



## ECON 038: Economic Development

Term: 2020 Winter Session

Instructor: Staff

Language of Instruction: English

Classroom: TBA

Office Hours: TBA

Class Sessions Per Week: 6

Total Weeks: 4

Total Class Sessions: 25

Class Session Length (minutes): 145

Credit Hours: 4

### Course Description:

The past century witnessed an unprecedented scale of economic growth and development in the history of humankind. In the meantime, however, issues in developing countries such as poverty, gender inequality, population growth, high fertility, poor health care system, limited access to education, still exist and will probably continue to exist for a long time. What are the causes of poverty and inequality from an economic perspective? Why do certain development programs and strategies contribute to economic growth in some countries but only lead to failures or even disasters in other countries? How can a nation improve the economic, political and social well-being of its people? These are complex and controversial questions and we cannot hope to address them thoroughly in one semester. Despite that, we intend for students to acquire the knowledge and tools needed to critically think about these issues.

We will introduce in this course the basic theories and concepts of economic development. The focus will be on issues related to developing nations. We will also examine the role markets and government play in the process of economic development policy-making and implementation of these policies. Upon completion of the course, students will gain a deeper understanding of the economic challenges facing the developing countries and what practical and effective strategies can be created to address these challenges.

### Course Materials:



Michael P. Todaro, Stephen C. Smith, *Economic Development*, 12<sup>th</sup> Edition, 2015

### Course Format and Requirements:

The primary format of this course is lecture. This will be a very fast-paced class. Pre-reading the relevant chapter prior to attending class is strongly recommended. Familiarizing with the course material before class, you will gain a better understanding of the information presented during lecture. Students are strongly encouraged to ask questions on things they do not understand. Main learning points will be highlighted from the textbook chapters and in-class sample questions.

#### **Attendance:**

Attendance will not be taken but is strongly recommended. Each student will have three allowed absences and no grade deduction will be made for the first three absences. More than three unexcused absences will result in an automatic reduction in your participation grade, for instance from A- to B+. Your active participation in the class is expected and encouraged.

### Grading Scale:

**A+: 98%-100%**

**A: 93%-97%**

**A-: 90%-92%**

**B+: 88%-89%**

**B: 83%-87%**

**B-: 80%-82%**

**C+: 78%-79%**

**C: 73%-77%**

**C-: 70%-72%**

**D+: 68%-69%**

**D: 63%-67%**

**D-: 60%-62%**

**F: Below 60%**

### Course Assignments:



### **Quizzes**

There will be 5 quizzes administered through the whole semester. Quizzes will always be completed in the first twenty minutes of class and there will be no make-up quizzes.

### **Group project:**

This task is a group project which is expected to be completed by a group of three or four students. Each group will make a presentation on a topic assigned by the Instructor. Detailed information on the topic will be given in Week 2.

The project consists of the following three steps:

Project outline

Written report

Presentation

Note that each group should submit a hardcopy of the written report at the end of Week 4.

This task requires great analytical and problem-solving skills. By interacting with other group members and people from outside of the class, students will develop their communication and interpersonal skills as well. This component is designed to strengthen students' ability to communicate their views in a clear, concise and logical manner.

### **Research paper:**

This is an individual assignment and must be completed by the student individually. Students are required to write a research paper about economic development. They may choose from the following topics:

Environment and poverty

Implications of rapid and unplanned urbanization in developing countries

Role of education in sustainable development

International aid

Human development

The research paper should be about 2,000 words in length. Further information on the research paper will be given in Week 1.

### **Exams:**

There will be one midterm exam and one final exam. Both will be closed book exams. There



should be absolutely no sharing of information sheets, calculators, or other resources during the exam. Cellphones may not be used as calculators. Any violation of these rules will result in a grade of 0 for all involved parties.

### Course Assessment:

Quizzes	10%
Group project	20%
Research paper	20%
Midterm Exam	20%
Final Exam	30%
<b>Total</b>	<b>100%</b>

### Course Schedule:

<b>Week</b>	<b>Topics</b>	<b>Activities</b>
1	Go through syllabus Course overview Introduction to Economic Development What Is Economic Development? Why Study Economic Development? Global Economic Development Comparative Economic Development Measurement of Economic Development Economic Growth	Quiz 1 Research paper guidelines
2	Classic Theories of Economic Development Modernization Theory Linear Stages of Growth Model Structuralism Dependency Theory Neoclassical Theory	Quizzes 2 & 3 Group Project Topic Assigned Midterm Exam



	New Models of Economic Development Sustainable Development Human Development Theory	
3	Poverty and Inequality Industrialization in Developing Countries Health in Developing Countries Population Growth and Economic Development Education and Development Environment and Development	Quiz 4 Written Report Submission
4	Government Financial Markets and Institutions Development Polices and Strategies International Trade Foreign Investment International Aid Geography and Development Course summary Review for final	Quiz 5 Presentation Research paper submission Final Exam

### Academic Integrity:

Students are encouraged to study together, and to discuss lecture topics with one another, but all other work should be completed independently.

Students are expected to adhere to the standards of academic honesty and integrity that are described in the Shanghai Normal University's *Academic Conduct Code*. Any work suspected of violating the standards of the *Academic Conduct Code* will be reported to the Dean's Office. Penalties for violating the *Academic Conduct Code* may include dismissal from the program. All students have an individual responsibility to know and understand the provisions of the *Academic Conduct Code*.



**Special Needs or Assistance:**

Please contact the Administrative Office immediately if you have a learning disability, a medical issue, or any other type of problem that prevents professors from seeing you have learned the course material. Our goal is to help you learn, not to penalize you for issues which mask your learning.