

MEMO

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Graduate Studies

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**TO: Senate**

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**FROM** Wade Parkhouse, Dean, Graduate Studies



**RE** Faculty of Environment

**[GS2010.08]**

**CC** Duncan Knowler

**DATE** March 18, 2010

**For information**

Acting under delegated authority at its meeting of 8 March 2010, the SGSC approved the following curriculum revisions:

**Program in Development and Sustainability** **[GS2010.08]**

New course: DEVS 801-5 Issues, Concepts & Cases in Development & Sustainability

Senators wishing to consult a more detailed report of curriculum revisions may do so on the Web at [http://www.sfu.ca/senate/Senate\\_agenda.html](http://www.sfu.ca/senate/Senate_agenda.html) following the posting of the agenda. If you are unable to access the information, please call [778.782.3168](tel:778.782.3168) or email [bgrant@sfu.ca](mailto:bgrant@sfu.ca).

# NEW GRADUATE COURSE PROPOSAL FORM

Subject: DEVS (max. 4 chars) Catalog Number: 801-5

Course Title: Issues, Concepts & Cases in Development & Sustainability (max. 80 char.)

Short Title (appears on transcripts etc.) Issues in Development (max. 25 char.)

Course Description for Calendar: (append a course outline as a separate document)

A multidisciplinary survey of the issues that confront scholars and practitioners in development and sustainability, the major theories and concepts, and the methods used to analyze and interpret data, with a focus on historical and contemporary case studies.

Units: 5

Available Course Components: (select all that apply)

Lecture  Seminar  Laboratory  Practicum

Prerequisites: (if any) Must be enrolled in a graduate program at SFU

Campus at which course will be offered: Burnaby

Estimated Enrolment: 15 The term course will first be offered: Fall 2010

Frequency of course offering: Annually

Grading Basis:  Graded  Satisfactory/Unsatisfactory  In Progress/Complete

### Justification:

This is the core course for the Graduate Certificate in Development & Sustainability (formerly Development Studies). The course has been successfully offered annually since 2005 as a selected topics course (in CMNS & POL), and a total of 52 graduate students (masters & doctorate) have taken the course to date. This proposal formalizes the course.

### Resources:

Faculty member(s) who will normally teach this course:

(append information about their competency to teach the course)

Robert Anderson & James Busumtwi-Sam

Number of additional faculty members required in order to offer this course: None

Additional space required in order to offer this course: (append details) None

Additional specialized equipment required in order to offer this course: (append details)

None

Additional Library resources required: (append details) Annually \$ 0 One-time \$ 0

If additional resources are required to offer this course, the department proposing the course should be prepared to provide information on the source(s) of those additional resources.

Upon approval of the course proposal, the Dean of Graduate Studies office will consult with the department or school regarding other course attributes that may be required to enable the proper entry of the new course in the student record system.

**Faculty of Environment  
Program in Development and Sustainability  
DEVS 801 Course Outline**

**Course Number:** DEVS 801

**Course Title:** Issues, Concepts and Cases in Development & Sustainability

**Credits:** 5 credits

**Instructor:** R. Anderson/J. Busumtwi-Sam

**Instructor Contact Info:** [randerso@sfu.ca](mailto:randerso@sfu.ca) (ph. 24265); [jbusumtw@sfu.ca](mailto:jbusumtw@sfu.ca) (ph. 24346)

**Course Description:**

This is the core course for the Graduate Certificate in Development and Sustainability. The course provides a multidisciplinary survey of the issues that confront scholars and practitioners in development. It provides a survey of the major theories and concepts that illuminate the historic tensions between development and sustainability, and the methods used to analyze and interpret that relationship, focusing on the examination of historical and contemporary case studies in various fields. Emphasis is on student articulation of their interests in their research projects, and discussion of the relation between specific fields and techniques of research and the wider and comparative scope of development studies. The goal is to give students a broad understanding of the major concepts, frameworks and issues that have shaped development and sustainability practices over the past 50 years. *There are no course prerequisites and the course does not assume any prior knowledge of specific theories, approaches, or methods.* The course is designed in such a way that all graduate students of development will benefit, irrespective of their disciplinary backgrounds. .

**Pre-requisite(s):** Must be enrolled in a graduate program at SFU.

**Grading Breakdown:**

Seminar Participation	10%
1 <sup>st</sup> issues & concepts review	15%
2 <sup>nd</sup> review	15%
Project proposal	15%
Presentation & Research Paper	45%

**Texts**

Weekly required readings are in a custom courseware book and/or on short-term reserve in the library.

**To be Offered:** Fall 2010