



ECON 239: Development Economics

Winter 2019

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Lectures: Tuesdays 1:00 pm in Ellis Auditorium and Thursdays 11:30 am in Dunning 14

Course web site: The course website is provided via OnQ.

Course Description: A central theme of the course is the role of market and non-market institutions in influencing the development process. During the first few weeks we will discuss key issues, principles and concepts associated with economic development and its analysis. We will then consider alternative macroeconomic perspectives on growth and development and discuss some of the issues facing developing countries in their dealings with the global economy. In the second half of the course we will consider specific issues and policy problems that are currently faced by many developing nations. The topics include those associated with property rights and land markets, credit markets and microfinance, health and education and the impact of political institutions.

Course Readings: The main text is *Development Economics* by Gerard Roland (Pearson, 2014) and is available from the Campus Bookstore. Other readings, articles, discussions and video clips will be made available on the course website.

Grading: There are 2 assignments, a country study, 5 on-line quizzes and a final exam, with marks allocated as follows:

Assignments (10% each).....	20%
Country study (2 parts worth 15% each).....	30%
On-line quizzes (2% each).....	10%
Final exam.....	40%

Assignments: Assignments can be completed either individually or by self-formed groups of up to 3 students. Answer guides will be provided shortly after the deadline. Unless there is a valid reason, late assignments will be penalized 10% per day until the answer guide is made available.

Country study: The country study must be completed individually. There are two parts: a Fact-Finding Mission and an Economic Analysis. Unless there is a valid reason, studies handed in late will be penalized 10% per day.

On-line quizzes: Each consists of 20 multiple choice questions which must be completed individually on the OnQ website. You will receive the maximum score out of three attempts.

Course Topics

The following provides a list of the main course topics with the relevant pages from the text indicated. Additional readings, the course calendar and other resources are available from the course website.

Part 1: The Big Picture

- *The Development Gap* (Ch. 1, pp. 1-26)
- *Poverty and Inequality* (Ch. 2, pp. 27-54)
- *Population Growth* (Ch. 3, pp. 55-81)
- *Economic Growth* (Ch. 4, pp. 82-112)
- *Structural Change* (Ch. 5, pp. 113-131)
- *International Linkages* (Ch. 6, pp. 145-165; ch. 5, pp. 132-144)

Part 2: Markets, Institutions and Policy

- *Institutions and Economic Development* (Ch. 7, pp. 175-202)
- *Land Markets, Rights and Reform* (ch. 12, pp. 312-339)
- *Credit Markets and Microfinance* (ch. 15, pp. 394-421)
- *Health and Education Policy* (Ch. 16, pp. 422-454, Ch. 17, pp. 455-484)
- *Markets and Hierarchies* (Ch. 8, pp. 203-231)
- *Political Institutions* (Ch. 9, pp. 232-263)