Overview
This course will cover key themes in the field of Critical Agrarian Studies, including debates about the differentiation of the peasantry, the social and cultural impacts of urbanization and industrialization, historical and contemporary agrarian social movements, agroecology versus industrial agriculture, food sovereignty versus food security, conflicts over seeds and intellectual property, rights to land and territory, and struggles for the rights of peasants and other people working in rural areas.

Objectives
1. Provide participants in-depth background on historical and current debates in agrarian studies.
2. Familiarize participants with key topics in agrarian studies as they relate to development policy, human rights and environmental change.
3. Understand the importance of rural areas and agrarian studies for broader areas of historical and social scientific investigation and public policy.

COURSE SCHEDULE

September 18, Monday

Inaugural: 10:00 to 10:30 AM

Tea: 10:30 AM to 10:45 AM

Lecture 1: 10:45 to 11:45 AM
A brief overview of peasant studies, agrarian studies and critical agrarian studies

Tea: 11:45 AM to 12:00 PM

Lecture 2: 12:00 PM to 1:45 PM
The differentiation debates in Russia and Latin America
https://www.marxists.org/archive/lenin/works/1899/dcr8ii/i8i.htm
https://www.marxists.org/archive/lenin/works/1899/dcr8ii/i8xiii.htm


What was at stake in the differentiation debates?


September 19, Tuesday

Lecture 3: 9:30 to 10:30 AM
An overview of contemporary rural populations in the Global South and North

Lecture 4: 10:45 to 11:45 AM
Why do rural populations still matter from a development standpoint?

Lecture 5: 2:00 to 4:00 PM
Agrarian social movements since the late 19th century

September 20, Wednesday

Lecture 6: 9:30 to 10:30 AM
Historical and contemporary transnational agrarian social movements
Lecture 7: 10:45 to 11:45 AM

Contention over rights to seeds and to land and territory


Tutorial 1: 2:00 to 4:00 PM

Individual and small group consultations with participants about their research projects

September 21, Thursday

Lecture 8: 9:30 to 10:30 AM

Agroecology versus industrial agriculture


Lecture 9: 10:45 to 11:45 AM

Contemporary land grabbing: processes, resistance, debates, research methods


Tutorial 2: 2:00 to 4:00 PM

Individual and small group consultations with participants about their research projects
Lecture 10: 9:30 to 10:30 AM

The proposed United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Peasants: history and perspectives


Lecture 11: 10:45 to 11:45 AM

Food sovereignty: origins, visions, prospects, social movements, public policies


Closing: 11:45 AM to 12:00 PM

ASSESSMENT: 2:00 TO 4:00 PM