**EHR 2203 Development Ethics**

**Course description**

The course will examine of development theories since the 1950's, especially with regard to Latin American and other developing nations. Examination of current theories and problems of economic and political development related to the said nations. Focuses on the way the new nations need to free themselves from foreign ideas by evolving their own philosophical directions. Among the central concepts to be explored are: development and underdevelopment; dependency and modernization; imperialism, colonialism and neo-colonialism; tradition and modernity; development vis-à-vis freedom. Relevant thinkers on issues of development like Kwame Nkrumah and Julius Nyerere will be covered.

The course will also examine the meaning and evolution of the concept of "development ethics", especially looking at the ethical component of development theories; the normative or ethical assessment of the ends and means of national, regional and international development programs, and exploring the fundamental goals of economic, cultural and political development.

**Course objectives**

This course will help the students to understand the meaning of development and the ethical dimensions of this concept. Students will also be enabled to appreciate the relevance of development ethics to development theory and practice.

**Learning objectives**

By the end of the course, students will:

1. Be able to define development and development ethics
2. Know the tools and approaches of ethics
3. Be able to assess the ethical implications of development theories
4. Be able to assess the ethical implications of development policies, practices and institutions.

**Course outline**

1. Ethics: Meaning , Tools and Approaches
2. Development: Etymological understanding
3. Development ethics : meaning and evolution
4. Value inquiry: types and relevance to development
5. Means and ends of economic development
6. Economic and political conceptions of development and their post-development critique
7. Theories of distributive justice and development ethics
8. Rights and obligations in the ethics of poverty reduction
9. Post-colonial critiques of development
10. Needs, capabilities and functioning
11. Culture, gender and development
12. Corruption and development
13. Environment and development
14. Efficiency and effectiveness: Development evaluation in theory and practice
15. Equity: the cost of development and the rights to redress
16. Poverty reduction: Causal and remedial responsibility
17. Global justice: The ethical dimensions of aid and trade
18. The ethics of globalization

**Methodology**

The facilitator(s) will employ the following methods; Panel of experts, lectures with discussion, Class discussion, small group discussion, Report back Session, values clarification exercise.

**Assessment Mode**

Take home exercise 15%

Practical exercise test 15%

End of semester examination 70%

**Reading List**

Goulet, D., 1995, *Development Ethics*, Zed Press

Goulet, D., 1991, *The Cruel Choice*, Athenaeum.

Singer, P., ed., 1994, *Ethics*, Oxford Univ. Press

Crocker, D., 1991, “Toward Development Ethics”, *World Development*, Vol. 19(5), 457-83

Doyal, L. & Gough, I., 1991, *A Theory of Need*, Macmillan.

Nussbaum, M., & Sen, A., eds., 1993, *The Quality of Life*, Clarendon.

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Aiken W. & LaFollette H., eds., 1996, *World Hunger and Morality*, Prentice Hall

Weisband, E., ed., 1989, *Poverty Amidst Plenty - World Political Economy and Distributive Justice*, Westview Press