

Course Title	:	Development Economics
Course Code	:	ECO3218
Recommended Study Year	:	3 and 4
No. of Credits/Term	:	3
Mode of Tuition	:	Lecture-Tutorial
Class Contact Hours	:	2-hour lecture per week 1-hour tutorial per week
Category	:	Major Elective in ECON/IEP
Discipline	:	Economics & IEP
Prerequisite(s)	:	(a) ECO2101 Introduction to Economics, or (b) ECO2104 Introduction to Microeconomics and ECO2105 Introduction to Macroeconomics, or (c) BUS2105 Microeconomics for Business
Co-requisite(s)	:	N/A
Exclusion(s)	:	N/A
Exemption Requirement(s)	:	N/A

Brief Course Description

This course focuses on the theoretical background and empirical methodologies of economic development. After introducing the concept and measurement of economic development we will acquire basic research and empirical methods commonly used among economists in studying development. We will then study the cause of poverty and the path to economic development at individual, regional, and national levels. We will do so by examining the theoretical and empirical studies in order to answer two sets of questions: 1) what are the fundamental sources of economic development; and 2) what policy measures can effectively enhance economic development and improve the livelihood of the poor. Students can further explore different topics by doing a group presentation based on selected academic journal articles.

Aims

This course aims to understand, to explain, and to analyze the complex process of economic development in less developed countries. It also aims to consider and evaluate alternative policies to speed up economic development.

Learning Outcomes (LOs)

On completion of the course, students will be able to:

1. Understand the major issues, theories, methodologies and findings on economic development;
2. Analyze the issues, challenges, opportunities and the relevant policies and institutions of economic development using basic economic principles and empirical tools;
3. Articulate ideas about these issues, challenges, opportunities, policies and institutions of economic development.

Indicative Content

1. Introduction to development economics
2. Development in a nutshell: I
3. Development in a nutshell: II
4. Multiplicity and coordination
5. Structural change
6. Causal inference: Introduction
7. Causal inference: Applications
8. The geography & institutions debate
9. States and development
10. Urbanization and migration
11. Demographics and aging
12. Marriage, family, and parenting
13. Culture and social norms
14. Governance and corruption

Teaching Method

The class shall consist of a weekly 2-hour lecture and a weekly 1-hour tutorial.

Measurement of Learning Outcomes

Learning outcomes are measured by:

1. Lectures and tutorials provide students ample opportunities to actively participate in the discussion and demonstrate and develop their analytical and articulation skills (LOs 1, 2 and 3).
2. Group presentation allows students to conduct research on one selected presentation topic and to show their abilities to understand, analyze, and articulate ideas as well as to learn from and work with each other (LOs 1, 2 and 3).

3. The midterm and quizzes let students show how well they master the course materials throughout the learning process (LOs 1 and 2).
4. The research proposal enables students to integrate acquired knowledge and undertake initial forays into scholarly research (LOs 2 and 3).

Assessment

Continuous assessment	100%
Quizzes	15%
Group presentation	20%
Midterm	40%
Research Proposal	25%

Recommended/Supplementary Readings

Below include a list of general references for students' interests and also a list of reference readings. There is no required textbook for this course. It is acknowledged that students cannot understand every part of the readings (particularly the technical parts). However, students should strive to learn as much as possible. Students are encouraged to make good use of the instructor's office hours to learn about difficult concepts.

Reference Textbooks

Ray, D. 1998. *Development Economics*. Princeton University Press.

Roland, G. (2016). *Development Economics*. Routledge.

Todaro, M. P., & Smith, S. C. (2009). *Economic Development*. Pearson Education.

Perkins, D. H., Radelet, S. C., Lindauer, D. L., & Block, S. A. (2006). *Economics of Development*. WW Norton & Company.

Reference Readings

Diamond, J. M. (1999). *Guns, Germs, and Steel: the Fates of Human Societies*. W. W. Norton & Company.

Acemoglu, D., & Robinson, J. A. (2012). *Why Nations Fail: The Origins of Power, Prosperity, and Poverty*. Currency.

Deaton, A. 2013. *The Great Escape: Health, Wealth, and the Origins of Inequality*. Princeton University Press.

Important Notes:

- (1) Students are expected to spend a total of 9 hours (i.e. 3 hours of class contact and 6 hours of personal study) per week to achieve the course learning outcomes.
- (2) Students shall be aware of the University regulations about dishonest practice in course work, tests and examinations, and the possible consequences as stipulated in the Regulations Governing University Examinations and Course Work. In particular, plagiarism, being a kind of dishonest practice, is “the presentation of another person’s work without proper acknowledgement of the source, including exact phrases, or summarised ideas, or even footnotes/citations, whether protected by copyright or not, as the student’s own work”. Students are required to strictly follow university regulations governing academic integrity and honesty.
- (3) Students are required to submit writing assignment(s) using Turnitin.
- (4) To enhance students’ understanding of plagiarism, a mini-course “Online Tutorial on Plagiarism Awareness” is available on <https://pla.ln.edu.hk/>.

Assessment Rubrics for the Presentation

Dimensions	Excellent A-, A	Good B- to B+	Fair C- to C+	Pass D, D+	Failure F
Preparation of the talk (5%)	Show a great amount of effort in absorbing the material and preparing the talk	Show fair effort in absorbing the material and preparing the talk	Show basic effort in absorbing the material and preparing the talk	Show some effort in absorbing the material and preparing the talk	Show little effort in absorbing the material and preparing the talk
Understanding of the content (10 %)	Demonstrate perfect understanding of the content	Demonstrate fair understanding of the content	Demonstrate basic understanding of the digital economy	Demonstrate some understanding of the content	Hardly show any understanding of the content
Delivery of the content (5 %)	Perfect expression and communication	Good expression and communication	Basic expression and communication	Basic to poor expression and communication	Poor expression and communication

Assessment Rubrics for the Research Proposal

Dimensions	Excellent A-, A	Good B- to B+	Fair C- to C+	Pass D, D+	Failure F
Relevance (5%)	Highly relevant to the topics discussed in the class	Largely relevant to the topics discussed in the class	Moderately relevant to the topics discussed in the class	Barely relevant to the topics discussed in the class	Irrelevant to the topics discussed in the class
Scientific value of the proposed idea (5%)	Great scientific value of the proposed idea	Good scientific value of the proposed idea	Marginal scientific value of the proposed idea	Poor scientific value of the proposed idea	No scientific value of the proposed idea
Discussion and elaboration of	Very insightful discussion of	Reasonable discussion of the proposed	Acceptable discussion of the proposed	Poor discussion of proposed idea	No discussion of the proposed idea

Lingnan University
Department of Economics

Term 1, AY2023-24

the proposed idea (10%)	the proposed idea	idea	idea		
Delivery (5 %)	Perfect delivery of the proposed idea	Good delivery of the proposed idea	Acceptable delivery of the proposed idea	Poor delivery of the proposed idea	Very poor delivery of the proposed idea