

Carleton University

Department of Economics

The Economics of Development

ECON 4507

Fall 2022

Instructor: Rashid Nikzad

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Lectures: Tuesdays 18:05 – 20:55

Classroom: Paterson Hall, Room 133

Office hours: Tuesdays after the class or by appointment

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TA: TBA

Course Description

The purpose of this course is to study issues in economic development in terms of theory, evidence, and policy. The course will cover material describing the pattern of economic development and evaluating the impacts of various policies on inequality and poverty. The course will (i) apply economic theory to questions pertinent to economic policy in developing countries; (ii) discuss the major debates in the problems of underdevelopment; and (iii) introduce policies to address underdevelopment issues. The emphasis will be on using economic theory to understand underlying questions about development.

Prerequisite: ECON 2030 with a grade of C- or higher or ECON 2003 (no longer offered) with a grade of C- or higher, and ECON 2103 with a grade of C- or higher. Students who believe they have taken a similar background course or courses from another university must provide appropriate documentation to the Department of Economics Undergraduate Administrator, Renee Lortie.

Preclusions: This course precludes additional credit for ECON 3508 if taken concurrently with or prior to ECON 3508 (Introduction to Economic Development).

Textbooks

(Recommended) Schaffner, Julie, “Development Economics: Theory, Empirical Research, and Policy Analysis”, Wiley, 2013.

(Recommended) Todaro, Michael and Stephen C. Smith, “Economic Development”, Pearson, 12th Edition, 2015.

Course structure

Session 1 - Course introduction

Session 2 - What is development?

Schaffner: Chapters 1 and 2

Todaro and Smith: Chapters 1 and 2

Sessions 3 - 4 - Theories of economic growth and development

Schaffner: Chapters 3 and 4

Todaro and Smith: Chapters 3 and 4

Unger, C.R., (2010) "Histories of Development and Modernization: Findings, Reflections, Future Research", <http://hsozkult.geschichte.hu-berlin.de/forum/2010-12-001>.

Palma, G., (1978) "Dependency: A Formal Theory of Underdevelopment of a Methodology for the Analysis of Concrete Situations of Underdevelopment?", World Development, Volume 6, Issues 7-8, pp. 881-924.

Mkandawire, t. and C.C. Soludo, (1999) "Our Continent, Our Future: African Perspectives on Structural Adjustment", International Development Research Centre, Ottawa, Chapters 2 and 3.

Session 5 - Measuring poverty and inequality

Schaffner: Chapter 5

Todaro and Smith: Chapter 5

Conference Board of Canada, "World Income Inequality: Is the world becoming more unequal?"

Session 6 - Labor markets, education, and human capital

Schaffner: Chapters 9, 16 and 19

Todaro and Smith: Chapter 8.1-8.5

Sessions 7 - Domestic and international markets

Schaffner: Chapters 8 and 11

Todaro and Smith: Chapters 12 and 13

Session 8 - Investment and financial markets

Schaffner: Chapters 10 and 21

Todaro and Smith: Chapters 14 and 15

Session 9 - Governance, institutions and economic development; Quality of Life framework

Schaffner: Chapters 12 and 13

Todaro and Smith: Chapter 11

Acemoglu, D., and J.A. Robinson, (2012), "Why Nations Fail: The Origins of Power, Prosperity, and Poverty", New York: Crown Business.

Quality of Life Hub, <https://www160.statcan.gc.ca/index-eng.htm>

Measuring What Matters: Toward a Quality of Life Strategy for Canada,

<https://www.canada.ca/en/department-finance/services/publications/measuring-what-matters-toward-quality-life-strategy-canada.html>

Sessions 10 and 11 - Research project presentations

Session 12 - Examples of targeted policies

Schaffner: Chapters 17, 18, 20, and 22

Todaro and Smith: Chapters 6, 7, 8.6-8.8, 9, and 10

Lecture notes, announcements, due dates and other information will be posted on Brightspace. Students are responsible for regularly checking Brightspace to ensure that they have access to posted documents and that they are up to date with any announcements.

Disclaimer: Please note that modifications/additions may be made to the list of readings. Any such modifications will be announced in a timely fashion in class. Please check the updated weekly schedule at Brightspace.

Course Evaluation

One pager outlining the group, countries, and the approach to conduct the project (10%)

Research project presentation: 15% (On sessions 10 and 11)

Research project: 40% (Due on the last day of the term)

Final exam: 35% (scheduled by the university during the final exam period)

Students will receive a grade of zero if they miss the project presentation unless they provide a compelling reason. If the compelling reason is accepted, the weight of the presentation will be transferred to the research essay. Note that the documentation provided by students, e.g. doctor's note or police report, may be subject to verification.

For the research project and research essay, students will analyze the relationship between development indicators and socioeconomic and governance indicators of selected countries. Students will lose 20% of the mark per day if they miss the due date.

University Policies

Academic Integrity: Please be aware that all work submitted as requirements of this course must be both your own work and original to this course. Students should consult Section 14 of the Faculty of Graduate Studies Calendar, General Regulations concerning academic integrity and instructional offences.

Plagiarism: Please be aware that plagiarism is serious offence at Carleton and should be recognized and avoided. For information, please refer to ["Academic Integrity and Offenses of Conduct"](#).

Course grades: Standing in a course is determined by the course instructor subject to the approval of the Faculty Dean. This means that grades submitted by the instructor may be subject to revision. No grades are final until they have been approved by the Dean. Application to write a deferred final examination must be made at the Registrar's Office.

Final exam: Failure to write the final examination when the student has achieved satisfactory performance during the term will result in a grade of 'F' until an appeal to write the deferred final exam is granted. A change of grade will be submitted when the deferred final exam has been written and the marks are available. See Academic Regulation 2.3 for the official meanings of the grades. Application to write a deferred final examination must be made at the Registrar's Office in writing no later than three working days after the original final examination.

Students who are unable to complete term work on time, or unable to complete final assignments on time, must work with their instructor to obtain an alternative arrangement. The Registrar cannot defer

term work and final term work. In all cases, formative evaluations providing feedback to the student should be replaced with formative evaluations. In the event the altered due date must extend beyond the last day of classes in the term, the instructor will assign a grade of zero for the work not submitted and submit the student's earned grade accordingly; the instructor may submit a change of grade at a later date.

Requests for Academic Accommodation: You may need special arrangements to meet your academic obligations during the term. For an accommodation request, the processes are as follows:

Pregnancy obligation: Please contact your instructor with any requests for academic accommodation during the first two weeks of class, or as soon as possible after the need for accommodation is known to exist. For more details, visit the [Equity Services website](#).

Religious obligation: Please contact your instructor with any requests for academic accommodation during the first two weeks of class, or as soon as possible after the need for accommodation is known to exist. For more details, visit the [Equity Services website](#).

Academic Accommodations for Students with Disabilities: If you have a documented disability requiring academic accommodations in this course, please contact the Paul Menton Centre for Students with Disabilities (PMC) at 613-520-6608 or pmc@carleton.ca for a formal evaluation or contact your PMC coordinator to send your instructor your Letter of Accommodation at the beginning of the term. You must also contact the PMC no later than two weeks before the first in-class scheduled test or exam requiring accommodation (if applicable). After requesting accommodation from PMC, meet with your instructor as soon as possible to ensure accommodation arrangements are made. For more details, visit the [Paul Menton Centre website](#).

Survivors of Sexual Violence: As a community, Carleton University is committed to maintaining a positive learning, working and living environment where sexual violence will not be tolerated, and where survivors are supported through academic accommodations as per Carleton's Sexual Violence Policy. For more information about the services available at the university and to obtain information about sexual violence and/or support, visit: carleton.ca/sexual-violence-support.

Accommodation for Student Activities: Carleton University recognizes the substantial benefits, both to the individual student and for the university, that result from a student participating in activities beyond the classroom experience. Reasonable accommodation must be provided to students who compete or perform at the national or international level. Please contact your instructor with any requests for academic accommodation during the first two weeks of class, or as soon as possible after the need for accommodation is known to exist. For more details, see [the policy](#).

For more information on academic accommodation, please contact the departmental administrator or visit: students.carleton.ca/course-outline.

Special Information for Pandemic Measures: It is important to remember that COVID is still present in Ottawa. The situation can change at any time and the risks of new variants and outbreaks are very real. There are [a number of actions you can take](#) to lower your risk and the risk you pose to those around you including being vaccinated, wearing a mask, staying home when you're sick, washing your hands and maintaining proper respiratory and cough etiquette.

Feeling sick? Remaining vigilant and not attending work or school when sick or with symptoms is critically important. If you feel ill or exhibit COVID-19 symptoms do not come to class or campus. If you feel ill or exhibit symptoms while on campus or in class, please leave campus immediately. In all situations, you must follow Carleton's [symptom reporting protocols](#).

Masks: Carleton has paused the [COVID-19 Mask Policy](#), but continues to strongly recommend masking when indoors, particularly if physical distancing cannot be maintained. It may become necessary to quickly reinstate the mask requirement if pandemic circumstances were to change.

Vaccines: Further, while proof of vaccination is no longer required as of May 1 to attend campus or in-person activity, it may become necessary for the University to bring back proof of vaccination requirements on short notice if the situation and public health advice changes. Students are strongly encouraged to get a full course of vaccination, including booster doses as soon as they are eligible, and submit their booster dose information in [cuScreen](#) as soon as possible. Please note that Carleton cannot guarantee that it will be able to offer virtual or hybrid learning options for those who are unable to attend the campus.

All members of the Carleton community are required to follow requirements and guidelines regarding health and safety which may change from time to time. For the most recent information about Carleton's COVID-19 response and health and safety requirements please see the [University's COVID-19 website](#) and review the [Frequently Asked Questions \(FAQs\)](#). Should you have additional questions after reviewing, please contact covidinfo@carleton.ca.