

University of Denver
Graduate School of International Studies

INTS 2701 (CRN# 3568) Millennium Development Goals

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Days: Tuesdays and Thursdays
Time: 1100 AM – 1250 PM
Classroom: BCH 219

As many as a quarter of the world's population still lives on less than a dollar a day, and this despite the continuous growth in human productivity throughout the latter part of the last century. The dawn of the new millennium thus demanded a drafting of the goals for a world free of poverty. In September 2000, at the United Nations Millennium Summit, a global consensus has been reached. The summit declared a common agenda to refocus attention and reallocate resources to reduce by 2015 the suffering of nearly 2 billion people who are affected by malnutrition, disease, and premature death. Known collectively as the Millennium Development Goals (MDG), the agenda has by now succeeded in rallying the global community of policy makers and researchers under the coordination of major international development agencies.

The Purposes of the Course Organized as eight development objectives in the areas of poverty, education, gender equality, child mortality, maternal health, diseases, environment and global partnership, each with its own measurable targets and indicators for monitoring, MDGs provide a systematic opportunity to test drive the theories of international development in a global turf. After an overview of the MDGs as a comprehensive compilation of the major problems of the developing countries, the course will discuss them one at a time starting with a conceptual understanding of the particular MDG from different theoretical lenses, e.g., poverty and inequality, economic growth, human capital, gender mainstreaming, capability approach, human rights. We will then review the current regional and/or global trend for the goal with data from the United Nation's Millennium Indicators Database. Finally, we will identify the various (economic, geographical, social or political) reasons for missing and levers for achieving the goal, and summarize those into causal diagrams to help us visualize the complex linkages.

Method of Delivery The course will be delivered through lectures and discussions. To aid the lecture, visual presentation in the forms of diagrams, charts and data tables will be used. Two videos, one on Environment from the "Global Issues" series and another on a Charlie Rose Interview of Dr. Jeffrey Sachs will be shown on the week on Environment and Global Compact related MDG respectively.

Computer Lab Depending on the availability, there will be two lab sessions (at GSIS computer lab) where students will practice downloading global datasets on the MDG from the United Nations Millennium Indicators Database available online at

http://unstats.un.org/unsd/mi/mi_goals.asp and use that data with a GUI data analysis application, e.g. Microsoft Excel ® or SPSS ®.

Blackboard University of Denver's online tool Blackboard® (<http://blackboard.du.edu>) will be used extensively as a supplemental tool.

Books We shall use two books, one on the Millennium Development Goals and the other on the theories of development. The Todaro and Smith book on development can be purchased at the bookstore. At least one copy of both of these books will be available at the Penrose reserve desk.

1. Richard Black and Howard White (Ed.). Targeting development: critical perspectives on the millennium development goals. London ; New York : Routledge, 2004.
2. Michael P. Todaro and Stephen C. Smith. Economic Development, 8th edition, Addison Wesley, 2003.

Online Resources Human Development Report is compiled and published annually by the United Nations Development Program. The 2004 report has already been published. However, we will use the 2003 report, which was themed around the Millennium Development Goals.

1. United Nations Development Program, *Human Development Report 2003*. New York: Oxford University Press. Full report and chapter downloads available at <http://www.undp.org/hdr2003/> [October 1, 2003]
2. United Nations Statistics Division, United Nations Millennium Indicators Database. Available online at http://unstats.un.org/unsd/mi/mi_goals.asp

Additional Reading Materials Since the MDGs are relatively recent topics with lot of discussions and enthusiasm about them in the development community, detail publications on them (both in the form of policy papers and research articles) are available in the Internet. A specific group of papers that we will use a lot are the interim reports prepared by the Millennium Project, which has been charged by Kofi Annan with developing proposals to meet the Millennium Development Goals. Whenever any of these publications (or part of them) are assigned as a reading, proper citation is provided.

Evaluation

Exams: Students will have to sit for two in-class exams, mid-term and final, on the dates marked in the course schedule. Mid-term exam will be a 60 minutes exam consisting of multiple-choice and short answer questions. Final exam will also be a 60 minutes one with similar format. Mid-term exam will cover topics discussed till the week before the exam. Final exam will cover everything discussed in the course unless otherwise mentioned by the instructor. Practice tests with solutions will be uploaded on blackboard.

Review sessions will be held in the week preceding the exams. Each of the exams will cover 25% of the grade.

Presentation 1 MDG Trends: For this presentation the students will choose a particular geographic region (e.g. Sub-Saharan Africa, South Asia, Latin America or East Asia) and will present an analysis involving the trends in the region of choice and the particular MDG being discussed in the session. If the goal contains more than one target the presentation can focus on one target only. It is advised to choose targets for which there are clear indicators and available data. Check http://unstats.un.org/unsd/mi/mi_goals.asp

Presentation 2 Causal Diagram: For this presentation the students will choose a particular MDG and will present a causal diagram for that particular MDG in the session in which it will be discussed.

General Rules on Presentations: The presentations have to be done individually. Lotteries will be conducted on the second session if more than one student choose the same region or MDG. Each presentation will cover 20% of the grade. Presentations must be accompanied by a written report of 2-4 pages from each individual. Readings for the corresponding week will be used as guidelines for preparing the presentations.

Class Participation: 10% of the grade is reserved for active participation in the class.

Summary of Grading: Mid-Term Exam (25%), Final Exam (25%), Presentation 1 (20%), Presentation 2 (20%), Class Participation (10%)

Final grades: A (90%); B (80%); C (70%); D (60%); F (below 60%)

The Millennium Development Goals. At the UN-sponsored Millennium Summit in September 2000, 147 global leaders endorsed the UN Millennium Development Goals (MDGs) to be achieved at a global level by the year 2015. The eight goals comprising of 18 targets and 48 indicators, in a nutshell, call for fostering a global partnership for provision of universal education, gender empowerment, improved health and disease control and poverty alleviation for every human being.

The following listing of goals and targets is taken from the United Nations Statistic Divisions' Millennium Indicators Database homepage (http://unstats.un.org/unsd/mi/mi_goals.asp)

Goal 1. Eradicate extreme poverty and hunger.

Target 1. Halve, between 1990 and 2015, the proportion of people whose income is less than \$1 per day.

Target 2. Halve, between 1990 and 2015, the proportion of people who suffer from hunger.

Goal 2. Achieve universal primary education.

Target 3. Ensure that, by 2015, children everywhere, boys and girls alike, will be able to complete a full course of primary schooling.

Goal 3. Promote gender equality and empower women.

Target 4. Eliminate gender disparity in primary and secondary education, preferably by 2005 and in all levels of education no later than 2015.

Goal 4. Reduce child mortality.

Target 5. Reduce by two-thirds, between 1990 and 2015, the under-five mortality rate.

Goal 5. Improve maternal health.

Target 6. Reduce by three-quarters, between 1990 and 2015, the maternal mortality ratio.

Goal 6. Combat HIV/AIDS, malaria and other diseases.

Target 7. Have halted by 2015 and begun to reverse the spread of HIV/AIDS

Target 8. Have halted by 2015 and begun to reverse the incidence of malaria and other major diseases.

Goal 7. Ensure environmental sustainability.

Target 9. Integrate the principles of sustainable development into country policies and programs and reverse the loss of environmental resources.

Target 10. Halve by 2015 the proportion of people without sustainable access to safe drinking water.

Target 11. Have achieved by 2020 a significant improvement in the lives of at least 100 million slum dwellers.

Goal 8. Develop a global partnership for development.

Target 12. Develop further an open, rule-based predictable, non-discriminatory trading and financial system (includes a commitment to good governance, development, and poverty reduction – both nationally and internationally).

Target 13. Address the special needs of the least developed countries (includes tariff- and quota-free access for exports, enhanced program of debt relief for and cancellation of official bilateral debt, and more generous official development assistance for countries committed to poverty reduction).

Target 14. Address the special needs of land-locked countries and small island developing states (through the Program of action for the Sustainable Development of Small Island Developing States and 22nd General Assembly provisions).

Target 15. Deal comprehensively with the debt problems of developing countries through national and international measures in order to make debt sustainable in the long term.

Target 16. In cooperation with developing countries, develop and implement strategies for decent and productive work for youth.

Target 17. In cooperation with pharmaceutical companies, provide access to affordable essential drugs in developing countries.

Target 18. In cooperation with the private sector, make available the benefits of new technologies, especially information and communications technologies.

Weekly Course Schedule

Week 1: Introduction and Overview

Week 1 Class 1 on 01/04/05, Tuesday In this session, we will first get introduced to each other. We will then discuss the purposes of the course, the approaches, and the requirements.

Readings: None

Week 1 Class 2 on 01/06/05, Thursday In this class students will obtain a general overview on the condition of the developing nations and the emergence of the Millennium Development Goals. Lotteries for presentations, if required, will be held.

Readings:

Todaro and Smith. Chapter 1. Economics, Institutions and Development. (How the Other Three-Quarters Live). pp 3-7

Black and White (Ed.). Chapter 1. The Millennium Development Goals. pp 6-10

UNDP. Millennium Development Goals: A compact among nations to end human poverty. Overview Chapter of the *United Nations Human Development Report 2003* (UN

HDR 2003). Available online at
http://hdr.undp.org/reports/global/2003/pdf/hdr03_overview.pdf

Week 2: Goal 1: Eradicate extreme poverty and hunger

Week 2: Class 1 on 01/11/05, Tuesday

First Part

Poverty reduction is the overarching goal of the Millennium Declaration. In this class, we will discuss the extent, magnitude, causes and remedies of poverty.

Readings:

Todaro and Smith. Chapter 6. Poverty, Inequality and Development. (Absolute Poverty, Extent and Magnitude) pp 221-229

Lipton, Michael and Hugh Waddington. Halving World Poverty. Chapter 7 in “Targeting Development”. Black and White (Ed.). pp 145-149

Millennium Project, Interim Report from Task Force 1 on Poverty and Economic Development. Ch II. Diagnosis of Poverty, pp. 5-33. Available at
<http://www.unmillenniumproject.org/documents/tfoneinterim.pdf>

Second Part

In the second hour of the class we will venture into the Millenniums Indicators Database either from the GSIS computer lab (if available) or from our classroom using an LCD projector.

Resource: United Nations Statistics Division, United Nations Millennium Indicators Database. Available online at http://unstats.un.org/unsd/mi/mi_goals.asp

Week 2: Class 2 on 01/13/05, Thursday

Student presentation. Discussion on MDG 1, poverty reduction. Look at the trends. Draw the causal diagram. Explore the links between poverty and other development targets. Develop a list of key areas for intervention. Explore the trade-off and synergies with other MDG.

Reading:

Black and White (Ed.). Ch 7. Halving World Poverty. pp 149-161

Millennium Project, Interim Report from Task Force 1 on Poverty and Economic Development. Ch III. Policy Clusters for Overcoming Poverty Traps, pp. 34-43. Available at <http://www.unmillenniumproject.org/documents/tfoneinterim.pdf>

Week 3: Goal 2: Achieve universal primary education

Week 3: Class 1 on 01/18/05, Tuesday

We shall discuss the demands for and supply of education in developing economies. We shall also compare the private and social costs and benefits of different levels of education and their policy implications.

Reading:

Todaro and Smith. Chapter 9. Human Capital. pp 379-385

UNDP. Public policies to improve people's health and education. Chapter 4 (Introductory section, p85-87 and "Achieving the Education Goals" section, p92-97) of the UN HDR 2003,. Available online at <http://www.undp.org/hdr2003/>

Week 3: Class 2 on 01/20/05, Thursday

We shall conduct an in-class group exercise on drawing causal diagrams for demand and supply sides of education. Student presentations on education goals will be delivered. We shall look at the current global and regional trends on universal primary education and discuss interventions for achieving MDG Goal 2.

Reading:

Black and White (Ed.). Ch 8. Towards universal primary education. pp 166-181.

~~Millennium Project, Executive Summary of the Interim Report on Education from Task Force 3 on Education and Gender Equality. Available at <http://www.unmillenniumproject.org/documents/tf3edinterimexecsum.pdf>~~

Final report from UN Millennium Project Task Force on Education and Gender Equity: http://unmp.forumone.com/eng_task_force/EducationEbook.pdf
Executive Summary, Chapter 4, Chapter 5

Week 4: Goal 3: Promote gender equality and empower women

Week 4: Class 1 on 01/25/05, Tuesday

We shall discuss implications of gender bias in the areas of income, education and health. Specific topics like wage inequities, missing women, gender gap in education, demographic outcome of women's education will be elaborated.

Reading:

Todaro and Smith. Chapter 6. Poverty, Inequality and Development. (Women and Poverty). pp 230-234.

Todaro and Smith. Chapter 9. Human Capital: Education and Health in Economic Development. (The Gender Gap: Women and Education) pp 376-379

~~Millennium Project. Interim Report "From Promises to Action: Recommendations for Gender Equality and the Empowerment of Women" from Task Force 3 on Primary~~

Education and Gender Equality. Section II, The Task Force Perspective. Definition of Gender Equality. Available at <http://www.unmillenniumproject.org/documents/tf3genderinterim.pdf>

Final report from Millennium Project Task Force 3 on Gender:

http://unmp.forumone.com/eng_task_force/GenderEbook.pdf

Chapter 2: Task Force Perspective on Gender Equality and Empowerment

Week 4: Class 2 on 01/27/05, Thursday

Student presentations on the trends in and causes/consequences of gender inequality. We shall discuss achieving Goal 3, gender equality. Discuss trends and possible interventions.

Reading:

Millennium Project. Interim Report “From Promises to Action: Recommendations for Gender Equality and the Empowerment of Women” from Task Force 3 on Primary Education and Gender Equality. Section IV, Progress Towards The Goal and Section V, Strategic Priorities. Available at <http://www.unmillenniumproject.org/documents/tf3genderinterim.pdf>

Final report from Millennium Project Task Force 3 on Gender Equality.:

http://unmp.forumone.com/eng_task_force/GenderEbook.pdf

Executive Summary

Chapter 3: Strengthening Opportunities for post-primary education for Girls.

Chapter 12: Making it happen

Black and White (Ed.). Ch 9. Promoting Gender Equality. pp 195-196.

Week 5: Goal 4: Reduce child mortality

Week 5: Class 1 on 02/01/05, Tuesday

We discuss the structure of the world population and try to understand the infant mortality trends

Reading:

Todaro and Smith. Chapter 7. Population Growth and Economic Development. pp 264-274. p 53 (definition of infant mortality rate).

Millennium Project. Final Report from Task Force 4 on Child Health. Ch 2. Analytical Context. http://unmp.forumone.com/eng_task_force/ChildHealthEbook.pdf

Black and White (Ed.). Ch 10. Reducing infant and child death. pp 209-223.

Week 5: Class 2 on 02/03/05, Thursday

First Part: 80 minutes

Student presentation. We shall discuss achieving Goal 4, reduce child mortality. Discuss trends, possible interventions

Reading:

Black and White (Ed.). Ch 10. Reducing infant and child death. pp 223-231.

Millennium Project. Report from Task Force 4 on Child Health and Maternal Health (Section 7.5 on neonatal health) Available at <http://www.unmillenniumproject.org/>

Millennium Project. Final Report from Task Force 4 on Child Health. Executive Summary http://unmp.forumone.com/eng_task_force/ChildHealthEbook.pdf

Second Part: 30 minutes

Review session for mid-term

Week 6: Mid-term and Goal 5: Improve maternal health

Week 6: Class 1 on 02/08/05, Tuesday

First Part: 60 minutes

Mid-Term

Second Part: 40 minutes

Definition of Reproductive Health. Direct and Indirect causes of Maternal Death. Overhauling health system to reduce maternal mortality.

Reading (Optional):

Millennium Project. Report from Task Force 4 on Child Health and Maternal Health section 4.2 on Maternal Health. Available at <http://www.unmillenniumproject.org/documents/tf4interim.pdf>

Millennium Project. Final Report from Task Force 4 on Child Health and Maternal Health. Ch 3. Health Status and Key Interventions. From Page 84-102. http://unmp.forumone.com/eng_task_force/ChildHealthEbook.pdf

Week 6: Class 2 on 02/10/05, Thursday

Presentation. Discuss the key areas for intervention. Explore the trade-off and synergies with related MDG.

Reading:

Standing, Hillary. In Black and White (Ed.). Ch 11. Towards Reproductive Health for All. pp 242-253.

Week 7: Goal 6: Combat HIV/AIDS, malaria and other diseases

Week 7: Class 1 on 02/15/05, Tuesday

Health systems and development. Health as human capital. Influences from disease (or lack of sound health) to economic development.

Reading:

Todaro and Smith. Chapter 9. Human Capital: Education and Health in Economic Development. Health Systems and Development. pp 392-406

Commission on Macroeconomics and Health, 2001. Macroeconomics and Health: Investing in Health for Economic Development. *Final Report of the Commission*: Chapter titled *The Commission Report: Channels of Influence from Disease to Economic Development*, pp30-39. Also, look at the diagram at p26.

Available at: <http://www.cid.harvard.edu/cidcmh/CMHReport.pdf>

Week 7: Class 2 on 02/17/05, Thursday

Student presentations. Achieving Goal 6 specifically in the areas of HIV/AIDS, Malaria and Access to Essential Medicines. Discuss the trends. Analyze and add to students' causal diagrams.

Reading:

Millennium Project. Final Report from Task Force on HIV/AIDS, Malaria, TB, and Access to Essential Medicines, **Working Group on HIV/AIDS**. Executive Summary Only. Available at http://unmp.forumone.com/eng_task_force/HIVAIDSEbook.pdf

Millennium Project. Final Report from Task Force on HIV/AIDS, Malaria, TB, and Access to Essential Medicines, **Working Group on Malaria**. Executive Summary Only. Available at http://unmp.forumone.com/eng_task_force/MalariaEbook.pdf

Millennium Project. Final Report from Task Force on HIV/AIDS, Malaria, TB, and Access to Essential Medicines, **Working Group on Access to Essential Medicines**. Executive Summary Only. Available at http://unmp.forumone.com/eng_task_force/AccessMedEbook.pdf

Millennium Project. Report from Task Force 5 on HIV/AIDS, Malaria, TB, Other Major Diseases, and Access to Essential Medicines. Executive Summaries only. Available at <http://www.unmillenniumproject.org/>

<http://www.unmillenniumproject.org/documents/tf5hivinterim%20execsum.pdf>

Week 8: Goal 7: Ensure environmental sustainability

Week 8: Class 1 on 02/22/05, Tuesday

In this class we will explore the linkage between environment and basic development issues, e.g., poverty, rural development, economic growth and urban pollution. We will look into environmental degradation and management from the perspectives of public good, free rider and tragedy of the commons.

Reading:

Todaro and Smith. Chapter 11. The Environment and Development. pp 464-487

~~Public policies to ensure environmental sustainability. Chapter 6 of the UN HDR 2003. Available online at <http://www.undp.org/hdr2003/>~~

Environment and human well-being: a practical strategy. Final Report from Millennium Project Task Force on Environmental Sustainability. *Chapter 1: A Call for Operationalizing Environmental Sustainability*. Available at http://unmp.forumone.com/eng_task_force/EnvironSustainEbook.pdf

Week 8: Class 2 on 02/24/05, Thursday

Student presentations. We will explore the trends of environmental management in different regions of the world. We will also discuss environmental sustainability aspects of key MDG interventions.

Reading:

Environment and human well-being: a practical strategy. Final Report from Millennium Project Task Force on Environmental Sustainability. *Chapter 2: Driving Environmental Change* and *Chapter 4: Investing in Environmental Management*. Available at http://unmp.forumone.com/eng_task_force/EnvironSustainEbook.pdf

Week 9: Goal 8: Develop a Global Partnership for Development: Financial

Week 9: Class 1 on 03/01/05, Tuesday

Goal 8 is a mean rather than end. Need for financial assistance. Rules for development assistance.

Reading:

Birdsall, Nancy, and Michael Clemens. 2003. "What Rich Countries Can Do: The Global Social Contract." (exact citation will be obtained later)

Policy, not charity: what rich countries can do to help achieve the Goals. Chapter 8 of the UN HDR 2003. Available online at <http://www.undp.org/hdr2003/>

Sachs, Jeffrey D. 2005. The Development Challenge. Foreign Affairs. March-April 2005.

UN Millennium Project. 2005. Investing in Development. A Practical Plan to Achieve the Millennium Development Goals. Overview- 3. Recommendations for the international system to support country-level processes. Available at http://unmp.forumone.com/eng_high_res/TF1-overviewEngHighRes36-55.pdf

Week 9: Class 2 on 03/03/05, Thursday**Goal 8: Develop a Global Partnership for Development: Non-financial**

Student presentation. Key sectors for fostering non-financial partnership (e.g., trade, technology transfer, innovative research).

Reading:

~~Millennium Project. Report from Task Force 9 on Open, Rule-Based Trading Systems. Task Force 10 on Science, Technology and Innovation. Available at <http://www.unmillenniumproject.org/>~~

Sachs, Jeffrey D. (Director) UN Millennium Project. 2005. Investing in Development. A Practical Plan to Achieve the Millennium Development Goals. Overview- 4. The costs and benefits of achieving the Goals. Available at http://unmp.forumone.com/eng_high_res/TF1-overviewEngHighRes55-65.pdf

Sachs, Jeffrey D. (Director) UN Millennium Project. 2005. Investing in Development. A Practical Plan to Achieve the Millennium Development Goals. Chapter 13. Fixing the aid system and Chapter 14. A global breakthrough in trade. Available at http://unmp.forumone.com/eng_full_report/MainReportChapter13-highres.pdf and http://unmp.forumone.com/eng_full_report/MainReportChapter14-highres.pdf.

Week 10: Final Exam

Week 10: Class 1 on 03/08/05, Tuesday

First Part

Feasibility of the global development goals

Reading:

Vandemoortele, Jan. Are the Millennium Development Goals Feasible. Ch. 6. pp 124-140
In . Black and White (Ed.).

Second Part

Review Session for Final Exam

Week 10: Class 2 on 03/10/05, Thursday

Final Exam