



Faculté des sciences sociales | Faculty of Social Sciences
Département de science économique | Department of Economics

Development Economics I
ECO 6170A
Fall Term 2024

Course Information

Class Schedule:

Format: In person
Time: Wednesday 11:30 - 14:20
Location: 120 University (FSS), room 9003

Instructor:

Name: Jason Garred
Email: Jason.Garred@uottawa.ca
Office Location: FSS 9023
Office Hours: Monday 13:45 - 15:15 and Thursday 10:45 - 12:15

- You do not need an appointment to visit my office hours in person.
- Please make an appointment in advance if you would prefer to speak to me via Zoom.

Official Course Description

This course covers topics at the forefront of development economics, combining theoretical and empirical analysis. Possible topics include economic growth, firm behaviour, institutions, and political economy, among others.

Course Learning Outcomes

General Course Learning Outcomes

The main aim of the course is to introduce students to the current academic literature in development economics, as well as standard empirical methods used in this field. By the end of the course, it is intended that students will be better able to read and understand academic papers in the field of development economics, and formulate plans for their own research.

Teaching Methods

Classes will be held in person. Before each class, you will be expected to read the academic papers that we will discuss in class. This will usually require you to read two papers per week. During class, we will then discuss these papers together. The format will be interactive: I will ask questions of the class, and take questions from students, throughout each class. Because of this interactive format, I will not make audio or video recordings of the class available on Brightspace.

Course Calendar

Date	Topic	Assignments due
Wed Sept 4	Class 1 - Introduction and econometrics review	
Wed Sept 11	Class 2 - Market access, part 1	
Wed Sept 18	Class 3 - Technology transfer, part 1	
Wed Sept 25	Class 4 - Technology transfer, part 2	Problem set (Fri Sept 27)
Wed Oct 2	Class 5 - Market access, part 2	
Wed Oct 9	Class 6 - Infrastructure	Literature review (Fri Oct 11)
Wed Oct 16	No class (reading week)	
Wed Oct 23	No class (one-on-one meetings)	
Wed Oct 30	Midterm exam	
Wed Nov 6	Class 7 - Institutions	
Wed Nov 13	Class 8 - Misallocation	
Wed Nov 20	Class 9 - Anti-poverty programs	
Wed Nov 27	Class 10 - Poverty traps	Paper proposal (Mon Nov 25)
Exam period	Final exam	

Assessment Strategy

There will be two in-person, closed-book exams. The midterm exam (30%) will be held in class on Wednesday October 30. The final exam (30%) will be held during the exam period. On each exam, students will be asked to answer six questions (out of seven possible choices). The midterm exam will cover the course readings in classes 2 to 6, and the final exam will cover the course readings in classes 7 to 10 (i.e. the final exam is not cumulative). See the bibliography below for the list of readings for each exam.

There will be three assignments, including a problem set (6%) due Friday September 27, a brief literature review (8%) due Friday October 11, and a paper proposal (20%) due Monday November 25.

There will also be a participation grade (6%). If you make a substantive contribution to discussion during at least three different classes, you will receive full marks (6/6). Otherwise you will receive no marks (0/6). A 'substantive contribution' could involve making a comment or asking a thoughtful question. I will not be judging the quality of your contributions; instead, I will simply record whether you get involved in discussions in three or more classes.

Assessment Type	Weight	Date
Participation in class discussions	6 %	
Problem set	6 %	Fri Sept 27
Literature review	8 %	Fri Oct 11
Midterm exam	30 %	Wed Oct 30
Paper proposal	20 %	Mon Nov 25
Final exam	30 %	Exam period

Assessment Policies and Expectations

Attendance

To ensure they succeed in all courses of their program of study, students have the responsibility to participate in the various learning and assessment activities for each of their courses. Because in-class discussion is of central importance to this course, students should make an effort to attend all classes.

Late Assignments

All assignments are to be submitted by their due date and time. There will be a penalty for late submissions as follows: one point per day late. Exceptions are made only for illness or other serious situations deemed as such by the professor. If such a situation affects a student and leads to late submission of an assignment, the student can contact the professor by email to seek an exception.

Missed exams and requests for deferral

As per [Academic Regulation A-8](#), absence from any examination on medical grounds or due to exceptional personal circumstances must be reported by submitting the online [Declaration of Absence from an Evaluation](#) form within the three (3) working days following the examination date. Reasons such as travel, work and misreading of examination schedules are not accepted. **Students can request a maximum of one deferred evaluation per course under this policy.** If a deferred evaluation is granted for the final exam, the evaluation must take place as soon as possible, but within no later than six (6) months of the end of term for undergraduate studies and no later than three (3) months for graduate studies.

Students who defer an exam will be required to write a deferred evaluation, except where the professor offers a re-weighting scheme. (If available, such a scheme is described in this syllabus). All students must write the final exam in each course.

Students should reflect deeply before requesting a deferred evaluation, since they can only receive one deferral per course. Students who are struggling to keep up with their schedule may find it worthwhile to withdraw from the course and take it again at a later date. In Fall 2024, the deadline to withdraw from this course (without financial reimbursement) is November 15. For further information on withdrawing from a course, consult the link <https://www.uottawa.ca/course-enrolment/withdrawing-from-a-course>.

Deferred final examinations will take place on Saturday, January 11, 2025.

Exam conflicts

Any conflict with a midterm exam schedule should be reported to the professor at the beginning of the term. This request is especially applicable to two in-class exams back-to-back for students with special learning needs. Any conflict with a final exam schedule should be reported to the Faculty's undergraduate office as soon as the final exam schedule is released.

Policy on the EIN grade (incomplete)

In all economics courses, students who fail to complete work (either a single piece of work or a combination of work) worth a total of 25% or more of the final grade will receive a grade of EIN in the course. The EIN grade is equivalent to a failure mark (F). See Regulation A-3 at the link <https://www.uottawa.ca/about-us/policies-regulations/academic-regulations/a-3-grading-system> for details. Please note that a denied request for a deferral may therefore lead to failing the course. Students who have not completed evaluations worth at least 25% of the total course grade by November 15 must withdraw from the course. Otherwise, they will receive an EIN grade and will automatically fail the course.

Required Materials

The course will be based on a set of academic papers that are listed in the bibliography below.

Bibliography

In the list below, the material for the midterm exam is marked with (M) and the material for the final exam is marked with (F). Links to these readings will be posted on Brightspace.

Class 1 - Introduction and econometrics review

Introductory material – no papers to read

Class 2 - Market access, part 1

(M) McCaig, Brian and Nina Pavcnik (2018). “Export Markets and Labor Allocation in a Low-Income Country”, *American Economic Review* 108 (7), 1899-1941.

Class 3 - Technology transfer, part 1

(M) Giorcelli, Michela and Bo Li (2023). “Technology Transfer and Early Industrial Development: Evidence from the Sino-Soviet Alliance”, working paper.

(M) Alfaro-Ureña, Alonso, Isabela Manelici and Jose P. Vasquez (2022). “The Effects of Joining Multinational Supply Chains: New Evidence from Firm-to-Firm Linkages”, *Quarterly Journal of Economics* 137 (3), 1495-1522.

Class 4 - Technology transfer, part 2

(M) Atkin, David, Amit K. Khandelwal and Adam Osman (2017). “Exporting and Firm Performance: Evidence from a Randomized Experiment”, *Quarterly Journal of Economics* 132 (2), 551-615.

Class 5 - Market access, part 2

(M) Rotunno, Lorenzo, Sanchari Roy, Anri Sakakibara and Pierre-Louis Vézina (2023). “Trade Policy and Jobs in Vietnam: The Unintended Consequences of Trump’s Trade War”, working paper.

(M) Forge, Fabien, Jason Garred and Kyae Lim Kwon (2024). “When are Tariff Cuts Not Enough? Heterogeneous Effects of Trade Preferences for the Least Developed Countries”, *Journal of International Economics* 152, 103971.

Class 6 - Infrastructure

(M) Faber, Benjamin (2014). "Trade Integration, Market Size, and Industrialization: Evidence from China's National Trunk Highway System", *Review of Economic Studies* 81 (3), 1046-1070.

Class 7 - Institutions

(F) Dell, Melissa, Nathan Lane and Pablo Querubin (2018). "The Historical State, Local Collective Action, and Economic Development in Vietnam", *Econometrica* 86 (6), 2083-2121.

(F) He, Guojun, Shaoda Wang and Bing Zhang (2020). "Watering Down Environmental Regulation in China", *Quarterly Journal of Economics* 135 (4), 2135-2185.

Class 8 - Misallocation

(F) Hsieh, Chang-Tai and Peter J. Klenow (2009). "Misallocation and Manufacturing TFP in China and India", *Quarterly Journal of Economics* 124 (4), 1403-1448.

(F) Chen, Chaoran, Diego Restuccia and Raül Santaeulària-Llopis (2022). "The Effects of Land Markets on Resource Allocation and Agricultural Productivity", *Review of Economic Dynamics* 45, 41-54.

Class 9 - Anti-poverty programs

(F) Muralidharan, Karthik, Paul Niehaus and Sandip Sukhtankar (2016). "Building State Capacity: Evidence from Biometric Smartcards in India", *American Economic Review* 106 (10), 2895-2929.

(F) Muralidharan, Karthik, Paul Niehaus and Sandip Sukhtankar (2023). "General Equilibrium Effects of (Improving) Public Employment Programs: Experimental Evidence from India", *Econometrica* 91 (4), 1261-1295.

Class 10 - Poverty traps

(F) Balboni, Clare, Oriana Bandiera, Robin Burgess, Maitreesh Ghatak and Anton Heil (2022). "Why Do People Stay Poor?", *Quarterly Journal of Economics* 137 (2), 785-844.

Institutional Policies and Academic Regulations

It is very important to know the institutional policies and academic regulations associated with your academic success. This information is available on the Faculty of Social Sciences website, on the [Student Hub webpage](#) under [Resources, Institutional Policies and Academic Regulations](#).

Academic Fraud Regulations

If you would like clarification regarding academic integrity and misconduct, please consult [Academic Regulation A-4](#) or consult your professor.

Bilingualism at the University of Ottawa

Per [Academic Regulation A-1](#) : “Except in programs and courses for which language is a requirement, all students have the right to produce their written work and to answer examination questions in the official language of their choice, regardless of the course’s language of instruction.”

Indigenous Affirmation

ANISHINÀBE

Ni manàdjiyànànig Màmìwininì Anishinàbeg, ogor kà nàgadawàbandadjig iyo akì eko weshkad. Ako nongom ega wìkàd kì mìgiwewàdj.

Ni manàdjiyànànig kakina Anishinàbeg ondaje kaye ogor kakina eniyagizidjig enigokamigàg Kanadàng eji ondàpinangig endàwàdjìn Odàwàng.

Ninisidawinawànànig kenawendamòdjig kije kikenindamàwin; weshkinìgidjig kaye kejeyàdizidjig. Nigijeweninmànànig ogor kà nìgànì sòngideyedjig; weshkad, nongom; kaye àyànikàdj.

[Listen to the audio file](#)

ENGLISH

We pay respect to the Algonquin people, who are the traditional guardians of this land. We acknowledge their longstanding relationship with this territory, which remains unceded.

We pay respect to all Indigenous people in this region, from all nations across Canada, who call Ottawa home.

We acknowledge the traditional knowledge keepers, both young and old.

And we honour their courageous leaders: past, present, and future.

Intellectual Property Rights of Course Content

If you would like clarification regarding the intellectual property rights of course content, please visit the [Copyright Office webpage](#) or consult your professor.