and systematic structure with sufficient evidence.

**Good**

(B+, B, B-) The paper makes a good innovative argument in a relatively clear and systematic structure with evidence

**Fair**

(C+, C, C-) The paper makes an adequate argument with some structure

**Marginal**

(D) The paper attempts to makes an argument and shows some knowledge

**Failure**

(F) The paper fails to make an argument, has no structure, and provides inadequate evidence.

### Assessment Task

Essay on a seminar text, to be delivered during the teaching period (30%) (for students admitted from Semester A 2022/23 to Summer Term 2024)

#### Criterion

Writing of an essay that summarizes key arguments of a seminar text

#### Excellent

(A+, A, A-) The essay gives an excellent overview about a text and uses references in a correct way

#### Good

(B+, B) The essay gives a good overview about a text and uses references in a correct way

#### Marginal

(B-, C+, C) The paper gives some overview about a text and is making mistakes with referencing

#### Failure

(F) The paper fails to address what is said in a text and misrepresents its arguments grossly.

---

### Assessment Task

Research paper on a seminar text, to be delivered after the teaching period (60%) (for students admitted from Semester A 2022/23 to Summer Term 2024)

#### Criterion

Writing of an argumentative research paper

#### Excellent

(A+, A, A-) The paper makes a very good innovative argument in a clear and systematic structure with sufficient evidence.

#### Good

(B+, B) The paper makes a good innovative argument in a relatively clear and systematic structure with evidence.

#### Marginal

(B-, C+, C) The paper makes a marginal argument with some structure.

#### Failure

(F) The paper fails to make an argument, has no structure, and provides inadequate evidence.

---

## Part III Other Information

### Keyword Syllabus

Development, Labour, Labour movements, Climate change, sustainable labour practices, Informal Economy, labour unions

### Reading List

#### Compulsory Readings

Title	
1	Nil

#### Additional Readings

	Title
1	CHANG, D.-O. 2008. Capitalist development in Korea labour, capital and the myth of the developmental state, Abingdon, Oxon;, Routledge.
2	DEYO, F. C. 1989. Beneath the miracle: labor subordination in the new Asian industrialism, Berkeley, University of California Press.
3	DO#RRE, K., MAYER-AHUJA, N., SAUER, D. & WITTKE, V. 2018. Capitalism and labor: towards critical perspectives, Frankfurt;, Campus Verlag.
4	FISCHER-LESCANO, A. & MÖLLER, K. 2016. Transnationalisation of social rights, Cambridge, United Kingdom;, Intersentia.
5	GARIBALDO, F. & YI, D. 2012. Labour and Sustainable Development: North-South Perspectives, Frankfurt, Peter Lang GmbH, Internationaler Verlag der Wissenschaften.
6	GRAEBER, D. 2018. Bullshit Jobs: A Theory, New York, Simon & Schuster.
7	GRAY, K. 2015. Labour and development in East Asia: social forces and passive revolution, Abingdon, Oxon ;, Routledge.
8	HUTCHISON, J. & BROWN, A. 2001. Organising labour in globalising Asia, London;, Routledge.
9	KOHLI, A. 2004. State-directed development: political power and industrialization in the global periphery, Cambridge, UK;, Cambridge University Press.
10	SCHMIDT, V. 2007. Trade Union Responses to Globalization: A Review by the Global Union Research Network, Washington, International Labour Office.
11	SHIN, J.-S. 2007. Global Challenges and Local Responses: The East Asian Experience, London, Routledge.
12	SIMPSON, J. & TAYLOR, J. 2013. Corporate governance, ethics, and CSR, London;, Kogan Page.
13	WALLERSTEIN, I. M. 2011. The Modern World-System. IV, Centrist Liberalism Triumphant, 1789-1914, Berkeley, CA, University of California Press.
14	WILLIAMS, M. 2014. The end of the developmental state?, New York, Routledge.