Term:
School: Economic, Political and Policy Sciences
Dept:

IPEC3349.001.15F
World Resources and Development
Instructor: Rubia Valente

Course Experience for IPEC3349.001.15F - World Resources and Development

Evaluation Scale is 5 Level Likert Item	SD	D	N	A	SA	%/#	SD	D	N	A	SA	TOT	Summary Statistics	
The course objectives were clearly defined.	0%	0%	0%	32%	68%	%	-	-	-	32%	68%	100%	M	**4.76**
													µ	4.68
													σ	0.48
						#	-	-	-	8	17	25	N	25
The course was well organized.	0%	0%	0%	28%	72%	%	-	-	-	28%	72%	100%	M	**4.81**
													µ	4.72
													σ	0.46
						#	-	-	-	7	18	25	N	25
Overall, the course was excellent.	0%	0%	0%	24%	76%	%	-	-	-	24%	76%	100%	M	**4.84**
													µ	4.76
													σ	0.44
						#	-	-	-	6	19	25	N	25

Instructor Rubia Valente (IPEC3349.001.15F)

Evaluation Scale is 5 Level Likert Item	SD	D	N	A	SA	%/#	SD	D	N	A	SA	TOT	Summary Statistics	
The instructor clearly defined and explained the course objectives and expectations.	0%	0%	0%	20%	80%	%	-	-	-	20%	80%	100%	M	**4.88**
													µ	4.80
													σ	0.41
						#	-	-	-	5	20	25	N	25
The instructor was prepared for each instructional activity.	0%	0%	0%	8%	92%	%	-	-	-	8%	92%	100%	M	**4.95**
													µ	4.92
													σ	0.28
						#	-	-	-	2	22	24	N	24
The instructor communicated information effectively.	0%	0%	0%	16%	84%	%	-	-	-	16%	84%	100%	M	**4.90**
													µ	4.84
													σ	0.37
						#	-	-	-	4	21	25	N	25
The instructor encouraged me to take an active role in my own learning.	0%	0%	0%	25%	75%	%	-	-	-	25%	75%	100%	M	**4.83**
													µ	4.75
													σ	0.44
						#	-	-	-	6	18	24	N	24
The instructor was available to students either electronically or in person.	0%	0%	4%	8%	88%	%	-	-	4%	8%	88%	100%	M	**4.93**
													µ	4.83
													σ	0.48
						#	-	-	1	2	21	24	N	24

The instructor seemed genuinely interested in teaching.						%	-	-	-	4%	96%	100%	M	**4.98**
	0%	0%	0%	4%	96%								μ	4.96
													σ	0.20
						#	-	-	-	1	23	24	N	24

The instructor provided timely feedback.						%	-	-	-	16%	84%	100%	M	**4.90**
	0%	0%	0%	16%	84%								μ	4.84
													σ	0.37
						#	-	-	-	4	21	25	N	25

The instructor evaluated students fairly.						%	-	-	4%	24%	72%	100%	M	**4.81**
	0%	0%	4%	24%	72%								μ	4.68
													σ	0.56
						#	-	-	1	6	18	25	N	25

Overall, this instructor was excellent.						%	-	-	-	8%	92%	100%	M	**4.96**
	0%	0%	0%	8%	92%								μ	4.92
													σ	0.28
						#	-	-	-	2	23	25	N	25

Student Experience for IPEC3349.001.15F - World Resources and Development

Evaluation Scale is 5 Level Likert Item	SD	D	N	A	SA	%/#	SD	D	N	A	SA	TOT	Summary Statistics	
I was free to ask questions and express my opinions and ideas.						%	-	-	-	12%	88%	100%	M	**4.93**
	0%	0%	0%	12%	88%								μ	4.88
													σ	0.33
						#	-	-	-	3	22	25	N	25
My performance was evaluated fairly.						%	-	-	-	32%	68%	100%	M	**4.76**
	0%	0%	0%	32%	68%								μ	4.68
													σ	0.48
						#	-	-	-	8	17	25	N	25
I discussed ideas from this course with others outside the classroom.						%	-	-	8%	20%	72%	100%	M	**4.81**
	0%	0%	8%	20%	72%								μ	4.64
													σ	0.64
						#	-	-	2	5	18	25	N	25
This course has been (or will be) of value to me.						%	-	-	-	16%	84%	100%	M	**4.90**
	0%	0%	0%	16%	84%								μ	4.84
													σ	0.37
						#	-	-	-	4	21	25	N	25
This course inspired me to learn more.						%	-	-	4%	16%	80%	100%	M	**4.88**
	0%	0%	4%	16%	80%								μ	4.76
													σ	0.52
						#	-	-	1	4	20	25	N	25

Comments - *Access to comments is restricted. You have permission to view comments*

What aspects of this course should remain the same?

1. I love Dr. Valente! This is my second class with her and as always she is extremely helpful. I felt that this class had a lot to offer and many of the concepts were applicable to my other classes.

2. All aspects but especially the attendance of guest speakers.

3. The reading assignments made available online, and the textbook available through the library was extremely helpful and this should continue. Myself and other students would agree that we are more likely to read the assigned reading when it doesn't cost hundreds of dollars. So I appreciate that. The course content

should remain the same, it was extremely interesting and informative. The assignments were plentiful, but aided in my knowledge retention and ultimately in writing the final research paper.

4. Dr. Valente is one of my favorite professors of all time! Coming from a developing country herself, she really puts the class into perspective when teaching about poverty, and the contrast between gender rights. I enjoyed the fact this class has multiple assignments throughout the semester. This really helps in maintaining my commitment to the course. Plus, I GREATLY loved the fact no presentations were needed. Being a shy student who always sat in the back, I considered this miraculous! Having guest speakers was great too! I learned a lot from them!

5. I think the professor was great! She was certainly interested in helping her students learn, and always listened to me when I had concerns. I am so GLAD that she went out of her way to put the required textbooks on reserve in the library, knowing how expensive textbooks are now, and she studied our pictures and knew who we were before class began. That shows she really does care about the quality of our education and her students!

6. All class resources being available free or cheaply is a great relief. Frequent writing assignments and variety of grades allows for fair performance evaluation. Guest speakers- particularly Mr. Lopez were great. Dr. Valente is passionate about this topic and educating her students. This is exemplified by the fact that she memorizes her students' names and faces by looking at the class roll before the first meeting of the class. The class is political, but Dr. Valente allows for discussion if you disagree with anything presented in class.

7. All... I truly enjoyed the videos and the guest speakers.

8. Open class discussions, in class films that provide a wide range of perspective, and those interactive graphic things made learning feel more "hands-on", which is neat.

9. The instructor , methods of instruction, and the syllabus for the course should remain the same.

10. I really enjoyed the class as is.

11. Discussion

12. Overall, this was a great course. The professor was very helpful in class, and clearly wanted us to learn.

13. Provides an overview of several development issues, provides several different scholarly perspectives of development issues, allows students to think as policy makers and forces them to think of solutions, promotes cross-sectoral views of these issues, guest speakers were great, the movies we watched were informative, etc.

14. The method of teaching and the use of articles and their discussions in class provide extremely valuable insights on the issues that the world faces today. Also, the movies and documentaries we watched were very interesting.

15. Yes.

16. I think that the information covered in the course should be kept the same, aside from general updates for outdated information. If anything though, the style of the course needs to stay the same. The seminar style for this type of course is necessary, as it exposes us to different opinions and policy perspectives that keep the course material interesting and relevant. Overall, the majority of the information and style should stay the same for the next teaching period.

17. I liked everything.

18. Structured approach towards the issues.

What aspects of this course need improvement?	1. I think the reading summaries could be more structured. Maybe each week have a list of concepts to grasp from the readings to be filled out and turned in weekly. Kind of like a take home quiz?
	2. None.
	3. I really enjoyed the guest speakers we had so if you could somehow squeeze maybe one more in it would be pretty cool.
	4. Participation counts as 5% for the total grade. I hardly ever spoke, but that doesn't mean I didn't learn just as much. I suggest eliminating that 5% for participation, and replacing it with something else. Maybe for attendance? Our final paper is topic of our choice, but it would have been great for some people to present their research on their topic. One of my professors gave students a choice of either writing a paper or doing a presentation as their final. Maybe this should be implemented in this class since some of the research topics are so interesting!
	5. The ONE complaint I have is the fact that her writing assignments are a bit overbearing, especially in relation to the book and movie reviews. She expects five pages written, within like a week, and they should have outside sources related cited inside the paper. Those were a bit much; I got most of what I said written within like three pages, and I don't see why outside sources are so important in papers that are supposed to review a documentary or book, and my grades sometimes suffered for it.

6. Class discussion among students isn't as valuable as prepared materials. People who are more introverted may seem less prepared than the opinionated or extroverted students who dominate class discussion. Daily reading and summaries can seem overwhelming, but may be necessary. I regret my neglect of these readings because it may hurt my grade and also because it felt disrespectful to the professor who was very agreeable. I was not impressed by "Half the Sky" as a major focus of the latter half of the course, but criticism of materials is always an option in this class.

7. Summaries are tedious. I understand that there needs to be some sort of way to gauge whether students read the material, but there has to be some method outside of pop quizzes and summaries.

8. The critical summaries can be overwhelming, especially when a student has other classes and is not full time- has job, family responsibilities and the like. But they are good and necessary to get the work done. But readings from scanned course book articles were old and poor.That needs to be changed. I had to buy a hard copy of the class text.

9. I don't think it needs any improvements.

10. Discussion really helped me in this class. However, I think we needed more guidance of the professor because sometimes the discussions went everywhere and it was hard for me to focus.

11. The workload was a little much at times. This was the class I did the most work in all semester, without a doubt. Maybe next time, assigning either a final or a research paper instead of both would be helpful.

12. Some topics were not expanded on enough i.e. environmental sustainability, and the course wasn't as economically focused as I thought it would be.

13. The number of reading summaries is a bit overburdening. Also, the fact that there is a research paper due and then a very extensive take home final puts a lot of strain on the students. I would have probably preferred having the research paper due earlier on in the semester, like before Thanksgiving break or so.

14. I believe that a portion dedicated to the impact of government presence in regions would be useful for this course. Relating it to how illegal activities, such as growing drugs or the harboring of terrorist groups occur in low presence areas would provide excellent material that is related to the topic of development, since both can have widespread impact on development. Additionally, it is possible to talk of alternative development efforts by governments in order to discourage the growing of drugs.

15. None that I could think of.

16. The way that some of the content is taught, in terms of movies and a book, needs some alteration. The Bottom Billion, Good Fortune, and Half the Sky are all important to the course, as they do a good job at giving a big picture on top of specifics, but the other works that we looked over seemed to be repetitive on what we discussed in class beforehand, and not additive.

17. I'm conflicted about the final. I loved writing it and I liked doing it at home so I could address my notes, but it was very long and hard to find time to complete it outside of assigned classfinal times being a student with a full-time job. If there could possibly be a way to keep the format but have it take place at an assigned final exam time that would have been preferable.

18. Less usage of movies and films during class. While they get a point across quite well, they don't necessarily explain the theoretical or practical modelling that occurs in each situation.
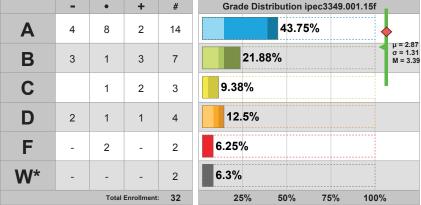
Additional comments:

1. Dr. Valente was always available to for help and replies to e-mails extremely promptly, she seems excited in what she's teaching and it was truly a class that is helping me grow in my knowledge and as a person. The homework was hard, but I somehow enjoyed it.

2. 1. It amazed me that Dr Valente could call out each student's name at first class! 2. we can tell Dr Valente has put lots of time and efforts collecting relevant materials for this course i.e videos, readings 3. The two guest speeches were great and inspiring, especially the second one that talked about sex trafficking - really informative. 4. If possible, scaling back 2 summaries or 1 movie review. This would help a lot to those who have a full time job or study as full time. Also add a full readingreview week before the final so that students could be more focused on research paper. After all, it accounts for 20%. 5. Overall this class is EXCELLENT! I'll recommend this course and Dr. Valente!

3. Dr. Valente is a great professor, and I would definitely take a class from her again!

4. None! Thanks for all the help.

5. Same as above.

6. Chill.

7. This semester, I had quite a few medical and personal issues and out of my five teachers, Dr. Valente was by far the most understanding and accommodating. I really appreciated that.

8. The text book comment is above. Perhaps, three movie reviews are too much for one semester. Also, the last movie review & the research project were too close to each other in terms of submission dates.

9. The class is absolutely great. Dr. Valente's class reminded me why I decided to major in International Political Economy. Her class led me realize my passion for international relations and homeland security. I graduate this semester and her class motivated me to apply for a position in Homeland Security. I passed the written exam last month and I am currently preparing to take the physical exam next month. I am thankful for her class because I wouldn't be where I am at if it wasn't for it.

10. Dr. Valente is very good! But that many papers almost killed me!

11. The professor was awesome but there was too much reading..

12. Overall, I really enjoyed the course and the discussions we had. I felt like the course helped me articulate my thoughts better, and it expanded my world view tremendously. Dr. Valente is an excellent professor, and I feel honored to have been able to take her class and hear her views.

13. Overall the course was very fair in the amount of work, but in the end it got to pile up. I would recommend this professor to others though, she knows her stuff and can explain it well.

14. I liked the fact that this instructor gave us many assignments. A lot counted towards our final grade, thus we had many opportunities to do well, as well as be heavily involved with the information we were covering. I hope Dr. Valente keeps this up. I also wish more professors designed their syllabus like this, instead of just having a midterm, final, and maybe one paperproject + attendance.

15. I feel that the quantity of writing assignment was overdone, and that required class discussions would aid in the learning process much more than a typed assignment. Some of the essays were necessary, but like stated previously, some of the works were repetitive. On those assignments, a required seminar and discussion is necessary. I know that you personally felt that students were too afraid to speak in public for required speeches and discussions to be part of the grade, but in the professional world, those with majors that require this course will have to speak in public eloquently. That is my main suggestion, but other than that, I really loved the course and how it was taught and carried out!

16. Loved Professor Valente. Always available and willing to help students learn. Very knowledgeable and helped guide us through sensitive, difficult subjects by creating a safe space that focused on the truth.

17. The reading load was a bit on the heavier side, but ultimately manageable, except for the week preceding the exams.

Class Grade Distribution (IPEC3349.001.15F)

	−	•	+	#
A	4	8	2	14
B	3	1	3	7
C		1	2	3
D	2	1	1	4
F	-	2	-	2
W*	-	-	-	2
			Total Enrollment:	32

Grade Distribution ipec3349.001.15f

- 43.75%
- 21.88%
- 9.38%
- 12.5%
- 6.25%
- 6.3%

$\mu = 2.87$
$\sigma = 1.31$
$M = 3.39$

class GPA **2.87**

DF% **20%**

WDF% **25%**