161-592 Poverty, Microfinance and Development

Credit Points:	12.50
Level:	5 (Graduate/Postgraduate)
Dates & Locations:	2009, This subject commences in the following study period/s: Semester 2, - Taught on campus.
Time Commitment:	Contact Hours: A 1 hour lecture and a 1 hour seminar per week Total Time Commitment: Estimated total time commitment (including non-contact time): 120 hours
Prerequisites:	None
Corequisites:	None
Recommended Background Knowledge:	None
Non Allowed Subjects:	None
Core Participation Requirements:	For the purposes of considering request for Reasonable Adjustments under the Disability Standards for Education (Cwth 2005), and Student Support and Engagement Policy, academic requirements for this subject are articulated in the Subject Overview, Learning Outcomes, Assessment and Generic Skills sections of this entry. It is University policy to take all reasonable steps to minimise the impact of disability upon academic study, and reasonable adjustments will be made to enhance a student's participation in the University's programs. Students who feel their disability may impact on meeting the requirements of this subject are encouraged to discuss this matter with a Faculty Student Adviser and Student Equity and Disability Support: http://services.unimelb.edu.au/disability
Coordinator:	Mr Nadeem Malik
Contact:	Dr Nadeem Malik malikn@unimelb.edu.au (mailto:malikn@unimelb.edu.au)
Subject Overview:	Development studies as an academic discipline has its origins in President Harry Truman's concept of a "fair deal" for the entire world. In his inaugural address on January 20, 1949, he stated that Third World poverty, "is a handicap and a threat both to them and to more prosperous areas. For the first time in history humanity possesses the knowledge and the skill to relieve the suffering of these people I believe that we should make available to peaceloving peoples the benefits of our store of technical knowledge in order to help them realize their aspirations for a better life What we envisage is a program of development based on the concepts of democratic fair dealing".
Objectives:	This subject aims to provide students with a solid grounding in one of the fundamental concerns of development and will explore the concepts and theories regarding cultural, political, economic and social aspects of poverty to critically engage in current debates on poverty, microfinance and development issues. The focus will be on the regions of Asia, Africa and Latin America. The subject will also extensively engage students into various theoretical debates, teaching of practical skills and techniques regarding Micro Finance and Small Business Entrepreneurship, which are widely promoted and used by the institutional financial institutions (such as the IMF and World Bank) and donor countries to alleviate poverty in less developed countries today.
Assessment:	Case Study Report 1,500 words due mid- semester (40%), Major Essay 3,500 words due end of semester (60%), Hurdle requirement of 80% attendance.
Prescribed Texts:	A subject reader will be available.
Breadth Options:	This subject is not available as a breadth subject.
Fees Information:	Subject EFTSL, Level, Discipline & Census Date, http://enrolment.unimelb.edu.au/fees
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Generic Skills:	Students who complete this subject will acquire:- # Advanced understanding of the main theories, concepts and debates about poverty from cross disciplinary development perspective; # critical analysis; # applied research skills; # ability to write reports; # the ability to make oral presentations; # gain skills in working independently and being members of a team
Related Course(s):	Master of Development Studies(CWT)
Related Majors/Minors/ Specialisations:	Development Studies Development Studies

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