

## **SEMR 310-3: SOUTH-SOUTH DIALOGUE: PERCEPTIONS & REFLECTIONS FROM THE GLOBAL SOUTH**

### **Course Description**

This video-conference dialogue course aims at offering a comparative view of and a fresh perspective on the 'Global South'. The course shall use an interdisciplinary approach to explore the social, economic, political and cultural contexts of some of the countries/regions that constitute what is known today as the 'Global South' in an attempt to outline the commonalities as well as the differences that exist within this global conglomerate of nation-states. In this light, AUC will be holding video-conferences with various partner-universities and institutions in order for the class to share perspectives and first-hand experiences relating to the themes and topics of discussion with the partners. Specific readings will be assigned by AUC and the partnering universities to have a general introduction to the countries that will be studied and a specific background on the linkage these countries/geographical areas have with the Global South as an economic and a political amalgam. This is an interdisciplinary course that can be relevant to students from different backgrounds and disciplines, especially those that have an interest in contemporary development issues.

### **Aims and Objectives of the Course**

The course aims at gathering students from the Global South alongside counterparts from AUC, in order to explore a diverse set of issues pertaining to the social, economic and political contexts and experiences of a wide variety of countries. In doing so, this course addresses selected critical current and possible future development issues from a regional as well as a global perspective.

### **Learning/Teaching methods**

There will be two sessions held every week: a regular in-class session where the students meet to discuss the readings with the guidance of the lecturer, and a dialogue session where the two classes (from two different places) meet via video-conference and a joint session is held, co-facilitated by the lecturers from both sides. Students shall be given indicative readings on the topics and encouraged to explore them more widely and classroom activities will be augmented with guest speakers from different backgrounds and affiliations, whenever applicable. Specific topics and particular cases will be investigated further in discussions initiated (under guidance) by students. Given the nature of the subject-matter, the resources utilized will not be confined to academic/scholarly books or articles, and sources of information such as blog posts, YouTube videos and Internet discussion forums will constitute a main part of the resources used. Whenever applicable, additional media resources, including feature films and documentaries, will also be utilized to enhance the exposure of the students to some of the everyday realities of the Global South. Class attendance and active verbal participation in class discussions and video-conference sessions are crucial elements of the work and it is expected of all students to engage in that process. In particular, students are expected to contribute with critical discussions of the reading assignments and thoughtful consideration of peer comments, and with discussion and critique of ideas and arguments presented, including those of the lecturer.