

Trade and Finance for Development:

Delivering lectures online amidst difficult times

It is a great pleasure to have completed the 'Trade and Finance for Development' course (MICD 513) today. Delivering discussions on 'International Trade and its relationship with Economic Growth and Development' is a tough task particularly to the group of students coming from diverse academic background, some of whom had never studied Economics and Business Management. The second component of this course 'Finance for Development' was equally a challenging task, to deliver the concepts and to illustrate data and arguments to explain the evolution and expansion of different types of public and private international and domestic sources of finance for development.



In the previous years, lectures were classroom based, which made it easy to encourage interactive discussions with students. This year, it was far more complicated due to the lockdown and the online mode of classrooms. I tried Google Hangouts but had to revert back to Skype for delivering online classes as most of the students found conversation easy on Skype. Less internet traffic in the morning made it easy as well. Encouraging interactive discussions was tough but managed to get most of the students engaged in such discussions. I had to call some students who usually kept quiet, to participate in discussions. It was necessary for me to ensure that they got the concepts and understood the broader policy implications on these issues.



We had very interesting seminars also during the lectures. Students made four presentations – 2 on Trade related issues and the other 2 on Finance related issues.

All students appreciated the rich and analytical presentations and interactive discussions during these seminars. After all, we are making a good use of technology and learning to keep our teaching learning events smoothly running amidst these challenging times.

Suresh Pradhan

Academic Advisor and Senior Faculty
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Trade and Development Theme	International Trade and its contribution to Growth and Sustainable Development: Analysis of major policy issues emphasis on the recent UNCTAD Report on International Trade and Development. Trade and Development: A country case study of trade related targets of Nepal in its 15 th periodic plan.
Finance for Development theme	Financing Humanitarian Assistance for the most vulnerable groups – Refugees, Internally Displaced Persons and Migrant Workers: A study of strategic priorities and funding requirements in UN Common Appeal 2020. Potential impact of Covid-19 on Global Official Development Assistance to the Least Developed Countries: analysis of trends and policy recommendations