COURSE OUTLINE

Class schedule: Thursday 14:30 - 17:30  
Social Sciences Building (FSS), room 4014

Professor’s office hours: Tuesday 13:45 - 15:15  
Thursday 11:00 - 12:00 and 13:15 - 14:15  
Office: Social Sciences Building (FSS), room 9020  
Phone: (613) 562-5800 ext. 1750

Email: Jason.Garred@uottawa.ca

OFFICIAL COURSE DESCRIPTION

Theoretical approaches of the economic development literature in relation to the historical, economic, environmental, social, and political dimensions of the development process.

GENERAL COURSE OBJECTIVES

The main aim of the course is to introduce students to the current academic literature in development economics. The course will cover both purely theoretical papers and papers linking theory to empirical evidence. By the end of the course, it is hoped 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.

ASSESSMENT METHODS

The evaluation will consist of ten in-class questions, three problem sets, a paper proposal and two exams.

In-class questions: Each student will be assigned one figure, table or equation from one of the next week’s readings. During the next class, the student will then be responsible for answering one question about that figure, table or equation. Questions will not be provided in advance and should be answered orally on the spot. The student’s answer will be graded as satisfactory (full marks) or unsatisfactory (no marks). Each in-class question will have a weight of 1% of the final course grade.
Problem sets: Problem sets will pose questions about a specific academic paper. On each problem set, students will be responsible for providing written answers to a set of three or four questions; each question will have a weight of 2% of the final course grade. Problem sets should be submitted in class on September 27, October 11 and November 15.

Paper proposal: Each student will prepare a two-page proposal for an empirical project related to development economics. The proposal must include discussions of the project’s research question, its theoretical motivation, the data to be used and the proposed empirical strategy. Note that the project will not actually be carried out as part of this course. The paper proposal should be submitted in class on November 29.

Exams: There will be two closed-book exams. On each exam, students will be asked to answer six questions (out of eight possible choices); each question will have a weight of 5% of the final course grade. The midterm exam will be held in class on November 1 and will cover ten of the course readings. The final exam will be held during the final exam period and will cover nine of the course readings. The final exam is not cumulative; see below for the list of readings for each exam.

### Components of Final Mark

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Evaluation format</th>
<th>Weight</th>
<th>Date</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>In-class questions</td>
<td>10 %</td>
<td>Sept 13, 20, 27; Oct 4, 11, 18; Nov 8, 15, 22, 29</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Problem set 1</td>
<td>6 %</td>
<td>Sept 27</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Problem set 2</td>
<td>6 %</td>
<td>Oct 11</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Midterm exam</td>
<td>30 %</td>
<td>Nov 1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Problem set 3</td>
<td>8 %</td>
<td>Nov 15</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Paper proposal</td>
<td>10 %</td>
<td>Nov 29</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Final exam</td>
<td>30 %</td>
<td>Exam period</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### SCHEDULE

The schedule for the course will be as follows:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Topic</th>
<th>In-class questions</th>
<th>Other information</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Sept 6</td>
<td>Class 1 – Growth and cross-sectional income differences</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sept 13</td>
<td>Class 2 – Misallocation</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Sept 20</td>
<td>Class 3 – Poverty traps</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Sept 27</td>
<td>Class 4 – Institutions and historical persistence</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>PS 1 due in class</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Oct 4</td>
<td>Class 5 – State capacity</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Oct 11</td>
<td>Class 6 – Human capital: education</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>PS 2 due in class</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Oct 18</td>
<td>Class 7 – Human capital: health</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Oct 25</td>
<td>No class (reading week)</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nov 1</td>
<td>Midterm exam</td>
<td></td>
<td>Midterm in class</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nov 8</td>
<td>Class 8 – Credit, savings and investment</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nov 15</td>
<td>Class 9 – Learning and technology adoption</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>PS 3 due in class</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nov 22</td>
<td>Class 10 – Incentives</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nov 29</td>
<td>Class 11 – Politics and corruption</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>PP due in class</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Exam period</td>
<td>Final exam</td>
<td></td>
<td>Final in exam period</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
The schedule of material for which students will be responsible is laid out by week below. The material for the midterm exam is marked with (M), the material for the final exam is marked with (F) and material for problem sets is marked with (P). Readings marked with (P) will not be used for the midterm or final exams. In-class questions will be assigned from the material marked with (M) and (F). Links to all readings will be posted on Virtual Campus. We will also discuss other material that is not listed here, but students will not be responsible for this material on the exams or the problem sets.

**Part 1: Why are some countries poor and others rich?**

**Class 1 – Growth and cross-sectional income differences**

Introductory material – not covered on exams.

**Class 2 – Misallocation**


**Class 3 – Poverty traps**


**Class 4 – Institutions and historical persistence**


**Class 5 – State capacity**


Part 2: What can be done to change this?

Class 6 – Human capital: education


Class 7 – Human capital: health


Class 8 – Credit, savings and investment


Class 9 – Learning and technology adoption


Class 10 – Incentives


Class 11 – Politics and corruption


Policy on language quality and late submissions

Class attendance is necessary to successfully complete this course.

You will also be judged on your writing abilities. It is recommended to take the appropriate measures to avoid mistakes such as spelling, syntax, punctuation, inappropriate use of terms, etc. You may be penalized up to 15%, to the professor’s discretion.

Absences from exams and late submissions of course work will be penalized. Exceptions are made only for illness or other serious situations deemed as such by the professor. Requests for exceptions must be submitted in writing, within five business days following the date of the exam or submission date. The Faculty reserves the right to accept or refuse the reason. Exceptions due to illness must be supported by a medical certificate. Reasons such as travel, jobs, or any misreading of the examination timetable are not acceptable. Absences from exams which are not excused will result in a mark of zero for the exam. Late submissions of course work will be penalized as follows: one point per day late.

Only medical certificates from doctors certified by the College of Physicians and Surgeons of Ontario or the College of Psychologists of Ontario, or their Québec equivalents, are considered to be valid medical certificates. Certificates from naturopaths, homeopaths, doctors of traditional Chinese medicine, etc., will not be accepted.

Policy on midterm and final exam deferrals

Students who are excused for missing an exam will be required to write a deferred exam. Online deferral forms must be completed for both midterms and final exams. The online form can be obtained at [https://socialsciences.uottawa.ca/students/undergraduate-forms](https://socialsciences.uottawa.ca/students/undergraduate-forms). A copy of the supporting documentation must be joined to your request in order for you to submit the online form. All requests must be submitted within five working days of the exam. The request must respect all the conditions of Academic Regulation 9.5 ([https://www.uottawa.ca/administration-and-governance/academic-regulation-9-evaluation-of-student-learning](https://www.uottawa.ca/administration-and-governance/academic-regulation-9-evaluation-of-student-learning)).

Deferred final exams for Fall 2018 economics courses will be held on Friday, January 4, 2019.
The University of Ottawa does not tolerate any form of sexual violence. Sexual violence refers to any act of a sexual nature committed without consent, such as rape, sexual harassment or online harassment. The University, as well as student and employee associations, offers a full range of resources and services allowing members of our community to receive information and confidential assistance and providing for a procedure to report an incident or make a complaint. For more information, visit www.uOttawa.ca/sexual-violence-support-and-prevention

**Beware of Academic Fraud!**

Academic fraud is an act committed by a student to distort the marking of assignments, tests, examinations, and other forms of academic evaluation. Academic fraud is neither accepted nor tolerated by the University. Anyone found guilty of academic fraud is liable to severe academic sanctions.

Here are a few examples of academic fraud:

- engaging in any form of plagiarism or cheating;
- presenting falsified research data;
- handing in an assignment that was not authored, in whole or in part, by the student;
- submitting the same assignment in more than one course, without the written consent of the professors concerned.

In recent years, the development of the Internet has made it much easier to identify academic plagiarism. The tools available to your professors allow them to trace the exact origin of a text on the Web, using just a few words.

In cases where students are unsure whether they are at fault, it is their responsibility to consult the “Writing and Style Guide for University Papers and Assignments.” It can be found at: http://socialsciences.uottawa.ca/undergraduate/writing-style-guide

Persons who have committed or attempted to commit (or have been accomplices to) academic fraud will be penalized. Here are some examples of the academic sanctions, which can be imposed:

- a grade of “F” for the assignment or course in question;
- an additional program requirement of between 3 and 30 credits;
- suspension or expulsion from the Faculty.

For more information, refer to the Student’s Guide to Academic Integrity: http://www.uottawa.ca/vice-president-academic/sites/www.uottawa.ca.vice-president-academic/files/academic-integrity-students-guide.pdf

and Academic Integrity Website (Office of the Vice-President Academic and Provost) http://web5.uottawa.ca/mcs-smc/academicintegrity/home.php
Resources for you

FACULTY MENTORING CENTRE - http://socialsciences.uottawa.ca/mentoring

The goal of the Mentoring Centre is to help students with their academic and social well-being during their time at the University of Ottawa. Regardless of where a student stands academically, or how far along they are in completing their degree, the Mentoring Centre is there to help students continue on their path to success.

A student may choose to visit the Mentoring Centre for very different reasons. Younger students may wish to talk to their older peers to gain insight into programs and services offered by the University, while older students may simply want to brush up on study and time management skills or learn about programs and services for students nearing the end of their degree.

In all, the Mentoring Centre offers a place for students to talk about concerns and problems that they might have in any facet of their lives. While students are able to voice their concerns and problems without fear of judgment, mentors can garner further insight in issues unique to students and find a more practical solution to better improve the services that the Faculty of Social Sciences offers, as well as the services offered by the University of Ottawa.

ACADEMIC WRITING HELP CENTRE - http://www.sass.uottawa.ca/writing/

At the AWHC you will learn how to identify, correct and ultimately avoid errors in your writing and become an autonomous writer. In working with our Writing Advisors, you will be able to acquire the abilities, strategies and writing tools that will enable you to:

- Master the written language of your choice
- Expand your critical thinking abilities
- Develop your argumentation skills
- Learn what the expectations are for academic writing

COUNSELLING SERVICE - http://sass.uottawa.ca/en/personal

There are many reasons to take advantage of the Counselling Service. We offer:

- Personal counselling
- Career counselling
- Study skills counselling

HUMAN RIGHTS OFFICE - https://www.uottawa.ca/respect/en

Mandate:
To provide leadership in the creation, implementation and evaluation of policies, procedures and practices on diversity, inclusion, equity, accessibility and the prevention of harassment and discrimination.

Contact information:
1 Stewart St. (Main Floor – Room 121) - Tel.: 613-562-5222 / Email: respect@uOttawa.ca
ACCESS SERVICE - http://sass.uottawa.ca/en/access

The University has always strived to meet the needs of individuals with learning disabilities or with other temporary or permanent functional disabilities (hearing/visual impairments, sustained health issues, mental health problems), and the campus community works collaboratively so that you can develop and maintain your autonomy, as well as reach your full potential throughout your studies. You can call on a wide range of services and resources, all provided with expertise, professionalism and confidentiality.

If barriers are preventing you from integrating into university life and you need adaptive measures to progress (physical setting, arrangements for exams, learning strategies, etc.), contact the Access Service right away:

- in person at the University Centre, Room 339
- online
- by phone at 613-562-5976

**Deadlines for submitting requests for adaptive measures during exams**

- midterms, tests, deferred exams: seven business days before the exam, test or other written evaluation (excluding the day of the exam itself)
- final exams:
  - November 15 for the fall session
  - March 15 for the winter session
  - Seven business days before the date of the exam for the spring/summer session (excluding the day of the exam itself).

CAREER DEVELOPMENT CENTRE - http://www.sass.uottawa.ca/careers/

Career Development Centre offers various services and resources in career development to enable you to recognize and enhance the employability skills you need in today's world of work.


The Student Resources Centres aim to fulfill all sorts of student needs.