



COURSE UNIT (MODULE) DESCRIPTION

Course unit (module) title	Code
Development Cooperation: Theory and Practices of Building Partnerships	

Academic staff	Core academic unit(s)
Coordinating: Lukas Ivanauskas	Institute of International Relations and Political Science

Study cycle	Type of the course unit
First Cycle	Elective

Mode of delivery	Semester or period when it is delivered	Language of instruction
Seminars, self-study	Spring	English

Requisites	
Prerequisites: English (B2)	Co-requisites (if relevant): NA

Number of ECTS credits allocated	Student's workload (total)	Contact hours	Individual work
5	130	32	98

Purpose of the course unit

This course is designed to equip students with a comprehensive understanding of development cooperation, both on a global scale and within the Baltics. It delves into the core principles, the latest trends, key actors, and methods in the field. Beyond knowledge acquisition, it fosters critical thinking abilities to assess and reflect upon existing theories and practical approaches. Students will gain the skill needed to apply conceptual knowledge to real-world development cooperation tasks, including crafting project concept notes and formulating evidence-based policy recommendations for decision-makers.

This course aims to develop subject specific competences, such as, capacity to define key concepts of development cooperation, bridge the gap between theory and practice, independently analyse and evaluate development cooperation policies, processes, and initiatives. Students will also develop proficiency in applying an evidence-based approach to both development cooperation policymaking and real-world project concept note development. In addition, this course is developing certain generic competencies: effective communication of ideas in writing and orally with context-sensitive approach, ability to work in groups and individually.

Learning outcomes of the course unit	Teaching and learning methods	Assessment methods
Will be able to demonstrate a comprehensive understanding of the core principles, trends, actors and methods in the development cooperation field	Discussions in seminars, independent reading, preparation for policy brief	Assessing the quality of participation in seminars and policy brief
Will be able to independently analyze and evaluate various aspects of development cooperation, including policies, processes, and initiatives in chosen.	Policy brief, real-world project concept notes, discussions in seminars	Assessing the quality of participation in seminars, policy briefs, real-world project concept notes.
Will be able to apply theoretical knowledge of development cooperation to real-world practices	Policy briefs, workshop, real-world project concept notes, independent reading	Assessing the quality of policy briefs, developed real-world project concept notes.
Will be able to communicate effectively in writing and orally with context-sensitive approach	Policy briefs, real-world project concept notes and their presentations-pitches	Assessing the quality of policy briefs, developed real-world project concept notes and their presentations-pitches.

Content	Contact hours	Individual work: time and assignments
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	Lectures	Tutorials	Seminars	Workshops	Contact hours, total	Individual work	Tasks for individual work (TBC)
1. Introduction to development cooperation: defining the field, key concepts, historic origins.	2				2	4	<p>Reading and analysis of:</p> <p>A.Cornwall, „Buzzwords and fuzzwords: deconstructing development discourse.“ <i>Development in practice</i>, 17(4-5), 2007, 471-484.</p> <p>Oluwatoyin Dar. Kolawole, „Inter-Disciplinarity, Development Studies, and Development Practice.“ <i>Development in Practice</i>, 20 (2), 2010, 227-239.</p> <p>Beniamin. Knutsson, „The intellectual history of development: Towards a widening potential repertoire.“ <i>Perspectives</i> 13, no. 1, 2009, 2-46.</p>
2. Development cooperation under disruption: the latest conceptual and policy debates			2		2	4	<p>Reading and analysis of:</p> <p>P. Develtere, H. Huyse and J. Van Ongevalle, <i>International Development Cooperation: Towards a New Paradigm</i>. Leuven: Leuven University Press, 2021, 31-65.</p> <p>Chaturvedi, S., Janus, H., Klingebiel, S., Li, X., Mello e Souza, A. D., Sidiropoulos, E., & Wehrmann, D. <i>The Palgrave handbook of development cooperation for achieving the 2030 Agenda: Contested collaboration</i>. Springer Nature, 2021, 127-165.</p>
3. Geopolitics of development cooperation			2		2	4	<p>Reading and analysis of:</p> <p>M. Power, <i>Geopolitics and development</i>. London and New York: Routledge, 2019, 1-40.</p>
4. The EU and international institutions in development cooperation			2		2	4	<p>Reading and analysis of:</p> <p>R. Schaaf, <i>Development Organizations</i>, London and New York: Routledge, 2013, 73-113.</p> <p>OECD, <i>OECD Development Co-operation Peer Reviews: European Union 2018, OECD Development Co-operation Peer Reviews</i>, OECD Publishing, Paris, 2018, 3-105.</p>
5. Established and emerging actors in development cooperation			2		2	4	<p>Reading and analysis of:</p> <p>Klingebiel, S. <i>Development Cooperation Actors: The New Variety of Donors</i>. In:</p>

							<p><i>Development Cooperation: Challenges of the New Aid Architecture</i>. Palgrave Pivot, London, 2014, 18–34.</p> <p>Axel Dreher, Peter Nunnenkamp, and Rainer Thiele, „Are 'New' Donors Different? Comparing the Allocation of Bilateral Aid between NonDAC and DAC Donor Countries.” <i>World Development</i>, 39(11): 2011, 1950-1968.</p>
6. National and trans-national development cooperation actors: agencies, private sector, NGOs			2		2	4	<p>Reading and analysis of:</p> <p>OECD, <i>Better Aid: Managing Aid: Practices of DAC Member Countries</i>. Retrieved 3rd of May, 2010, 29-30.</p> <p>R. Schaaf, <i>Development Organizations</i>, 2013, London and New York: Routledge, 154-232.</p>
7. The Baltics in the development cooperation: policies, institutional set-up, key actors, practices			2		2	4	<p>Reading and analysis of:</p> <p>S. Lightfoot, O. Horký-Hlucháň (eds.), <i>Development Policies of Central and Eastern European States: From Aid Recipients to Aid Donors</i>. Routledge, Taylor & Francis Group, 2013, 117-131.</p> <p>Matthew Crandall, and Ingrid Varov, "Developing status as a small state: Estonia's foreign aid strategy." <i>East European Politics</i> 32, no. 4, 2016, 405-425.</p>
8. Workshop for real-world project concept note development				2	2	4	<p>Reading and analysis of:</p> <p>Ellen Karsh and Arlen Sue Fox, <i>The only grant-writing book you'll ever need</i>. New York: Basic books, 2019, 119-179.</p>
9. Digital transformation, green transition and development cooperation			2		2	4	<p>Reading and analysis of:</p> <p>Bruce Byiers, Alfonso Medinilla, and Karim Karaki, <i>Navigating green economy and development objectives: Opportunities and risks for African countries</i>. ECDPM Discussion Paper 339. Maastricht: ECDPM, 2023, 1-27.</p> <p>Chux Daniels, Benedikt Erforth, and Chloe Teevan, <i>Africa–Europe Cooperation and Digital Transformation</i>. Taylor & Francis, 2023, 1-17.</p>
10. Migration and development cooperation			2		2	4	<p>Reading and analysis of:</p> <p>K. Vinke, H. Einsporn, D. Schirwon, and M. Thomas “Migration in the Context of Climate Foreign Policy.” <i>DGAP Policy Brief</i>, 7, Berlin, 2023, 1-9.</p> <p>Zanker Franzisca, "Managing or restricting movement? Diverging approaches of African and European</p>

							migration governance." <i>Comparative Migration Studies</i> 7, no. 1, 2019: 1-18.
11. Innovations in development cooperation: theory, methods, practices			2		2	4	Reading and analysis of: OECD, Innovation for Development Impact: Lessons from the OECD Development Assistance Committee, The Development Dimension, OECD Publishing, Paris, 2022, 12-65. A. L. Silva, "Innovation in development cooperation: Emerging trajectories and implications for inclusive sustainable development in the 21st century." <i>Innovation and Development</i> , 11(1), 2021 151–171.
12. Measuring success in development cooperation: impact to whom and how to evaluate it?			2		2	4	Reading and analysis of: Paul J. Gertler, Sebastian Martinez, Patrick Premand, Laura B. Rawlings, and Christel MJ Vermeersch. <i>Impact evaluation in practice</i> . World Bank Publications, 2016, 1-31. OECD, <i>Applying Evaluation Criteria Thoughtfully</i> , OECD Publishing, Paris, 2021, 12-35.
13. When does development cooperation make sense and when it does not?			2		2	4	Reading and analysis of: OECD, <i>Development Co-operation Report 2023: Debating the Aid System</i> , OECD Publishing, Paris, 2023, 22-101. Mark McGillivray, Simon Feeny, Niels Hermes, and Robert Lensink. "Controversies over the impact of development aid: it works; it doesn't; it can, but that depends...." <i>Journal of International Development: The Journal of the Development Studies Association</i> 18, no. 7, 2006, 1031-1050.
14. Presentations-pitches of real-world project concept note			2		2	14	Preparation for presentation-pitches
Policy brief aimed at a relevant target audience (the European Commission, ministry, company, NGO, research institution, think tank).		2			2	14	Preparation for policy brief
Real-world project concept notes		2			2	18	Preparation for real-world project concept note
Total		4	26	2	32	98	

Assessment strategy	Weight %	Deadline	Assessment criteria
Assessment of the quality of work during the seminars	30	Throughout the semester	Active participation in seminars (5%), Ability to connect different concepts with empirical evidence/apply theories for the analysis of empirical reality (5%),

			Ability to refer to assigned literature (5%), Critical reflection and ponderable argumentation (5%) Quality of completing assigned tasks for seminars (10%)
Policy brief aimed at a relevant target audience (the European Commission, ministry, company, NGO, research institution, think tank).	30	The end of the semester	Ability to connect different concepts with empirical evidence/apply theories for the analysis of empirical reality (5%) Structure and style (clearness, consistency, policy brief vocabulary) (5%) Depth of analysis and critical reflection (10%) Relevance and justification of recommendations (10%)
Presentation-pitches of real-world project concept notes	15	The end of the semester	Ability to present in a coherent form (10%) Ability to respond to comments efficiently (5%)
Real-world project concept notes	25	The end of the semester	Ability to use assigned literature provided during the course (5%) Structure and style (clarity, relevance, feasibility, impact and innovations, sustainability) (15%) Critical reflection and ponderable argumentation (5%)

Author (-s)	Publishing year	Title	Issue of a periodical or volume of a publication	Publishing house or web link
Required reading				
Cornwall, A.	2007	Buzzwords and fuzzwords: deconstructing development discourse.“	Vol. 17, No. 4-5	Development in practice
Kolawole, O. D.	2010	Inter-Disciplinarity, Development Studies, and Development Practice	Vol. 20, No. 2	Development in Practice,
Knutsson, Benjamin,	2009	The intellectual history of development: Towards a widening potential repertoire	Vol. 13, No. 1	Perspectives
Chaturvedi, S., et al.	2021	The Palgrave handbook of development cooperation for achieving the 2030 Agenda: Contested collaboration		Springer Nature
Develtere, P., H. Huyse & J. Van Ongevalle,	2021	International Development Cooperation: Towards a New Paradigm		Leuven: Leuven University Press
Power, M.	2019	Geopolitics and development		London and New York: Routledge,
Schaaf, R.	2013,	Development Organizations		London and New York: Routledge
OECD	2018	OECD Development Co-operation Peer Reviews: European Union 2018, OECD Development Co-operation Peer Reviews		OECD Publishing, Paris, https://doi.org/10.1787/9789264309494-en
Klingebliel, S.	2014	Development Cooperation Actors: The New Variety of Donors. In: Development Cooperation: Challenges of the New Aid Architecture		London: Palgrave Pivot
Dreher, Axel, Peter Nunnenkamp, and Rainer Thiele. “	2011	Are 'New' Donors Different? Comparing the Allocation of Bilateral Aid between NonDAC and DAC Donor Countries.	Vol. 39, No. 11	World Development
OECD	2010	Better Aid: Managing Aid: Practices of DAC Member Countries		OECD Publishing, Paris, https://www.oecd.org/dac/

				peer-reviews/35051857.pdf
Schaaf, R.	2013	Development Organizations		London and New York: Routledge
S. Lightfoot, O. Horký-Hlucháň, (eds.)	2013	Development Policies of Central and Eastern European States: From Aid Recipients to Aid Donors		Taylor & Francis Group
Crandall, Matthew, and Ingrid Varov	2016	Developing status as a small state: Estonia's foreign aid strategy	Vol. 32, No. 4	East European Politics
Ellen Karsh and Arlen Sue Fox.,	2019	The only grant-writing book you'll ever need		New York: Basic Books
Byiers, Bruce, Alfonso Medinilla, and Karim Karaki	2023	Navigating green economy and development objectives: Opportunities and risks for African countries		ECDPM, Maastricht. https://ecdpm.org/work/navigating-green-economy-development-objectives-opportunities-risks-african-countries
Chux, Daniels, Benedikt Erforth, and Chloe Teevan.	2023	Africa–Europe Cooperation and Digital Transformation		Taylor & Francis Group
Vinke, K. H. Einsporn, D. Schirwon, and M. Thomas	2023	Migration in the Context of Climate Foreign Policy	No. 7	DGAP Policy Brief, Berlin, https://dgap.org/en/research/publications/migration-context-climate-foreign-policy
Zanker Franzisca, "	2019	Managing or restricting movement? Diverging approaches of African and European migration governance	Vol. 7, No. 1	<i>Comparative Migration Studies</i>
OECD	2022	Innovation for Development Impact: Lessons from the OECD Development Assistance Committee, The Development Dimension		OECD Publishing, Paris
A. L. Silva,	2021	Innovation in development cooperation: Emerging trajectories and implications for inclusive sustainable development in the 21st century	Vol.11, No. 1	Innovation and Development
Gertler, Paul J., et al.	2016	Impact evaluation in practice		World Bank Publications
OECD	2021	Applying Evaluation Criteria Thoughtfully		OECD Publishing, Paris
OECD	2023	Development Co-operation Report 2023: Debating the Aid System		OECD Publishing, Paris
McGillivray, Mark, et al.	2006	Controversies over the impact of development aid: it works; it doesn't; it can, but that depends....	Vol. 18, No. 7	Journal of International Development: The Journal of the Development Studies Association
Optional reading				
Randall, Vicky	2004	Using and Abusing the Concept of the Third World: Geopolitics and the Comparative Political Study of Development and Underdevelopment.	Vol. 25, No. 1	Third World Quarterly
Milta, Maksimas	2015	Lithuania's Foreign Policy Under the Eastern Partnership Programme in 2009–2014."	No. 33	Lithuanian foreign policy review
Sen, Amartya	2000	The Perspective of Freedom" in Development as Freedom		New York: Knopf.
Made, Vahur	2011	Shining in Brussels? The Eastern partnership in Estonia's foreign policy	No. 2	Perspectives: Review of International Affairs
Gadeikienė, Marta	2022	When do Lithuanian NGOs succeed in influencing foreign policy?	Vol. 1, No. 105	Politologija
Ivinskienė, Giedrė	2023	Underdeveloped Development Cooperation. Lithuanian Case	Vol. 111, No 3	Politologija