

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT I

ECONOMICS 2125B-001

Department of Economics
Western University

Leigh MacDonald

January 2017

Office: 4077 SSC

Phone: 661-2111 ext. 85224

Email: lmacdon5@uwo.ca

(To ensure your messages are received, please use “Ec 2125” in the subject line. Also do not email me within OWL, use the email address above. See E-mail Policies below.)

Course website: <https://owl.uwo.ca/portal>

Office Hours: (tentative) Wednesdays: 2:30- 3:30 and Thursdays: 2:00 – 3:00.

Undergraduate Enquiries: 4075 SSC, Phone: 519 661-3507

Registration

You are responsible for ensuring you are registered in the correct courses. If you are not registered in this course, the Department will not release any of your marks until your registration is corrected. You may check your timetable by using the Login on the Student Services website at <https://student.uwo.ca>. If you notice a problem, please contact your home Faculty Academic Counsellor immediately.

Prerequisite Note

The prerequisites for this course are **Economics 1021A/B** and **1022A/B**, or **Economics 1020** or **2001A/B**.

You are responsible for ensuring that you have successfully completed all course prerequisites, and that you have not taken an antirequisite course. Lack of prerequisites may not be used as a basis for appeal. If you are found to be ineligible for a course, you may be removed from it at any time and you will receive no adjustment to your fees. This decision cannot be appealed.

If you find that you do not have the course prerequisites, it is in your best interest to drop the course well before the end of the add/drop period. Your prompt attention to this matter will not only help protect your academic record, but will ensure that spaces become available for students who require the course in question for graduation.

Course Description:

This course examines economic development: what does economic development mean, what happens in the process of development, and what factors promote or hinder the development process? The emphasis will be on features common to developing countries and the development process, but on occasion it will be useful to discuss particulars of specific countries or regions.

The course concentrates on issues that lend themselves to economic analysis. Topics covered include various issues and concepts regarding developing countries. The topics may include: environmental issues, trade theory, financial crises and their impacts, foreign aid, and government fiscal and monetary policies.

By the end of the course students will be able to define what economic development is and what it is not. They will recognize that not all developing countries are the same due to different assets/resources/government systems. Students will be able to evaluate the different assets, resources, limitations of various developing countries, and recommend appropriate policies to advance development.

Learning Outcomes:

- Students will be able to identify many of the characteristics of developing countries and evaluate the impact of development policies on individual and social welfare.
- Students will be able to apply economic reasoning, methods and models effectively to evaluate developing countries.
- Students will be able to apply economic concepts and theories to critically analyze common issues in developing countries.
- Students will be able to identify the strengths and weaknesses of various development models.
- Students will be able to identify many human development issues in developing countries as well as formulate policies to improve key statistics.

Readings and Textbook:

The main textbook (referred to below as “Text”) is a custom package prepared specifically for our class based on the book, Michael Todaro and Stephen Smith, *Economic Development, 12th Edition* (Pearson Education, 2014). You may also use the full version of the text.

Text website: http://www.pearsonhighered.com/todaro_smith

Assessment: Option 1, Assignment without Top Hat

| | | |
|------------|--|-----|
| Midterm | Monday, February 6, 2017, 12:40- 2:15 EC 2168 | 40% |
| Assignment | various options, various dates (TBA) <u>in class</u> | 20% |
| Final Exam | TBA | 40% |

Assessment: Option 2, Assignment with Top Hat

| | | |
|------------|--|-----|
| Midterm | Monday, February 6, 2017, 12:40- 2:15 EC 2168 | 35% |
| Assignment | various options, various dates (TBA) <u>in class</u> | 20% |
| Final Exam | TBA | 35% |
| Top Hat | in-class quizzes plus interactive activities | 10% |

Assessment: Option 3, Exams only without Top Hat

| | | |
|------------|---|-----|
| Midterm | Monday, February 6, 2017, 12:40- 2:15 EC 2168 | 50% |
| Final Exam | TBA | 50% |

Assessment: Option 4, Exams only with Top Hat

| | | |
|------------|---|-----|
| Midterm | Monday, February 6, 2017, 12:40- 2:15 EC 2168 | 45% |
| Final Exam | TBA | 45% |
| Top Hat | in-class quizzes plus interactive activities | 10% |

Makeup Policy:

Makeups will be granted with approved documentation **only**. All makeups must be written within one week of the midterm date. The makeup most likely will be **essay format only**. All documentation for missed exams must be provided within **48** hours of the scheduled exam.

There will be a date set by the Department for students needing to write a makeup with **approved** documentation. For missed exams, you must take your documentation to Academic Counselling within 48 hours of the exam. Otherwise, the instructor will assign a grade of zero. For illnesses, you must print off a medical certificate and take it to the doctor, which you bring to Academic Counselling. The medical certificate can be found at https://studentservices.uwo.ca/secure/medical_document.pdf.

Top Hat Monocle: You have the option of buying a subscription to Top Hat. Top Hat will allow you to use your laptop, phone or tablet to answer questions in class. If you do not have a data plan on your phone you can also text your answers. Top Hat will be used in class to ask a variety of questions. We will likely also be using it to undertake interactive classroom activities. The 10% will be split between participating and for obtaining the correct answer. Different questions will have different breakdowns. The first week will be practice. After that, Top Hat can occur on any day, but not necessarily every day. I will also drop up to 10% of your lowest scores when calculating your final grade. If you do not wish to purchase the subscription you can opt out and option 1 of the assessment will hold for you.

Top Hat course name: Econ 2125 – Winter 2017, Direct URL: <https://app.tophat.com/e/644457>
6-digit course code: 644457

Pricing: \$24 for one term, \$36 for one year, \$72 student lifetime. For further info, please refer to the link on OWL.

Classroom Policies:

Classroom Behavior: *Standard rules of etiquette apply in the classroom.* You are to give full attention to anyone speaking, whether myself or a fellow student. Turn off (or put on vibrate) your cell phone. Do not answer your cell phone in class. No MP3 players or iPods. No texting. If you bring in a laptop, you are to be taking notes, not surfing the internet. Be on time for class. If you are late or have to leave early, enter and exit as quietly as possible. You are to behave so as not to be a distraction to me or to your fellow students. Those students who repeatedly break these rules will be asked to leave the classroom (this includes chronic lateness).

OWL: It is your responsibility to check the OWL site for this class as well as your email on a regular basis. An outline of the lecture notes will be available on OWL. **You are to bring this outline to class with you, as I will assume that you have it, and I will not leave you sufficient time to copy this information down.** These lecture notes will not be complete, and by having them with you, it is easy to see which notes must be copied. You are responsible for any announcements or assignments made in class as well as any handouts that may be given. This includes any changes made to the syllabus as well as test date changes.

Attendance Policy: You are expected to attend class on a regular basis. Although attendance is not formally a component of your grade (if you are not using Top Hat) there is a strong correlation between class attendance and performance! If you miss a class, it is your responsibility to find out what you have missed from a classmate. I do not provide my lecture notes to students, other than what is on OWL.

E-mail Policies:

Please refer carefully to the following e-mail policies. According to FIPPA, I am not allowed to respond to non-UWO email addresses. So please use your UWO email address in all communications. Also, please enter the course number in the subject heading of your email. I will try to respond to all emails within 24 hours, not counting the weekend. I will NOT respond to emails such as the following:

- 1) Any question that is on this syllabus or elsewhere on OWL: such as exam dates, exam times, course material etc. If you have not received a reply to your question, check the syllabus and OWL.
- 2) The makeup policy is clearly stated on the syllabus, refer to it if needed.
- 3) Requests for extra assignments, reweighting of exams, assignments etc. as these are prohibited under Senate regulations.
- 4) Requests for my lecture notes. I do not provide my lecture notes to students, other than the material which is on OWL.

Assignment Options: To be decided in class. There will be more than one option. These are some tentative ideas.

The material this semester is quite different from the material last semester, and as such your topics chosen must receive my approval in advance. There will be deadlines to email me requesting approval, and if you do not meet those deadlines, you will be recorded as having chosen the no assignment option.

Option 1: Written Assignment, **due date Monday, March 20, 2017 IN CLASS.** More details will be provided later. This will be a different type of assignment with a different rubric compared to Economics 2124. Due date for approval of topic is **Monday, March 13, 2017.**

Option 2: Class presentation, Mondays throughout the term or running an interactive class activity.

There are limited dates and slots for the class presentation, and these are first-come, first-served. If you wish to do a presentation, you **must** have a partner. The presentations will be on Mondays throughout the term, except for the Monday before the exams and the Monday of the midterm. More details to be provided later.

Option 3: Video assignment, **due date Wednesday, March 22nd, 2017 IN CLASS.**

In groups of 2-4, you may choose to develop a video dealing with developing country content. You can choose to critique or expand on theories discussed in class; examine issues in a developing country not on the list in option 1; compare 2 or more developing countries; etc. Your topic must be approved by me in advance. Your video must be interesting and classroom appropriate. More detail will be provided later. Due date for approval of video topic is **Wednesday, March 15, 2017.**

Assignment Due Date:

The assignments are due *in class on the due date*. If the assignment is late, the following penalty schedule will apply. Assignments must be handed into the instructor personally. Assignments slipped under my door will be counted as late.

Late paper penalties:

50 points 1-24 hours late
no credit if more than 24 hours late.

NB: Weekends **will** count when deciding on late paper penalties

Note: I will not accept excuses such as I can't open my file, I can't find my disk, etc. I highly recommend you save multiple copies of your assignment on your hard drive and on disk.

If you are doing a presentation, and miss your presentation date, you will receive a grade of zero, unless you provide medical documentation.

Course Website: <https://owl.uwo.ca/portal>

The course website will provide some course content, **but not all**. Most of the slides used in class will be uploaded on the course website. It is advisable to download them and bring them to class. Keep in mind that there will be material added to the lecture notes that is **not** provided on the website, or in the textbook.

Tentative Outline: Based on class interest, I may change the focus to less lecture based and more interactive

SYLLABUS AND READING LIST: Material may be added or deleted as the course progresses.

- | | | |
|-----|---------------------------------------|------------------------------|
| 1. | Introduction | Chapter 1 |
| 2. | The Environment | Chapter 10 Full Text |
| 3. | Case Study | |
| 4. | Foreign Aid | Chapter 14 Full Text |
| 5. | International Trade | Chapter 12 Full Text |
| 6. | Case Study | |
| 7. | Balance of Payments, Financial Crises | Chapter 13 Full Text |
| 8. | Case Study | |
| 9. | Finances and Fiscal Policy | Chapter 15 Full Text |
| 10. | Case Studies | Applications of all Chapters |

If you or someone you know is experiencing distress, there are several resources here at Western to assist you. Please visit <http://www.uwo.ca/uwocom/mentalhealth/> for more information on these resources and on mental health.

Please Note
Department Policies for 2016 – 2017

Remember that the University expects all students to take responsibility for their own academic Programs. Also remember to check your registration to make sure you are enrolled in the correct courses.

1. Guidelines and policies for the Faculty of Social Science and the Department of Economics are posted online in the current Western Academic Calendar at <http://westerncalendar.uwo.ca>.
2. Students must familiarize themselves with the “Rules of Conduct for Examinations” <http://westerncalendar.uwo.ca/2016/pg136.html>.
3. **Cheating as an academic offence:** Students are responsible for understanding what it means to “cheat”. The Department of Economics treats cheating incidents very seriously and will investigate any suspect behavior. Students found guilty will incur penalties that could include a failing grade or being barred from future registration in other economics courses or programs. The University may impose further penalties such as a notation on your official academic transcript, suspension or expulsion.
4. **Plagiarism:** Students must write their essays and assignments in their own words. Whenever students take an idea or a passage from another author, they must acknowledge it by using quotation marks where appropriate and referencing with footnotes or citations. Plagiarism is a major academic offence (see Scholastic Offence Policy in the current UWO Academic Calendar at <http://westerncalendar.uwo.ca/2016/pg113.html>).

The University of Western Ontario uses software to check for plagiarism and students may be required to submit their written work in electronic form. Those found guilty will have penalties imposed as noted in point 3.

5. It is Department of Economics policy that **NO** assignments be dated, stamped or accepted by staff. Students are responsible for submitting assignments in class or to the instructor during office hours.
6. When appealing a mark, students should refer to the University’s Procedures in the current UWO Academic Calendar (<http://westerncalendar.uwo.ca/2016/pg112.html>). Please note the relevant deadlines.

The Department will not consider any appeal unless an attempt has been made to settle the matter first with your instructor. If after this discussion you remain dissatisfied with a grade or other decision, you may proceed with a written appeal (e-mails are not acceptable) to the Undergraduate Director in Economics, stating the reasons for your appeal. A useful form and checklist is provided at (http://economics.uwo.ca/undergraduate/program_counselling/responsibilities_policies.html#appeals).

7. Systematic adjustments of a class grade distribution (either up or down) can occur in Economics courses. The fact that grades have been adjusted is **not** grounds for an appeal.
8. Note the following add and drop deadlines:

Last day to **add** a first term half course:
Friday, January 13th, 2017

Last day to **drop** first term half course without academic penalty:
Tuesday, March 7th, 2017
9. Faculty of Social Science policy states that oversleeping or misreading an exam schedule is not an excuse for a make-up. This rule applies to all mid-term tests and final exams in the Department of Economics.

Policy Regarding Makeup Tests and Final Examinations

*Academic Accommodation will **not** be granted automatically on request. You **must** demonstrate by documentation that there are **compelling** medical or compassionate grounds before academic accommodation will be considered.*

If you decide to write a test or an examination, you must be prepared to accept the mark you earn. Rewriting tests or examinations, or having the value of the test or examination reweighted on a retroactive basis, is **not** permitted. Book airline flights after you know the dates of your final examinations. Airline flights must not conflict with test or final exams.

If you are requesting a makeup test for a midterm or a final examination, unless medically incapable, notify your instructor by email or phone, preferably prior to the scheduled date of the test, but definitely within **24 hours** of the date of the test or exam. Failure to follow this procedure may result in denial of a request for academic accommodation or result in a grade of zero. Set up an appointment as soon as possible to meet personally with your instructor. If the instructor is not available, you may send an email message, copying the Undergraduate Coordinator at econugrd@uwo.ca (Social Science Room 4075). **Notifying your instructor of a missed test or exam does not automatically entitle you to a makeup test.**

Students who seek a makeup test or examination must provide medical or other relevant verification that their absence from a regularly scheduled test or examination is beyond their control. Documentation must support your reasons. Medical documentation should be given to the Academic Counselling Office of your *home* Faculty **as soon as possible (preferably within 24 hours of the test)** if you know you may not be able to write your final examination on the scheduled day and time. Failure to follow this procedure, or to provide supporting documentation, may result in denial of a request for academic accommodation or result in a grade of zero. If your documentation is not acceptable, you will be given a zero for the missed test.

For personal illness, if you consult Student Health Services regarding your illness or personal problem, you should request a Student Medical Certificate from the physician. If you were seen by an off-campus doctor, obtain a certificate from his/her office at the time of your visit. The off-campus medical certificate form must be used and can be found at: http://www.uwo.ca/univsec/pdf/academic_policies/appeals/medicalform.pdf. Notes stating "For Medical Reasons" are not considered sufficient.

For any other circumstances, if you are not sure what documentation to provide, ask your Academic Counselor. If your documentation is judged sufficient, the academic counselor will issue a Recommendation for a Special Examination (a single form for midterms or a triple color form for final examinations). Once you have this form, contact your instructor as soon as possible to make arrangements. Even if approved from your home faculty Academic Counsellor, there is no guarantee that you will be allowed to write the makeup test and exam.

For final examinations, you need permission from your *home* Faculty Counsellor, your instructor, and the Department Undergraduate Director. Failure to follow this procedure may result in an examination grade of zero. You must ensure that the Special Examination form has been signed by the instructor and Department Undergraduate Director and that the form is returned to the Academic Counseling Office for approval without delay. Make-up final examinations, if permitted, will be written within one month of the end of the exam period.

Policies Regarding Academic Accommodation

Information about the Faculty of Social Science's policies regarding academic accommodation is found on its website at <http://counselling.ssc.uwo.ca/procedures/havingproblems.asp> or in Social Science Room 2105. Your "Academic Rights and Responsibilities" are also outlined in the current UWO Calendar at <http://westerncalendar.uwo.ca/2016/pg111.html>. Claiming that "you didn't know what to do" is not an acceptable excuse for not following the stated procedures.

Policy Regarding Class Attendance

If your instructor views your class attendance as unsatisfactory, you can be prohibited from writing the final examination. If there is intent to make use of this University policy, you will be notified in writing.

Statement on Mental Health and Support Services

If you or someone you know is experiencing emotional/mental distress, there are several resources here at Western to assist you. Please visit <http://www.uwo.ca/uwocom/mentalhealth/> for more information and a complete list of resources, as well as how to obtain help.