

McGill University
Department of Economics
ECON 313 – 001: **Economic Development 1** (3 credits)
Fall 2020

Instructor

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Office: Online on Zoom

Office hours: Thursday – 2:30 PM – 3:30 PM

Friday – 1:30 PM – 2:30 PM

Class schedule

MW: 4:05 PM - 5:25 PM

Online lectures on Zoom

Prerequisite

ECON 208 or ECON 209 or one course on Development

Course objectives

- To apply the tools of modern economic analysis to the qualitative and quantitative study of microeconomic issues and problems faced by developing countries with respect to population, labor, firms, poverty, inequality and environment, in a context of increasing globalization.
- To provide a critical and empirically based assessment of the different economic policy measures and packages put forward nationally and internationally, in order to deal with such issues and problems.

Course evaluation

Midterm examination: 40%

Final examination: 60%

If a student provides a valid reason accompanied by a relevant document, such as a medical certificate, *for absence from the midterm, he / she has two options. (i) Have the final weighed at 100%. (ii) Write a deferred midterm during the university deferred exam period in March 2021.*

**Without a medical note AND / OR without the chosen option clarified before the date of the final exam, a student will be awarded a zero on the midterm.*

There will be three assignments over the semester to help students grasp the course material, *but they shall not be graded.* Assignments will be discussed during conference sessions to be announced on MyCourses.

The midterm and the final examinations will include definitions of concepts, true or false, numerical exercises and short essays. The midterm examination will cover the material taught until October 21st. *Both the midterm and final exams will be in the form of Online Quizzes*

Please Note: *You are under no circumstances permitted to write a final exam from any other section of Econ 313. If you miss the regular final exam from Econ 313-001, you are required to write a deferred final meant for Econ 313-001.*

Critical dates

September 2nd: beginning of course

October 26th: midterm examination during regular class hours

December 3rd: end of course

Course material

Economic Development, 12/E

Michael P. Todaro

Stephen C. Smith,

ISBN-10: 0138013888

ISBN-13: 9780138013882

Publisher: Prentice Hall

- A discussion forum will permit the course participants, and the instructor to discuss, in an interactive way, the course content and related questions.

COURSE OUTLINE:

Note: The chapters given below refer to Todaro and Smith.

1. Economics, Institutions and Development: Definition, Core values, Sen's Capabilities Approach, Millennium Development Goals.
2. Comparative Economic Development (Chapter 2): Holistic measures of living index - HDI
3. Rostow's stages of growth, Harrod - Domar Growth model
4. Solow Model and an introduction to the Romer Growth Model
5. Models of Structural Change: The Lewis Model of Development and its implications.
6. The Neocolonial Dependence Model, the False Paradigm Model, Dualistic-Development thesis and implications.
7. Contemporary Models of Development and Underdevelopment (Chapter 4): Coordination failure, Multiple Equilibria, Big Push, Kremer's O Ring theory.
8. Poverty and Inequality: measuring inequality and absolute poverty, Kuznets U curve and its relevance in the real world.
9. Population Growth and Economic Development (Chapter 6): World population growth and its structure. The Malthusian population trap, Criticisms of the Malthusian Model.
10. Household theory of fertility and the consequences of high fertility, the demand for children in developing countries, how DCs can help LDCs with their population problems.
11. Urbanization and rural-urban migration (Chapter 7): role of cities, problems of urban gigantism, migration and development, the Harris - Todaro Model and its implications.
12. Human capital in terms of education and growth, investments in these areas as an investment in Economics Development, why an increase in income is insufficient.

- Gender gap, consequences of gender bias in Health and education, health systems and development.
13. Agricultural Transformation and Rural Development: Current challenges faced by agricultural growth. Role of women, Case studies.
 14. Subsistence farming, transition to Mixed and Diverse farming, improving small scale agriculture as a strategy towards agricultural and rural development.

ACADEMIC POLICIES

- McGill University values academic integrity. Therefore all students must understand the meaning and consequences of cheating, plagiarism and other academic offences under the Code of Student Conduct and Disciplinary Procedures (see www.mcgill.ca/students/srr/honest/ for more information.
- According to Senate regulations, instructors are not permitted to make special arrangements for final exams. Please consult the Calendar, section 4.7.2.1, General University Information and Regulations at www.mcgill.ca.
- In accord with McGill University's Charter of Students' Rights, students in this course have the right to submit in English or in French any written work that is to be graded. (Note: Not applicable to multiple-choice exams)
- If you have a disability please contact the [Office for Students with Disabilities](#) at 514-398-6009.