COURSE AND CONTACT INFORMATION
Course: ECON 6295 Applied Development Economics
Section 16
CRN xxxx
Semester: Fall 2017
Time: TBD
Location: TBD

INSTRUCTOR
Name: Matthew Flagge, Ph.D.
Campus Address: Department of Economics
2115 G St., NW, Washington, DC 20015
Phone: (202) 994-6150
E-mail: TBD
Office Hours: By appointment

COURSE DESCRIPTION
This course will be an introduction to the field of Development Economics. We will provide a broad survey of various areas of research and activity in the field of development, to help ground students in an understanding of the complex causes of underdevelopment and modern views about how to best make development succeed. We will focus on both the theory underlying development economics, as well as the analytical tools used in development research, in order to empower students to be participants in this rapidly evolving field.

PREREQUISITES
Students are expected to have taken ECON 6301 Applied Microeconomics, ECON 6305 Applied Macroeconomics, and ECON 6375 Applied Econometrics, or the equivalent, prior to enrolling in the course. Additionally, a working understanding of the concepts of calculus will be assumed by the instructor. If you wish to take the course prior to completing the prerequisites, please email the instructor to discuss your situation.

TEXT

I will give several papers as assigned readings.
COURSE OBJECTIVES
Students will learn how to:
  • Understand the main dimensions and challenges of economic development;
  • Identify the role of development economics in addressing these challenges;
  • Translate development ideas into practice;
  • Apply a set of tools and principles to underdevelopment problems;
  • Construct creative economic models using rigorous empirical analysis skills.

LEARNING OUTCOMES
After completing this course, students will be able to:
  1. Engage policy discussions with development economists using a shared vocabulary and evaluative framework
  2. Compare and contrast different growth experiences, development levels, and economic development challenges across countries, and analyze, drawing from appropriate economic theories and empirical evidence
  3. Use basic versions of some key models of development economics to measure development indicators and, in a general sense, predict development outcomes at micro and macro levels given assumptions
  4. Analyze conditions necessary for proposed development and poverty alleviation strategies, policies, and programs to be effective at realizing their objectives; appropriate analysis includes empirical evidence as well as theoretical underpinnings.

AVERAGE MINIMUM AMOUNT OF INDEPENDENT, OUT-OF-CLASS, LEARNING EXPECTED PER WEEK
In a 15-week semester, including exam week, you should expect to spend a minimum of 4 hours a week for each hour of instruction for a 3-credit course. For a 2 ½ hour course, this means that you should expect to study a minimum of 10 hours outside of class each week. The actual number of hours depends on many factors. Success in this class is likely to require a substantial amount of independent learning beyond the minimum listed above.

GRADING
Midterm: 25%
Final: 30%
Class Participation: 10%
Problem Sets: 10%
Research Paper/Presentation: 25%

EXAMS
There will be an in-class midterm covering topics from the first half of the course. The final exam will be cumulative and given on the day prescribed by the University.

PROBLEM SETS
There will be approximately four problem sets assigned throughout the course of the semester. They will include the use of statistical software, such as Stata or SAS, to apply techniques learned in class; traditional problems, involving math or diagrams; and critical thinking components involving short answers or essays (~ 1 page max). Answers to the critical thinking questions will be graded based on the clarity, logical structure, and persuasiveness of the student’s arguments. Students may work in small groups on the problem sets to facilitate discussion and debate.

RESEARCH PAPER / PRESENTATION
The class will include a short research paper on some topic in development. It should include a review of recent literature as well as an analytical component performed by the student. Throughout the course, we will be introducing students to an assortment of development-related data sources they may find useful for completion of their papers, though students are welcome and encouraged to use data not mentioned explicitly in class. The final class will consist of presentations of the research topics. Clarity of writing and presentation will be considered in the paper grades.

UNIVERSITY POLICY ON RELIGIOUS HOLIDAYS
1. Students should notify faculty during the first week of the semester of their intention to be absent from class on their day(s) of religious observance;
2. Faculty should extend to these students the courtesy of absence without penalty on such occasions, including permission to make up examinations;
3. Faculty who intend to observe a religious holiday should arrange at the beginning of the semester to reschedule missed classes or to make other provisions for their course-related activities
For GW’s teaching policies, see http://www.gwu.edu/~academic/Teaching/main.htm

ACADEMIC INTEGRITY
I personally support the GW Code of Academic Integrity. It states: “Academic dishonesty is defined as cheating of any kind, including misrepresenting one's own work, submitting the work of others in whole or part without crediting them and without appropriate authorization, and the fabrication of information.” Please note that allowing another student to copy your work is defined as cheating under the Academic Integrity code.

➡️ Examples of academically dishonest behavior include, but are not limited to:
1) Cheating
2) Fabrication
3) Plagiarism
4) Falsification and forgery of University academic documents
5) Facilitating academic dishonesty
Sanctions range from failure of the assignment, to failure of the course, to suspension or expulsion from the University.

For the remainder of the code, see:  http://www.gwu.edu/~ntegrity/code.html

SUPPORT FOR STUDENTS OUTSIDE THE CLASSROOM

DISABILITY SUPPORT SERVICES (DSS)
Any student who may need an accommodation based on the potential impact of a disability should contact the Disability Support Services office at 202-994-8250 in the Rome Hall, Suite 102, to establish eligibility and to coordinate reasonable accommodations. For additional information, please refer to: http://gwired.gwu.edu/dss/

UNIVERSITY COUNSELING CENTER (UCC) 202-994-5300
The University Counseling Center (UCC) offers 24/7 assistance and referral to address students' personal, social, career, and study skills problems. Services for students include:
- crisis and emergency mental health consultations
- confidential assessment, counseling services (individual and small group), and referrals
http://gwired.gwu.edu/counsel/CounselingServices/AcademicSupportServices

SECURITY
In the case of an emergency, if at all possible, the class should shelter in place. If the building that the class is in is affected, follow the evacuation procedures for the building. After evacuation, seek shelter at a predetermined rendezvous location.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Week</th>
<th>Topics</th>
<th>Readings</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>Introduction and course outline, What is Development, Schools of thought in Economic Development, Role of History</td>
<td>JS Ch. 1-3</td>
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<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>Impact Analysis</td>
<td>JS Ch. 4, Appendix 4.1-4.2</td>
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<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>Role of Inequality</td>
<td>JS Ch. 6</td>
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<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>International Trade and Industrialization</td>
<td>JS. Ch. 7</td>
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<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td>Technological Catch-up and Leapfrogging</td>
<td>(Assigned papers)</td>
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<tr>
<td>6</td>
<td>International Finance and Exchange Rates</td>
<td>JS Ch. 10</td>
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<tr>
<td>7</td>
<td>Population and Development</td>
<td>JS Ch. 11</td>
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<tr>
<td>8</td>
<td><strong>(Midterm)</strong></td>
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<td>9</td>
<td>Financial Services and Social Assistance</td>
<td>JS Ch. 13-14</td>
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<td>10</td>
<td>Sustainable Development and the Environment</td>
<td>JS Ch. 15</td>
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<td>11</td>
<td>Human Capital: Education and Health</td>
<td>JS Ch. 17</td>
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<td>12</td>
<td>Development Aid</td>
<td>JS Ch. 19</td>
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<tr>
<td>13</td>
<td>Institutional Innovations</td>
<td>JS Ch. 20</td>
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<td>14</td>
<td>Political Economy and the Role of the State</td>
<td>JS Ch. 21</td>
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<tr>
<td>15</td>
<td><strong>(Research Presentations)</strong></td>
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