

University of Waterloo
Department of Economics
ECON 488: Economic Growth

Instructor: Professor Joseph DeJuan
Office: Hagey Hall 208
Phone: 519-888-4567 ext. 33549
E-mail: jdejuan@uwaterloo.ca
Term/ Year: Spring 2020

Welcome to ECON 488. This course is concerned with the vast differences in income per capita across countries and over time. It uses economic models to understand and analyze the role of factor accumulation, technology, institutions, culture, and international aid, among others, in fostering productivity and economic growth. The prerequisite of this course is ECON 306. Also, a working knowledge of calculus, linear algebra, probability, and statistics is required.

Textbook:

Romer, D. *Advanced Macroeconomics*, 4th or 5th edition, McGraw Hill.

Evaluation

Assignments (4 @ 12.5% each; due dates TBA)
Presentation
Exam (July 16th)

Weight

50%
20%
30%
100%

Important Notices

- There will be four assignments, each worth 12.5% of the final grade. Assignments must be submitted in Waterloo LEARN course Dropbox on the due date. The penalty for late submission is 30% per day. Assignments will not be accepted three days after the due date.
- Each student will be required to prepare and present one journal article from the list to be provided. Articles are assigned on a first come, first served basis. Presentations will be delivered using LEARN Virtual Classroom and PowerPoint (or other electronic digital visual aids). Presentations will be scheduled throughout the term as the course progresses. Details about the presentation will be posted on Waterloo LEARN.
- When sending email, please use your UWaterloo email account. Write "ECON 488" on the subject line of your email, and include your full name and student ID in your message.
- The Announcements section of the Waterloo LEARN course home page will be used to communicate new or changing information about the course. Check and read the announcements regularly.
- There will be a lot of readings (e.g., book chapters and journal articles) in this course. It is recommended to read ahead in order not to fall behind. Don't procrastinate.

Lecture Topics

Readings (e.g., book chapters and journal articles) will be posted on Waterloo LEARN as the term progresses. Please note that modifications or eliminations of certain topic might be required given our limited time together. Any necessary modifications to the course content will be announced on Waterloo LEARN.

1. Stylized Facts about Cross-country Income per Capita
2. Neoclassical Growth Model
3. Endogenous Growth
4. Institutions and Growth
5. Other fundamental causes: Culture, Openness, and International Aid

Cross-listed course

Please note that a cross-listed course will count in all respective averages no matter under which rubric it has been taken. For example, a PHIL/PSCI cross-list will count in a Philosophy major average, even if the course was taken under the Political Science rubric.

Academic Integrity

Academic Integrity: In order to maintain a culture of academic integrity, members of the University of Waterloo are expected to promote honesty, trust, fairness, respect and responsibility. See the [UWaterloo Academic Integrity](#) webpage and the [Arts Academic Integrity](#) webpage for more information.

Discipline: A student is expected to know what constitutes academic integrity, to avoid committing academic offences, and to take responsibility for his/her actions. A student who is unsure whether an action constitutes an offence, or who needs help in learning how to avoid offences (e.g., plagiarism, cheating) or about “rules” for group work/collaboration should seek guidance from the course professor, academic advisor, or the Undergraduate Associate Dean. When misconduct has been found to have occurred, disciplinary penalties will be imposed under Policy 71 – Student Discipline. For information on categories of offenses and types of penalties, students should refer to [Policy 71 - Student Discipline](#). For typical penalties check [Guidelines for the Assessment of Penalties](#).

Grievance: A student who believes that a decision affecting some aspect of his/her university life has been unfair or unreasonable may have grounds for initiating a grievance. [Read Policy 70 - Student Petitions and Grievances](#), Section 4. When in doubt, please be certain to contact the department’s administrative assistant who will provide further assistance.

Appeals: A decision made or penalty imposed under Policy 70 - Student Petitions and Grievances (other than a petition) or Policy 71 - Student Discipline may be appealed if there is a ground. A student who believes he/she has a ground for an appeal should refer to [Policy 72 - Student Appeals](#).

Accommodation for Students with Disabilities

Note for students with disabilities: [The AccessAbility Services office](#), located on the first floor of the Needles Hall extension (1401), collaborates with all academic departments to arrange appropriate accommodations for students with disabilities without compromising the academic integrity of the curriculum. If you require academic accommodations to lessen the impact of your disability, please register with the AS office at the beginning of each academic term.

Turnitin.com: Text matching software (Turnitin®) will be used to screen assignments in this course. This is being done to verify that use of all material and sources in assignments is documented. Students will be given an option if they do not want to have their assignment screened by Turnitin®. In the first week of the term, details will be provided about arrangements and alternatives for the use of Turnitin® in this course. Note: students must be given a reasonable option if they do not want to have their assignment screened by Turnitin®. See [guidelines for instructors](#) for more information.

Mental Health Support

All of us need a support system. The faculty and staff in Arts encourage students to seek out mental health supports if they are needed.

On Campus

- Counselling Services: counselling.services@uwaterloo.ca / 519-888-4567 ext 32655
- [MATES](#): one-to-one peer support program offered by Federation of Students (FEDS) and Counselling Services
- Health Services Emergency service: located across the creek from Student Life Centre

Off campus, 24/7

- [Good2Talk](#): Free confidential help line for post-secondary students. Phone: 1-866-925-5454
- Grand River Hospital: Emergency care for mental health crisis. Phone: 519-749-433 ext. 6880
- [Here 24/7](#): Mental Health and Crisis Service Team. Phone: 1-844-437-3247
- [OK2BME](#): set of support services for lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender or questioning teens in Waterloo. Phone: 519-884-0000 extension 213

Full details can be found online at the Faculty of ARTS [website](#)

Download [UWaterloo and regional mental health resources \(PDF\)](#)

Download the [WatSafe](#) app to your phone to quickly access mental health support information

Territorial Acknowledgement

We acknowledge that we are living and working on the traditional territory of the Attawandaron (also known as Neutral), Anishinaabeg and Haudenosaunee peoples. The University of Waterloo is situated on the Haldimand Tract, the land promised to the Six Nations that includes six miles on each side of the Grand River.