

EC 444/644 – Economic Development

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Class meetings: Tuesday and Thursday, 2:15 pm – 3:55 pm at 058 Rike Hall
Office Hours: Tuesday and Thursday 12:30 pm to 2 pm, and by appointment

- I. **COURSE DESCRIPTION:** Over the last five decades, since the use of the term ‘development’, the word has come to mean various things to various groups of people. Narrowly conceived, it would mean economic growth, whereas a broader perspective would also include historical, social, political, environmental, cultural and institutional perspectives. This course provides an overview of some of the issues concerning development and underdevelopment, and the attempts to tackle them. Through the quarter, we will learn different approaches and theories that have been used to understand the causes, consequences and manifestations of these issues. The focus, however, will be on understanding the practical implications of these theories.
This course will assume a basic knowledge of microeconomics (EC204) and macroeconomics (EC205) or the equivalent. If you do not meet these requirements, please discuss your situation with me.
- II. **READINGS:** The required book is Cypher, J.M., & Dietz, J.L. (2007). *The Process of Economic Development*. Taylor and Francis Ltd. (**henceforth called PED**). I will also draw heavily from Allen, T., & Thomas, A. (2000). *Poverty and Development into the 21st century*. Oxford University Press (**henceforth called PDC**). Both books are available at the university textbook and may also be purchased online. Other readings will either be posted on WebCT or placed on Library Course Reserves. I expect each of you to do the required readings before the class meets in order to facilitate class discussion.
- III. **CLASS FORMAT AND ATTENDANCE:** Classes will consist of a mixture of lecture, questions and discussions. I may call on any one of you to answer a question or express an opinion. This requires each you to be prepared for each class. If you dislike being called on in class, discuss the matter with me and we will work out another way for you to participate in class. *I do not*

appreciate 'put-downs' in class. You are welcome to disagree with me or other students but each of you is responsible for maintaining a respectful atmosphere in class.

If you miss class it is your responsibility to keep with readings, notes, announcements. ***Keep in mind that tests may refer to issues, topics and questions discussed in class.***

- IV. ASSIGNMENTS:** All assignments and papers should be submitted to turnitin.com

Using Turnitin.com

If you are using this service for the first time, go to the following url, <http://www.turnitin.com> Click on “New Users”, located in the upper right hand corner. Follow the instructions. When asked if you are a student or instructor, make the appropriate choice. Key in the following class ID and password to access the class website. Note that the password is case sensitive.

Once you are registered for this class, turn in assignments and papers as per the due date.

- V. GRADING:** Assignments (take-home and in-class) will count for 40 % of your grade. Class participation, which includes keeping up with readings and engaging in class discussions will be worth 15%. The final test will count for 20% of your final grade.

You will also turn in a paper (worth 25%) on a topic of your choice. This paper needs to sufficiently demonstrate your understanding and application of theories and concepts learned and discussed in this course.

Although I may adjust the grading scale, you will be graded on approximately the following scale:

A: 90% and above; B: 80% -- 89%; C: 70% -- 79%;
D: 60% -- 69%; F: 59% and below

Component	Weight
Assignments	40.00%
Final Test	20.00%
Research Paper	25.00 %
Class Participation	15.00%
Total	100.00%

VI. COURSE PREPARATIONS: The best advice I can offer you on this course is to keep up with the readings and discussions. If you do not understand a concept, question or application of a concept, do not hesitate to bring it up in class or see me during office hours or email me to set up an appointment. The following is a partial list of some websites that offer writing tips for economics courses.

- a. David Colander's website for Writing in Economics Colander's website
http://highered.mcgraw-hill.com/sites/0072549025/student_view0/writing_about_economics.html#
- b. Companion website to Hacker, Diana. *A Writer's Reference*. Sixth edition.
<http://www.dianahacker.com/writersref/>

For direction with regard to common words used in essay questions, you may use this page as a guide
http://wright.edu/ctl/faculty/resources/direction_words.pdf. In addition, you may seek assistance from the Writing Center located in 031 Dunbar Library. You can access them online at <http://wright.edu/academics/writingctr/>

VII. ACADEMIC DISHONESTY: The university policy on academic dishonesty can be found in the student handbook, also available at
<http://www.wright.edu/students/judicial/integrity.html>

Make sure you read it, particularly the sections regarding examination behavior, plagiarism, and suggestions for student prevention of academic dishonesty. If found in violation, action will be taken according to university guidelines.

VIII. READING LIST:

Jan 5th and 7th

Economic and Human Development: An Introduction

1. *United Nations Millennium Project (2005) *Investing in Development*. London: Earthscan. Chapter 2. Available at

<http://www.unmillenniumproject.org/documents/MainReportChapter2-lowres.pdf>

2. Chapter 2, PDC

Additional Readings:

*UNDP, Human Development Report (2007/08) Chapters 1 & 2

http://hdr.undp.org/en/media/hdr03_complete.pdf

Jan 12th and 14th

Dimensions of Development

Readings:

1. Chapter 2, PED

2. *Chapter 1, PDC (pgs. 10 – 19)

Additional Readings:

*McEwan, A. (2007). The meaning of poverty: Questions of distribution and power.

PERI Working Paper Series No. 148. Available at

http://www.peri.umass.edu/fileadmin/pdf/working_papers/working_papers_101-150/WP148.pdf

Jan 19th and Jan 21st

Deprivation and Work

1. Chapter 3, PDC

2. Chapter 5, PDC

3. Bundlender, D. (2004). Why should we care about unpaid care work? United Nations Development Fund for Women. Pgs 2, 5-20. Available at

http://www.sarpn.org.za/documents/d0000919/P1017-Unpaid_Care_Work.pdf

Additional Readings:

1. Sender, J. (2003). Rural poverty and gender: analytical frameworks and policy proposals. In Chang, H. *Rethinking Development Economics*. Anthem Press.

2. Banerjee, A. (2008). From Famines to Food Surplus. Available at

http://www.networkideas.org/news/dec2007/news10_%20Malawi.htm

Jan 26th and 28th

The Role of Colonialism

Readings:

1. Chapter 11, PDC
2. Chapter 3, PED
3. Nunn, N. (2007). The Historical Origins Of Africa's Underdevelopment.
Available at <http://www.voxeu.org/index.php?q=node/779>

Additional Readings:

1. Banaji, J. (1972/1994). For a theory of colonial modes of production. In R. Kanth (ED.). *Paradigms in Economic Development: Classic Perspectives, Critiques, And Reflections*. Armonk, N.Y.: M.E. Sharpe.
2. Davies, M. (2002). India: The Modernization of Poverty. Chapter 10 in *Late Victorian Holocausts*. London: Verso

Feb 2nd, 4th, 9th and 11th

Theories of Development

Readings:

1. Chapter 4, PED.
2. Chapter 5, PED.
3. Chapter 6, PED.

Additional Readings:

1. Nurkse, R. (1952). Some International Aspects of the Problem of Economic Development. *The American Economic Review*, Vol. 42, No. 2, Papers and Proceedings of the Sixty-fourth Annual Meeting of the American Economic Association. (May, 1952), pp. 571-583.
2. Frank, Andre Gunder (1966) "The Development of Underdevelopment" chp 7 (pp.109-120) in Wilber (1988). *The Political Economy of Development and Underdevelopment*.
3. Brenner, R., 1977, "The origins of capitalist development: A critique of neo-Smithian Marxism", *New Left Review*, July-August, 25-92.
4. Harris-White, B. (2003). On understanding markets as social and political institutions. In H. Chang. *Rethinking Development Economics*. London: Anthem Press.

Feb 16th and 18th

The State as an Agent of Development

1. Chapter 7, PED.
2. Chapter 9, PDC (pages 189 – 199).

Feb 23rd and 25th

Other Agencies of Development

1. Chapter 17, PED.
2. Chapter 9, PDC (pgs 199 – 216).

March 2nd and 4th

Gender and Development

1. UNDP (United Nations Development Program) (1995) *Human Development Report 1995*, New York: Oxford University Press. Chapters 3-5.
http://hdr.undp.org/en/media/hdr_1995_en.pdf
2. Chapter 18, PDC.

Additional Readings

1. Beneria, Lourdes and M. Floro (2005). Distribution, Gender and Labor Market Informalization: A Conceptual Framework in L. Beneria and Neema Kudva, eds., *Rethinking Informalization: Precarious Jobs, Poverty and Social Protection*, Cornell e-Publishing.
2. Standing, G. (1999). Global Feminization Through Flexible Labor: A Theme Revisited. *World Development* 27(3): 583-602.

Mar 9th and 11th

Rethinking Development

1. A. Escobar- The Making and Unmaking of the Third World in Rahnema and Bawtree eds. *Post-Development Reader*.
2. Kalima, R. (1997). SEWA: Women in Movement. In N. Visvanathan, L. Duggan, L. Nisonoff, and N. Wieggersma. *The Women, Gender, and Development Reader*. New Jersey: Zed Books Ltd.