

McGill University
Department of Economics

ECON314-001: Economic Development 2 Winter 2024 Preliminary Outline

Instructor Contact Information:

Prof. Franque Grimard
Leacock, room 417 Telephone: 398-4717
e-mail: Franque.grimard@mcgill.ca (Please see my e-mail policy below)
Office hours: Tuesdays 1:00pm-2:00 pm
Or we can also use Zoom to meet at for different times.

Regular Classes:

Times: Tuesday and Thursday: 10:05 a.m. to 11:25 a.m.
Room: STBIO S 3/3

Conferences: They will take place on specific weeks. Please consult MyCourses for more details.

Instructor and TA e-mail policy: Short e-mails that can be answered by a yes or a no are more likely to be answered quickly. Long e-mails or e-mails requiring long responses may or may not be answered. If your question is long or requires a complex answer, please go to see the TA or the professor during office hours.

Prerequisites: ECON 208 and either ECON 209 or one development course.

Course Description:

Theories of economic development and empirical evidence on macro trends and special topics. Not open to students who have taken ECON 313D. This is a three (3) credit course.

Course Evaluations:

Midterm 1 (25%): February 8th
Midterm 2 (25%): March 21st
Make-up Midterm (50%) March 28th
(**only** if you missed Midterm 1 **AND** Midterm 2)
Final examination (50%) Date TBA (set by University)

Grading Scheme:

Your grade = $[0.25 \times \text{Midterm1} + 0.25 \text{ Midterm2} + 0.50 \times \text{Final}] \times 100$

Rules:

- If you miss either midterm 1 **OR** midterm 2, the weight of the missed exam will be placed on your final exam (which will be worth 75%). No medical note is required.
- Only if you miss both midterms, then you will write a cumulative make-up midterm worth 50% of the course grade on March 30th.
- In case of absence at the final exam for medical reasons, please refer to the University Regulations Concerning Final Examinations. This is entirely out of my jurisdiction
- The examinations may consist of some multiple choice questions (midterms and final), short answer questions, short problems and/or essay questions.
- The supplemental examination is worth 100% of your final grade..
- All exams are closed booked exams held on campus.

In the event of extraordinary circumstances beyond the University's control, the content and/or evaluation scheme in this course is subject to change.

Instructional Methods:

- Lecture sessions will include derivation and description of models as well as some problem solving.
- The analytical level of this course is designed to accommodate both specialists and non-specialists. That said, the course will draw heavily on **graphical approaches** to economic models. Occasionally, some **basic algebra** will be employed to illustrate key concepts. Basic high school math knowledge should suffice here.
- This course draws on cross-country comparisons of major economic development indicators.

Teaching Assistants and Conferences:

The Teaching Assistants (TA) will help you with the course materials by holding office hours and conferences. For instance, we will post on *myCourses* sample problems for discussion. The TAs will discuss them during the conferences as well as reviewing class concepts. The conferences are not mandatory, but it is your responsibility to attend them. In addition, conferences will be held before the written work is due. The TAs and conferences are there to help you understand the material through revisions of class material and discussions.

myCourses:

- This course utilizes MyCourses for course management and posting of relevant materials. Please check the website on a regular basis for announcements.
- **It is your responsibility to stay well-informed of course management and announcements on MyCourses.**
- Students are required to check *myCourses* weekly to download any materials that shall be used in class, **prior to lectures**. For instance, I will often bring in data and graphs to class and it would be useful for students to have downloaded and printed any relevant graphs or tables in order to take notes.
- **Detailed lecture outlines (but not complete lectures) will be placed on *myCourses*:** I will be placing detailed outlines of my lecture presentations on-line before the lecture. If you so wish, you can print them off or download them before the lecture, and add to them during class.
- A discussion page will be made available for you to communicate with your classmates. The purpose of this page is to let you debate the issues that we discuss in class amongst

each other outside of class time and conferences. While we (the instructor and TAs) will be monitoring the discussion from time to time, we will neither be participating, nor responding to questions or comments in this forum.

Teaching Assistants:

TBA

Office hours : TBA

TA e-mail policy : The TA e-mail policy is similar to the Professor's e-mail policy (see 2nd last page): Short e-mails that can be answered by a yes or a no are more likely to be answered quickly. Long e-mails or e-mails requiring long responses may or may not be answered. If your question is long or requires a complex answer, please go to see the TA or the professor during office hours.

Conferences: TBA on MyCourses

*Note: please do not attend all – only attend the one that best suits your schedule.

PRELIMINARY COURSE OUTLINE:

| Week | Date: | Topic: | Readings: |
|------|---|--|------------------------------|
| | Jan 4 th | Welcome | |
| 1 | Jan 9 th Jan 11 th | Introduction Macro and Growth | Chp 1, T&S 1 Chp 4, T&S 4 |
| 2 | Jan 16 th , Jan 18 th | Structural Transformation | Chp 5, T&S 3 |
| 4 | Jan 23 rd , Jan. 25 th | International trade and Development | Chp 6 T&S 12, 13 |
| 5 | Jan 30 th Feb 1 st , | International trade and Development | Chp 6 T&S 12, 13 |
| 6 | Feb 6 th Feb 8th | Fiscal Institutions and Taxation MIDTERM 1 | Chp 8, Chp 10 T&S 11, 15 |
| 7 | Feb 13 th Feb 15 th | Fiscal Institutions and Taxation | Chp 10 T&S 11, 15 |
| 8 | Feb 20 th Feb 22 nd | Corruption | Chp 19, T&S 11 |
| 9 | Feb. 27th Feb 29th | Corruption | Chp 19, T&S 11 |
| | March 4th Mar 8th | Winter BREAK | |
| 10 | Mar 12 th , Mar 14 th | Foreign Aid (Intro): Foreign Aid (SDGs) | Cp 5 T&S 14 |
| 11 | Mar 19 th , | Foreign Aid (Financing) | Chp 5, T&S 14 |

| | | | |
|----|--|---|--|
| | Mar 21st | MIDTERM 2 | |
| 12 | Mar 26 th Mar 28 th | Foreign Aid (Financing): On-going issues | Chp 5, T&S 14 See detailed list below |
| | Mar. 28th | MAKE-UP MIDTERM * | |
| 13 | Apr 2 th Apr 4 th | On-going issues | See detailed list below |
| | Apr 9 ^h | On-going issues | Last day of class |

- Notes:**
1. Topics might spill over from one week to the next if necessary.
 2. Due to time constraints, it is possible that some topics will not be covered or some topics added. I maintain discretion regarding changes in this outline. Any changes will be discussed in class and/or announced on MyCourses.
 3. I may be involved (conferences, fieldwork...) on some dates. I will be announcing in class and on MyCourses any changes that would be related to this work.
 4. We will have guest lectures from McGill ISID's Professors of Practice, Profs Saghir, Medora and Novak. We may also have one from Dr. Arjan de Haan who is working at Canada's International Development Research Centre (IDRC) They will be announced on mycourses when the dates are confirmed and the syllabus will be modified accordingly.
 - 5 * only for students who have missed both midterm 1 and midterm 2.

Key dates: -

- Jan 17th : Add/Drop
- Jan 24th : Course or University Withdrawal with refund deadline
- Mar 7th : Course or University Withdrawal WITHOUT REFUND deadline
- Apr 11th: Last day of class for T/Th sequence

Required Textbook:

Roland, G. Development Economics, Pearson Education, 2014.

You can access this [e-textbook](#) for free from the McGill Library website. The ProQuest version allows for 9 students to simultaneously access the ebook and the Ebsco version allows for 3 people to simultaneously access it. I would encourage you to download the chapter you want as a pdf and then close the ebook. If you find that all the copies are being used at once, check back after about 15 minutes.

Instructions to access the library copies:

Download individual chapter in ProQuest

1. Navigate to the **Table of contents** section of this page: <https://ebookcentral.proquest.com/lib/mcgill/detail.action?docID=4531919>

2. To the right of each chapter title, you will see **download pdf** and **read online**. Click on the **download pdf** link to download the individual chapter.
3. Once you have downloaded your chapter, close the ebook so that a classmate can use the ebook.
4. If you reach your download limit, to reset the download counter, you will have to wait 24 hours to try to download additional chapters.

Download individual chapters in Ebsco

1. Navigate to the **Table of contents** section on this page: <https://proxy.library.mcgill.ca/login?url=https://search.ebscohost.com/login.aspx?direct=true&db=nlebk&AN=1241065&scope=site>
2. Choose the chapter you'd like to download and click on its title.
3. On the new page, with the ebook open, you will see download arrows next to the individual chapter titles in the right-hand menu. Click on this download icon and download the individual chapter.
4. Once you have downloaded your chapter, close the ebook so that a classmate can use the ebook.
5. If you reach your download limit, to reset the download counter, you can try opening the book in a new web navigator or waiting 24 hours to try to download additional chapters.

Alternatively, can purchase the textbook via the University Bookstore if you would like your own copy.

Other required readings: In addition to the required text chapters underlined references in the table above and with asterisks in the reading list below are also required. These online sources provide additional materials to help illustrate some of the key concepts and help push the debate further.

Complementary Sources: Any undergraduate textbook in introductory & intermediate microeconomics and macroeconomics provide good sources for the material covered in class.

Many of the topics covered by Roland are also covered in Todaro, M. and S. Smith, Economic Development, Twelfth Edition, Addison Wesley, 2012. Should you use this text, it is your responsibility to ensure that you are covering the right materials and are aware of the errata in earlier editions. This text is also available at the library's reserve desk.

Optional readings: We will discuss these in class, and you will be responsible for the material covered in the lectures related to these readings. Additional complementary sources may be added over the course of the term.

DETAILED (PRELIMINARY) READING LIST:

The reading list is as follows, * **indicating compulsory (required)**. The articles are hyperlinked and are free of charge through the McGill Library, but you need to be connected via McGill VPN or be on campus to access the articles from the McGill library.

Topic I: Introduction

- * Roland Chp 1 (entire chapter)

<https://ourworldindata.org/a-history-of-global-living-conditions-in-5-charts>

<https://www.imf.org/external/pubs/ft/fandd/2019/09/pdf/satellite-images-at-night-and-economic-growth-yao.pdf>

Topic : Macro Theories

- * Roland Chp 4. (entire chapter)
- * Ravallion, M. 2004. "[Pro-Poor Growth: A Primer](#)" *World Bank Policy Research Working paper* 3242.
- * Rodrik, D. 2017. "[Rescuing Economics from Neoliberalism](#)" *Boston Review* Nov. 6, 2017

Topic Structural transformation

- * Roland (Chapter, 5)

Topic : International trade and Development

Roland (Chapters 4 and 6).

Pinelopi Goldberg, [The Future of Trade](#), FINANCE & DEVELOPMENT, JUNE 2019, VOL. 56, NO. 2

Topic : Fiscal Institutions and taxation

- *Roland (Chapters 8 and 10)
- *S. Fischer and W. Easterly, (1990), "The Economics of the Government Budget Constraint," *The World Bank Research Observer*, Vol. 5, No. 2, pp. 127-144.

Topic : Corruption

- Roland (Chapter 19)
- Shleifer, Andrei and Robert Vishny. "[Corruption.](#)" *Quarterly Journal of Economics* Vol. 108(3) (Aug 1993): 599-617.
- Mauro, Paolo. "[Corruption and Growth.](#)" *Quarterly Journal of Economics* Vol. 110 (3) (Aug 1995): 681-712.
- Benjamin A. Olken and Rohini Pande, 2012, Corruption in Developing Countries, *Annu. Rev. Econ.* 2012. 4:479–509
- Paolo Mauro, Paulo Medas, and Jean-Marc Fournier, [The Cost Of Corruption](#) ,FINANCE & DEVELOPMENT, SEPTEMBER 2019, VOL. 56, NO. 3
https://www.imf.org/external/pubs/ft/fandd/2019/09/the-true-cost-of-global-corruption-mauro.htm?utm_medium=email&utm_source=govdelivery
- Gita Bhatt, [Illuminating Dark Corners](#) , FINANCE & DEVELOPMENT, SEPTEMBER 2019, VOL. 56, NO. 3
<https://www.imf.org/external/pubs/ft/fandd/2019/09/illuminating-dark-corners-letter.htm>
- Nicholas Shaxson, Tackling Tax Havens, FINANCE & DEVELOPMENT, SEPTEMBER 2019, VOL. 56, NO. 3
<https://www.imf.org/external/pubs/ft/fandd/2019/09/tackling-global-tax-havens-shaxon.htm>

Topic : Foreign Aid

- Roland (Chapter 5)
- Homi Kharas. 2007. “[The New Reality of Aid](#)” Wolfensohn Center for Development at Brookings, briefing paper 2007
- Nancy Qian. 2015, Making Progress on Foreign Aid Annu. Rev. Econ. 2015. 7:277–308

<http://www.oecd.org/dac/>

<http://www.oecd.org/dac/dachighlevelmeeting2017.htm>

<http://www.oecd.org/dac/financing-sustainable-development/development-finance-topics/blended-finance.htm>

<https://www.brookings.edu/topic/development-financing/>

<https://www.brookings.edu/topic/sustainable-development-goals/>

Topic: Sustainable Development and COVID 19.

Here some background reading material for the students:

The Sustainable Development Goals Report 2021

<https://unstats.un.org/sdgs/report/2021/>

<https://www.un.org/africarenewal/news/sustainable-development-report-shows-devastating-impact-covid-ahead-'critical'-new-phase>

<https://www.sciencedirect.com/science/article/pii/S0013935121009312>

- COVID-19 on the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs)

<https://www.undp.org/publications/leaving-no-one-behind-impact-covid-19-sustainable-development-goals-sdgs>

<https://dashboards.sdgindex.org/chapters/executive-summary>

VII. , Topic : On-going issues: Climate , Debt, Conflict, COVID,

The pandemic spread worldwide but its short-term impact on developing countries has been quite heterogeneous: some countries, perhaps due to inadequate testing, seemed to have been less affected than others, though one now realizes that the longer-term impacts will be quite important. After COVID, there is also the shock of the Russia-Ukraine war that is still having repercussions in developing countries, notably in terms of inflation, interest rates and more specifically food prices and availability, not to mention the recent events in Palestine which potentially may engulf the middle East. Finally, one should not forget that developing countries also face climate change issues and one must find ways to adapt and make countries more resilient in the future.

We will use these shocks to reflect on issues of macroeconomic performances of developing countries, of fiscal issues, of corruption as well as what it may imply for

foreign aid, but in the short run (in terms of programming) as well as in the long-run (i.e. debt).

For this discussion, we will use several articles from the preliminary list below. As new papers are available and as new elements may arise, we will add new articles and links to the list below. The required readings and the optional readings will be identified in early March.

Dell, M., Jones, B. F., & Olken, B. A. (2014). What do we learn from the weather? The new climate-economy literature. *Journal of Economic Literature*, 52(3), 740-98.

Amit Prakash, Boiling Point, Finance & Development, September 2018, vol. 55, no. 3

https://www.imf.org/external/pubs/ft/fandd/2018/09/southeast-asia-climate-change-and-greenhouse-gas-emissions-prakash.htm?utm_medium=email&utm_source=govdelivery

Pierpaolo Grippa, Jochen Schmittmann, and Felix Suntheim, Climate Change and Financial Risk FINANCE & DEVELOPMENT, DECEMBER 2019, VOL. 56, NO. 4

<https://www.imf.org/external/pubs/ft/fandd/2019/12/climate-change-central-banks-and-financial-risk-grippa.htm>

Ian Parry, FINANCE & DEVELOPMENT, JUNE 2019, VOL. 56, NO. 2 What Is Carbon Taxation?

<https://www.imf.org/external/pubs/ft/fandd/2019/06/what-is-carbon-taxation-basics.htm>

Kenneth Gillingham, Carbon Calculus, FINANCE & DEVELOPMENT, DECEMBER 2019, VOL. 56, NO. 4

<https://www.imf.org/external/pubs/ft/fandd/2019/12/the-true-cost-of-reducing-greenhouse-gas-emissions-gillingham.htm>

Security issues:

Harari, M., & La Ferrara, E. (2018). Conflict, climate and cells: A disaggregated analysis. *Review of Economics and Statistics*,

Fjelde, H. (2015). Farming or fighting? Agricultural price shocks and civil war in Africa. *World Development*, 67, 525-534

Foreign aid

<https://www.worldbank.org/en/topic/climatechange/overview>

Overview chapter of Hallegatte, Stephane, Mook Bangalore, Laura Bonzanigo, Marianne Fay, Tamaro Kane, Ulf Narloch, Julie Rozenberg, David Treguer, and Adrien Vogt-Schilb. 2016. *Shock Waves: Managing the Impacts of Climate Change on Poverty*. Climate Change and Development Series. Washington, DC: World Bank.

<https://openknowledge.worldbank.org/bitstream/handle/10986/22787/9781464806735.pdf>

Debt numbers

https://www.imf.org/en/Blogs/Articles/2022/12/12/riding-the-global-debt-rollercoaster?utm_medium=email&utm_source=govdelivery

Defaults Loom as Poor Countries Face an Economic

Storm <https://www.nytimes.com/2022/12/03/business/developing-countries-debt-defaults.html>

<https://www.cgdev.org/blog/how-global-debt-crisis-could-make-hunger-crisis-worse>

<https://www.cgdev.org/blog/debt-climate-swaps-wont-solve-climate-or-debt-crises-can-they-help>

<https://www.cgdev.org/publication/abcs-sovereign-debt-relief>

Debt situation as of Fall 2023

https://www.project-syndicate.org/onpoint/a-global-debt-explosion?utm_source=Project+Syndicate+Newsletter&utm_campaign=7ba4999a0e-covid_newsletter_01_25_2023&utm_medium=email&utm_term=0_73bad5b7d8-7ba4999a0e-93560349&mc_cid=7ba4999a0e&mc_eid=61d638e423

<https://www.cnn.com/2023/11/07/business/china-bri-developing-countries-overdue-debt-intl-hnk/index.html>

<https://www.nytimes.com/2023/11/06/business/china-bri-aiddata.html?smid=nytcore-android-share>

<https://www.nytimes.com/2023/12/16/business/economy/imf-world-bank-sovereign-debt.html?smid=nytcore-android-share>

https://www.imf.org/en/Blogs/Articles/2023/10/13/how-channeling-sdrs-is-supporting-vulnerable-economies?utm_medium=email&utm_source=govdelivery

Ghana

<https://can01.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Fon.ft.com%2F3H1AXsE&data=05%7C01%7Cfranque.grimard%40mcgill.ca%7C393fb9653514442e054808dad3c543fb%7Ccd31967152e74a68afa9fcf8f89f09ea%7C0%7C0%7C638055141437001467%7CUnknown%7CTWFPbGZsb3d8eyJWljojMC4wLjA wMDAiLCJQljojV2luMzliLCJBTiI6Ik1haWwiiLCJXVCi6Mn0%3D%7C3000%7C%7C%7C&data=%2FXRK BmeM%2BbL8wVI4XUqQBxfPpt2qpMRY9vXUaemXTXk%3D&reserved=0>

https://www.economist.com/leaders/2022/11/17/there-is-a-better-way-to-help-poor-countries-fight-climate-change?utm_content=ed-picks-article-link-2&etear=nl climate 2&utm_campaign=r.the-climate-issue&utm_medium=email.internal-newsletter.np&utm_source=salesforce-marketing-cloud&utm_term=11/21/2022&utm_id=1396455

<https://www.cgdev.org/topics/sustainable-development-finance>

Climate Change blogs in IMF

<https://www.imf.org/en/Blogs>

<https://www.imf.org/en/Blogs/Articles/2022/11/15/how-blended-finance-can-support-climate-transition-in-emerging-and-developing-economies>

<https://www.economist.com/leaders/2022/11/17/there-is-a-better-way-to-help-poor-countries-fight-climate-change>

China

<https://www.economist.com/finance-and-economics/2019/07/13/a-new-study-tracks-the-surge-in-chinese-loans-to-poor-countries>

<https://www.economist.com/leaders/2022/08/25/how-china-should-handle-its-bad-loans-to-poor-countries>

<https://www.nytimes.com/2023/11/01/business/china-rural-jobs-migrant-workers.html?smid=nytcore-android-share>

Sri Lanka :

<https://www.economist.com/the-economist-explains/2022/07/19/why-is-sri-lanka-in-turmoil>

<https://www.aljazeera.com/news/2022/7/10/sri-lanka-protests-how-did-we-get-here-and-what-comes-next>

<https://www.economist.com/finance-and-economics/2022/04/16/sri-lankas-default-could-be-the-first-of-many>

Climate change

<https://www.economist.com/climate-change>

<https://www.economist.com/schools-brief/2020/05/30/climate-adaptation-policies-are-needed-more-than-ever>

<https://www.economist.com/graphic-detail/2022/11/11/how-much-money-is-needed-to-fight-climate-change>

<https://www.semafor.com/article/10/11/2023/world-bank-debt-relief-climate>

Argentina :

From the NY Times daily podcast:

<https://open.spotify.com/episode/3Th4U98A9pcR1EnseyIjCL?si=l9sTLHJUQwevLYokk7dIOQ>

ACADEMIC POLICIES:

- **Academic Integrity:** 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 for more information).
En français: L'université McGill attache une haute importance à l'honnêteté académique. Il incombe par conséquent à tous les étudiants de comprendre ce que l'on entend par tricherie, plagiat et autres infractions académiques, ainsi que les conséquences que peuvent avoir de telles actions, selon le Code de conduite de l'étudiant et des procédures disciplinaires (pour de plus amples renseignements, veuillez consulter le site www.mcgill.ca/students/srr).
- **A Note about the final exam:** 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.
- **Copyright of course materials:** © Instructor generated course materials (e.g., handouts, notes, summaries, exam questions, etc.) are protected by law and may not be copied or distributed in any form or in any medium without explicit permission of the instructor. Note that infringements of copyright can be subject to follow up by the University under the Code of Student Conduct and Disciplinary Procedures.
- **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.**
En français: "Conformément à la Charte des droits de l'étudiant de l'Université McGill, chaque étudiant a le droit de soumettre en français ou en anglais tout travail écrit devant être noté (sauf dans le cas des cours dont l'un des objets est la maîtrise d'une langue)."
- If you have a disability please contact the instructor to arrange a time to discuss your situation. It would be helpful if you contact the Office for Students with Disabilities at 398-6009 before you do this.
- Additional policies governing academic issues which affect students can be found in the [McGill Charter of Students' Rights](#)

Recording of sessions:

Please read the Guidelines on Remote Teaching and Learning [<https://www.mcgill.ca/tls/instructors/class-disruption/strategies/guidelines-remote>] and the course outline for this course in myCourses. You will be notified through a 'pop-up' box in Zoom if a lecture or portion of a class is being recorded. By remaining in sessions that are recorded, you agree to the recording, and you understand that your image, voice, and name may be disclosed to classmates. You also understand that recordings will be made available in myCourses to students registered in the course.

My e-mail policy: I will try to reply to your e-mail within 48 hours. However, given the large number of students in my classes, this will not always be possible. Also, please keep the e-mails short and simple:

Short e-mails to which I can answer 'yes' or 'no' will be answered more quickly.

Long e-mails that require long answers may or may not be answered, and are likely to take longer to answer. If your query is that involved, please stop by during office hours

Please check the FAQs and the discussion page first, before you e-mail, to see if your question or concern is answered there.

- I will also be holding extra office hours a day or two before the midterms and final (times TBA). Please note that **under no circumstances will I answer questions pertaining to the examination the day of the exam.** If you have questions pertaining to the exam, I will gladly answer them on other days and especially during the special office hours that are dedicated for that purpose.

My Re-read policy:

We understand that mistakes occasionally happen. We do our very best to ensure fair grading and to minimize errors. Nevertheless, if you disagree with the grade you have received in your mid-term exam, you may opt to have your exam re-read. Before you do, please make sure you first carefully compare your answers to the solutions we provide you. To request a re-read, you must submit to me (the instructor, not the TAs) your exam with a written justification for the re-read, specifying the question which you felt was incorrectly graded. I will then re-read and reassess the answer. Please note your grade may go up, down, or stay the same. I may also review the entire exam. This written request for re-read must be submitted within 7 days of receiving the exam. Policies on final exam re-reads are determined by the Faculty of Arts.

Important Miscellanea:

Please note that this is a very large class with over 200 students and thus there are several ground rules to follow to maximize your learning environment and experience.

1) Expectations for Class participation:

- It is important for you to attend the fixed lectures, even though they will be recorded and put on MyCourses.
- I will attempt to use the Chat function, but note that it is difficult to monitor this while presenting. You may also use the raise hand function.
- While I encourage you to keep the camera on if you are comfortable doing so, I would request that you make sure you are muted at all times except when you are asking a question or making a comment in class.
- Because of the class size, it will not always be possible to take up all of your questions. (There are venues for your unasked question to be heard – see below)

2) 'Hot topics': Most of the topics that we will cover are associated with many different points of view. We will be covering many 'hot topics', some of which may be controversial to some, if not many. Many of these 'hot topics' are ideal for open class-room debate. However, we will not always have the time or the resources to open the debate to the class-room in its fullest extent. We will nonetheless attempt to approach the subjects as objectively and scientifically as possible. That said, there are numerous venues for you to further the debate: you can (and should!) use the instructor and TA office hours, the conferences, and the Discussion Page on MyCourses.

3) Frequently Asked Questions: during the course of the semester, I will undoubtedly receive Frequently Asked Questions. I will maintain an FAQ page on MyCourses.

4) Have any more questions, now or during the semester? There are a number of places for you to go to have them answered. Use the instructor's and the TAs office hours – they are there for you!

