



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

Development Economics
ECO 6170A
Winter Term 2024

Course Information

Class Schedule:

Format: In person
Time: Monday 8:30 - 11:20
Location: 120 University (FSS), room 9003

Instructor:

Name: Jason Garred
Email: Jason.Garred@uottawa.ca
Office Location: FSS 9023
Office Hours: Monday 3:00 - 4:30 and Wednesday 9:15 - 10:45

- 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
Mon Jan 8	Class 1 - Introduction and econometrics review	
Mon Jan 15	Class 2 - Market access, part 1	
Mon Jan 22	Class 3 - Technology transfer, part 1	
Mon Jan 29	Class 4 - Technology transfer, part 2	Problem set (Wed Jan 31)
Mon Feb 5	Class 5 - Market access, part 2	
Mon Feb 12	Class 6 - Infrastructure	
Mon Feb 19	No class (reading week)	
Mon Feb 26	Midterm exam	
Mon Mar 4	Class 7 - Institutions	
Mon Mar 11	Class 8 - Misallocation	Literature review (Fri Mar 15)
Mon Mar 18	No class (one-on-one meetings)	
Mon Mar 25	Class 9 - Anti-poverty programs	
Mon Apr 1	No class (holiday)	Paper proposal (Tues Apr 2)
Mon Apr 8	Class 10 - Poverty traps	
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 Monday February 26. 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 Wednesday January 31, a brief literature review (8%) due Friday March 15, and a paper proposal (20%) due Tuesday April 2.

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 %	Wed Jan 31
Midterm exam	30 %	Mon Feb 26
Literature review	8 %	Fri Mar 15
Paper proposal	20 %	Tues Apr 2
Final exam	30 %	Exam period

Assessment Policies and Expectations

Attendance

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 instructor.

Missed exams and requests for deferral

As per [Academic Regulation A-8](#), absence from any examination or test, or late submission of assignments must be reported by submitting the online [Declaration of Absence from an Evaluation](#) form within five (5) working days of the examination date or the assignment deadline. It is not required to attach a justification or medical certificate to the form for a first absence from an evaluation in a course. Students can request a maximum of one deferred evaluation per course under this policy, and this evaluation must take place as soon as possible, within six (6) months of the end of the term. Evaluation for graduate students must occur as soon as possible, within three (3) months of the end of the term. In the case of a second absence, a medical certificate or justification in terms of exceptional personal circumstances is required with the submission of the online form, and the academic unit and the faculty concerned reserve the right to accept or reject the reasons presented. Reasons such as travel, work and misreading of examination schedules are not accepted.

In the case of a medical certificate, the certificate must include the student's name, the date of both the absence and the return to studies and the medical consultation date. The certificate does not require mention of the medical condition. Students should not participate in oral or written examinations during the period of disability indicated on the form.

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). 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 Winter 2024, the deadline to withdraw from this course (without financial reimbursement) is March 22. For further information on withdrawing from the course, consult the link <https://www.uottawa.ca/course-enrolment/withdrawing-from-a-course>.

Deferred final examinations will take place on Friday, May 10, 2024.

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 examination 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.

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). The reading marked with (P) is for the problem set only, and will not be used for the midterm or final exams. 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.

(P) Heath, Rachel and A. Mushfiq Mobarak (2015). “Manufacturing Growth and the Lives of Bangladeshi Women”, *Journal of Development Economics* 115, 1-15.

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 (2022). “When are Tariff Cuts Not Enough? Heterogeneous Effects of Trade Preferences for the Least Developed Countries”, working paper.

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 Santaeulàlia-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 the “Institutional policies and academic regulations” tab.

Academic Fraud Regulations

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

Academic Regulations A-1 on 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 wikàd 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 right of course content, please visit the [Copyright Office webpage](#) or consult your professor.