

5.00 credits

30.0 h

Q2

Teacher(s)	Lemaître Andreia ;
Language :	French
Place of the course	Louvain-la-Neuve
Main themes	<p>Informal economic activities are a persistent reality in today's world and constitute a key component of Southern societies. More than 50% of the workforce and almost 90% of SMEs worldwide operate in the informal economy (ILO, 2018). If agricultural employment was included in these statistics, the share of informal employment in total world employment would reach 61%, with even higher percentages in South Asia and sub-Saharan Africa (ILO, 2018).</p> <p>The scientific literature apprehends these economic activities through the concepts of "informal sector", "popular economy" or "solidarity economy". The seminar aims to study, through these different conceptual grids, the socio-economic logics that are pursued by the actors operating in the informal economy. Anchored in this heterogeneous empirical reality, the seminar also puts in perspective mainstream development theories, like the theories of modernization.</p>
Learning outcomes	<p>At the end of this learning unit, the student is able to :</p> <p>1 At the end of the seminar, the student must have developed an in depth understanding of the different analytical grids developed by the scientific literature on informal socio-economic practices. He/she must be able to discuss these grids, compare them and mobilize them in order to critically assess various case studies and decode complex socio-economic realities. He/she must finally be able to situate these scientific concepts within broader development theories and contemporary debates on social protection and development.</p>
Evaluation methods	<p>The assessment focuses on:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. The individual presentation* of a key article from the scientific literature on the informal sector, popular economy or solidarity economy (80%). The student will present the article, situating it within the subject and debates covered in the course, critiquing it, supplementing it with other scientific articles, and illustrating it with case studies where appropriate. 2. The student's participation in collaborative reading (Perusall platform on Moodle) of key texts from scientific literature related to the course themes (20%). <p>*The student may only present their work if they have participated regularly in the course sessions.</p> <p>Note: Generative AI may be used only in line with the guidelines of the <i>Note on the Responsible Use of AI</i>, approved by the Faculty Board on July 1, 2024.</p>
Teaching methods	<p><i>Ex-cathedra</i> lectures present the theoretical background necessary for the appropriation of the topics related to the informal economy, the popular economy and the solidarity economy. The active pedagogy mobilized during following sessions consists, for the students, in providing a personal and detailed analysis of one aspect of the informal sector, relying on a body of key academic articles of this field of development studies.</p>
Inline resources	See the MoodleUCLouvain site of the course
Other infos	Prerequisite: LSPED1212 <i>Development Analysis</i>
Faculty or entity in charge	PSAD

Programmes containing this learning unit (UE)				
Program title	Acronym	Credits	Prerequisite	Learning outcomes
Master [120] in Population and Development Studies	SPED2M	5		