

University of Waterloo/Stratford Campus

GBDA 305 Global Development and Business

Instructor: Dr. Zhen He

Winter 2015

Lectures: Wednesday 9: 00 am-10: 50 am; 11:00 am-11:50 am; in DMS 2022

Office: TBA

Office hours: Wednesday 12:00 pm-1:00 pm (or by appointment)

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COURSE DESCRIPTION:

This is an introductory economic development course. We mainly look at the processes of industrialization and economic development and the relation of these processes to the present state of global economic interconnectedness. This course covers a wide range of materials and ideas, and touches on almost every branch of economics. Main topics of analysis include economic growth, poverty and income distribution, population, migration, urbanization, technology, agricultural and rural development, education, health, the environment, international trade and finance, debt, and financial crises. While examining these larger themes, the course adopts a problem- and policy-oriented approach, and will be organized around a series of case studies, for which students will be called upon to analyze and develop practical responses.

COURSE GOALS AND LEARNING OUTCOMES:

Upon completion of this course, student should:

- Understand the nature and meaning of development and underdevelopment.
- Be familiar with the sources of national and international economic growth.
- Recognize the increasing interdependence of the world economy in areas such as food, energy, natural resources, technology, information, and financial flows.
- Develop knowledge in areas like poverty, inequality, population growth, the impact of rapid urbanization and expansion of megacities, persistent public health challenges, environmental decay, and regions experiencing rural stagnation, etc.
- Be familiar with contemporary economic problems in countries in Africa, Asia, Latin America, and developing Europe and the Middle East, and make independent and informed judgments and policy conclusions about their possible resolution.

COURSE MATERIAL:

Todaro, Michael P. and Stephen C. Smith, **Economic Development**, 12th edition, published by Pearson/Prentice Hall, 2015.

TENTATIVE COURSE OUTLINE:

Date	Topic	Chapter
January, 7	Introducing Economic Development: A Global Perspective	Ch. 1
January, 14	Comparative Economic Development	Ch. 2
January, 21	Poverty, Inequality, and Development	Ch. 5
January, 28	Population Growth and Economic Development: Causes, Consequences, and Controversies	Ch. 6
February, 4	Urbanization and Rural-Urban Migration: Theory and Policy	Ch. 7
February, 11	Human Capital: Education and Health in Economic Development	Ch. 8
February, 25	Agricultural Transformation and Rural Development	Ch. 9
March, 4	The Environment and Development	Ch. 10
March, 11	Development Policymaking and the Roles of Market, State, and Civil Society	Ch. 11
March, 18	International Trade Theory and Development Strategy	Ch. 12
March, 25	Balance of Payments, Debt, Financial Crises, and Stabilization Policies	Ch. 13
April, 1	Remainder/Group Project Exhibition	

- Course materials (e.g. lecture slides, assigned readings, announcements, etc.) will be posted on the LEARN website <http://learn.uwaterloo.ca>
The LEARN site is down occasionally. Save the course materials to your computer as soon as they are posted. Check LEARN daily. You are responsible for making yourself aware of any changes made to the course by checking LEARN daily.

USEFUL WEB SITES:

World Bank (www.worldbank.org)

Countries and Regions (www.worldbank.org/html/extdr/regions.htm)

World Bank Development Data and Statistics (www.worldbank.org/data/)

International Monetary Fund (www.imf.org)

IMF World Economic Outlook (<http://www.imf.org/external/pubs/ft/weo/2014/02/>)

United Nations Economic and Social Development (www.un.org/ecosocdev/)

United Nations Statistics Division (unstats.un.org/unsd/)

United Nations Development Program (www.undp.org)

Human Development Report (<http://hdr.undp.org/en/>)

EVALUATION:

The final grade for the course will be determined according to the following formula:

Category	Weight	Due Day
Class Contribution	15 %	/
Short Paper	15 %	January 28 th , 2014
Presentation	10 %	/
Case Analysis	30 %	March 4 th , 2014
Group Project	30 %	March 25 th , 2014

1) Class Contribution (15%)

The effective and positive classroom experience depends on thorough preparation and high-quality class contribution. Class contribution will be evaluated as follows:

Category	Class Contribution	Grade
Good	show knowledge of case/readings and other relevant course materials	(8~10)
Excellent	make comments that add value to the discussion at a level beyond the case facts	(11~13)
Outstanding	take risks in attempting to answer difficult questions; breaks new ground and add substantial value to the discussion	(14~15)

Please be advised that the focus is on quality rather than quantity. Grade is determined based on your best contribution.

2) Short Paper (Individual) (15%)

Submit a short paper (**four pages in length, font-size 12, double-spaced**) on the general growth and development experience of a country that is assigned by the instructor. The detailed requirement will be posted on LEARN and the due day is **January 28th, 2014** in class.

3) Presentation (Individual) (10%)

Starting from January 21st, 2014, we'll have four students present at the beginning of each class. The time slots are allocated on a first-come, first-served basis. The presentation topic can be current events/news/journal articles that are related to economic development issues. Presentation topic needs to be approved by the instructor. I'll bring a sign-up sheet to class and put down the dates and topics selected by students. This sheet will be posted on LEARN and will be updated frequently. In this way, you can see what have been covered. The objective is to cover as many topics as possible and keep the presentation interesting. For example, if the rural development issue in China is marked down by another student, you cannot discuss this issue. However, you can discuss the rural development issue in India, or the environment issue in China.

Presentations will last no longer than **4 minutes**. Time limits will be enforced ruthlessly. The slides must be sent to the instructor at least **24 hours** before your presentation. Evaluation will be based on three criteria: informativeness, analysis, and style. Above all, keep your classmates interested.

4) Case Analysis (Individual) (30%)

Submit a case analysis (**10 pages in length, font-size 12, double-spaced**). The detailed requirement will be posted on LEARN and the due day is **March 4th, 2014** in class.

5) Group Project (30%)

Students will be broken into groups. Each group contains four members and group members will be assigned by the instructor. Each team will create a **10 minutes** video clip on DVD. Each team will use a movie, a T.V. special/documentary, a T.V. series, news, and etc. to present and analyze a contemporary economic development issue. Topic cannot be duplicated, so please send me your choice as soon as you have it and that topic will be reserved for your group. You should view the video clip as an opportunity to show off your creativity, to hone your research and presentation skills, and to attack a real issue. The due day is **March 25th, 2014** in class. I will select several DVDs to show on the last class.

Evaluation will be based on three criteria:

- Informativeness: How much did we learn from your video presentation? Does the group cover important and useful economic development concepts and issues?
- Analysis: Did we gain novel insights into the topic? Was the selected media useful and relevant to the topic?
- Style: Was your video clip clear and compelling?

OTHER NOTES:

Communication

When sending email to me, please always use your UW email account. Put “GBDA 305” in the subject line and include your full name and student ID in the message.

Expectations

You are expected to be fully engaged in the entire learning process. This means devoting time to preparation before class, listening to others during class discussions and engaging in class discussions.

Electronic Device Policy

Cell phones must be turned off or muted for the duration of the lecture. • Laptop/tablet may only be used to view lecture material.

Classroom Protocols

The highest level of courtesy and professional behaviour are expected from every student. In particular, be punctual and turn off all audible ringers on all devices during class. As a courtesy to the custodial staff, if you have coffee, water, etc., please dispose of your garbage when you leave the classroom.

Institutional-required statements for undergraduate course outlines approved by Senate Undergraduate Council, April 14, 2009

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](https://uwaterloo.ca/academic-integrity/) (<https://uwaterloo.ca/academic-integrity/>) and the [Arts Academic Integrity Office](#)

[Webpage \(http://arts.uwaterloo.ca/current-undergraduates/academic-responsibility\)](http://arts.uwaterloo.ca/current-undergraduates/academic-responsibility) for more information.

Discipline: A student is expected to know what constitutes academic integrity, to avoid committing academic offenses, and to take responsibility for his/her actions. A student who is unsure whether an action constitutes an offense, or who needs help in learning how to avoid offenses (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, **including writing exams in a section that you are not registered in**, 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 found at <http://www.adm.uwaterloo.ca/infosec/guidelines/penaltyguidelines.htm>.

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](#). In addition, read [the Student Grievance Process](#) for the Faculty of Arts found at <https://uwaterloo.ca/arts/current-undergraduates/student-support/student-grievances-faculty-arts-processes>.

Appeals: A student may appeal the finding and/or penalty in a decision made under Policy 70 - Student Petitions and Grievances (other than regarding a petition) or Policy 71 - Student Discipline if a ground for an appeal can be established. Read [Policy 72 - Student Appeals](#).

Accommodation for Students with Disabilities

Note for students with disabilities: The [AccessAbility Services office](#), located in Needles Hall Room 1132, 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.