

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT I
ECONOMICS EC2124A-001
Department of Economics
Western University

September 2020

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E-mail: lmacdon5@uwo.ca. Please use EC 2124 in the subject heading of your email to make sure that I receive it.

Office Hours (tentative): Wednesdays 1:30- 3 pm (ET) via Zoom. You must use your UWO credentials to join the Zoom meetings.

Delivery Mode: online, asynchronous

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

Undergraduate inquiries: 519-661-3507 SSC Room 4075 or econugrd@uwo.ca

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 prerequisite for this course is **Economics 1021A/B and 1022A/B or 2001A/B**.

You are responsible for ensuring that you have successfully completed all course prerequisites, and that you have not taken any anti-requisite courses. 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 Objectives:

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 the measurement of development, theories of growth and development, human resource issues (population growth, labour markets, education and health) in developing countries and the extent of global inequality and poverty. Central planning vs. reliance on markets to foster growth and the relation between economic development and environment would also be a part of the discussion. Issues related to macro-economic policy and role of international economic relations for developing countries would be covered in the second half of the course (Economics 2125a/b).

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.

Course 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 the equilibrium in the Solow Model and understand how and why the equilibrium changes.
- Students will be able to identify many human development issues in developing countries as well as formulate policies to improve key statistics.

Textbook:

You have a variety of options available. There is a custom package (coursepack) prepared specifically for our class based on the book, Michael Todaro and Stephen Smith, *Economic Development*, 12th Edition (Pearson Education, 2014). You may also buy the full edition if you are taking both semesters.

You can order your physical books or e-texts through the bookstore at the following link:

<https://bookstore.uwo.ca/product/cebebookid9654766>

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

Technical Requirements:

- Laptop or computer
- Stable internet connection
- Microphone

- Webcam

For technical support, see the OWL Help page or contact Western Technology Services Helpdesk (<https://wts.uwo.ca/about-wts/contact.html>). Google Chrome or Mozilla Firefox are the preferred browsers for OWL; update your browser frequently.

Grading:

Due to the online nature of our course this year, assessment will be different than in the past. I am trying to give you as many tools as possible to succeed. As everyone has different interests, strengths and schedules, I am trying to give you as much flexibility as possible. Forum participation is optional, HOWEVER, reading the forum is required. You WILL be tested on content in the forums. I will calculate your grade including forum participation and excluding forum participation and take the higher of the two grades.

Note: all dates and times are tentative. The Registrar's office is in the process of approving the schedule of assessments. You will be notified if there are any changes. The time below is the window that the test will be open. The actual length of the test and quizzes will be determined and communicated later. All times are ET (times in London, Ontario).

Option 1: Including participation on the forum

| | | | |
|---------------------|---|---------------|-------|
| Midterm | Thursday, October 15, 2020 | 7 – 10 pm(ET) | 32.5% |
| Quizzes | 5 quizzes (see dates below), no makeups | 7 – 10 pm(ET) | 25% |
| Final Exam | To be scheduled by the registrar | | 32.5% |
| Forum participation | see below | | 10% |

Option 2: Without forum participation

| | | | |
|------------|---|---------------|-------|
| Midterm | Thursday, October 15, 2020 | 7 – 10 pm(ET) | 37.5% |
| Quizzes | 5 quizzes (see dates below), no makeups | 7 – 10 pm(ET) | 25% |
| Final Exam | To be scheduled by the registrar | | 37.5% |

Computer-marked multiple-choice tests and/or exams will be subject to submission for similarity review by software that will check for unusual coincidences in answer patterns that may indicate cheating. The format of the midterm and final exam will be determined later.

Students will be expected to take an academic integrity pledge before each assessment.

Makeup Policy:

Makeups for the midterm and final exam will be granted with approved documentation **only (approved by both the Instructor and Academic Counseling)**. If you have a conflict with the exam, it is your responsibility to provide the documentation to the instructor within 48 hours of the **announcement** of the scheduled exam (this means by September 11th!).

Students **must** follow Western University's procedures for approval of their absence from any exam in order to receive an accommodation. Please see the **Please Note Department Policies for 2020-2021** section of this syllabus for details on these procedures. If during the Fall 2020 term Western University announces any changes to these procedures, please follow those procedures.

Students with an **approved** absence (approved by both Academic Counseling **and** the instructor) from the midterm exam or the final exam **AND** who e-mailed me **no later than 48 hours after** the commencement of the exam will be able to write the makeup, which will be a time scheduled by the Department. There will be one time slot available for the midterm makeup exam, which may be zoom-proctored and have a different *format or length* than the original scheduled midterm exam. If these deadlines are missed, the instructor will assign a grade of zero. If students are unable to write the makeup at the time scheduled, students may be required to write a 3 hour cumulative final exam. The medical certificate can be found at https://studentservices.uwo.ca/secure/medical_document.pdf.

All submitted documents (quizzes, midterm, final exam) will be subject to submission for textual similarity review to the commercial plagiarism detection software under license to the University for the detection of plagiarism. All papers submitted for such checking will be included as source documents in the reference database for the purpose of detecting plagiarism of papers subsequently submitted to the system. Use of the service is subject to the licensing agreement, currently between Western University and Turnitin.com (<http://www.turnitin.com>).

Quizzes:

There will be five quizzes that will be administered on OWL under tests and quizzes. Each quiz will be worth 5% each. There will be **no makeups** for these quizzes. If you miss a quiz with *approved* documentation, the weight for the missed quiz will be transferred to the midterm or final exam that covers the same material. The format of the quizzes as to types of questions will be determined later.

Tentative quiz schedule (may change due to online availability), length of the quizzes will be communicated later. The time below is the tentative window that the quiz will be open. All times are ET.

| | | |
|---------|--------------------------------------|--------------|
| Quiz 1: | Thursday, September 24 th | 7 – 10 pm ET |
| Quiz 2: | Thursday, October 8 th | 7 – 10 pm ET |
| Quiz 3: | Thursday, October 29 th | 7 – 10 pm ET |
| Quiz 4: | Thursday, November 19 th | 7 – 10 pm ET |
| Quiz 5: | Thursday, December 3 rd | 7 – 10 pm ET |

Forum participation:

More information will be provided later. The forums are on OWL. You will be graded on the “quality” of your participation, rather than the quantity of your participation. You are expected to be courteous and respectful in all communications. You will be tested on material covered in the forums.

OWL:

It is your responsibility to check the OWL site for this class as well as your email on a regular basis. A schedule of readings as well as pertinent dates, etc. will be provided later. It will NOT provide ALL course content. You should check the site regularly for current updates to the reading list and announcements and the forums. An outline of the lecture notes will be available on OWL. I will also provide recorded lectures for some of the chapter content. There may be outside readings, viewings required that you will be tested on. You are responsible for any announcements or assignments made including any changes made to the syllabus as well as test date changes.

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 and for Zoom office hours. Also, please enter the course number in the subject heading of your email. I will try to respond to all emails within 48 hours, not counting the weekend, holidays or Reading Week. 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/quiz dates, exam/quiz 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 that is on OWL.

Preliminary Reading Schedule:

Material very likely **will** be added or deleted as the course progresses.

You will be tested on the textbook materials, the forums, the lecture notes and any other material added to the class.

- | | | |
|----|--------------------------------------|-----------|
| 1. | Introduction | Chapter 1 |
| 2. | Comparative Economic Development | Chapter 2 |
| 3. | Economic Growth: Concepts and Models | Chapter 3 |
| 4. | Inequality and Poverty | Chapter 5 |
| 5. | Population Growth | Chapter 6 |

7. Case Studies, extra topics, videos, etc will be added which will be applications of all chapters. These will be communicated on OWL.

How to do well?

Treat this course as you would a face-to-face course. Keep up with the readings, recordings and forums. Follow the calendar on OWL. Take notes as you go through the lesson material. Keeping handwritten notes or notes in a Word document will help you learn more effectively than just reading or watching.

Pay attention to the announcements.

Ask questions when you have them. Do not be afraid to ask questions. Check the forums if you have questions. Attend virtual office hours

Connect with others. Form virtual study groups to bounce ideas off each other.

Don't just memorize definitions, facts etc. Try to think about the overall concepts, ideas, and policies. You will be tested in a variety of methods, including short answer questions where you will need to think about pros and cons of policies, how to make things better in developing countries etc. You cannot do well on these types of questions if you do not think about the concepts. Think of the big picture!

Note: you will be tested on all material covered in the course, unless you are told otherwise. This includes the extra topics included, the topics in the forums, the lecture notes, problem sets, etc.

Copyright:

Course materials are protected by copyright. Students may take notes and make copies of course materials for their own educational purposes. Students may not reproduce (or allow others to reproduce), post or distribute lecture notes and other course materials publicly and/or for commercial purposes without written consent.

Please Note
Department & University Policies for 2020-2021

The University expects all students to take responsibility for their own Academic Programs. Students should check their registration to ensure they are enrolled in the correct courses.

Academic Rights and Responsibilities: Students should be familiar with their “Academic Rights and Responsibilities” as outlined [here](#) in the Western Academic Calendar. Claiming that “you didn’t know what to do” is not an acceptable excuse for not following the stated procedures.

Guidelines and Policies for Students are posted online in the current Western Academic Calendar at <http://westerncalendar.uwo.ca>. Undergraduate information for the Faculty of Social Science can be found at: <https://www.ssc.uwo.ca/undergraduate/index.html> and for the Department of Economics at: <https://economics.uwo.ca/undergraduate/index.html>.

Rules of Conduct for Examinations: Students are expected to know the university’s Rules of Conduct for Examinations, available [here](#).

Cheating and Academic Offences: Students are responsible for understanding what it means to “cheat.” The Department of Economics treats cheating and other academic offences seriously and will investigate any suspect behavior. Students found guilty will incur penalties such as a failing grade or being barred from future registration in Economics courses/programs. The University may impose further penalties like suspension or expulsion.

Plagiarism: Plagiarism is an academic offence. Students must write their essays and assignments in their own words. Ideas/passages taken from another author must be referenced with footnotes or citations and acknowledged with quotation marks where appropriate. Western University uses software to check for plagiarism and students may be required to electronically submit their work. Those found guilty will be penalized as noted in point 3. See Scholastic Discipline for Undergraduate Students [here](#) in the Western Academic Calendar.

Academic Appeals: Students should refer to the Student Academic Appeals section [here](#) in the Western Academic Calendar. Please note the relevant deadlines.

Department Appeals Procedures: The Department will not consider an appeal unless an attempt has been made to settle the matter with the instructor first. Students who remain dissatisfied with the outcome may submit a written appeal to the Undergraduate Director in Economics, stating the reasons for their appeal. Information on the Department of Economics’ appeals procedure and the appeals form are available [here](#).

Systematic Adjustments: Systematic adjustments of class grade distributions (either up or down) can occur in Economics courses. The systematic adjustment of a class grade distribution is **not** grounds for an appeal.

Add/drop deadlines:

Deadline to add a first term half course:
Deadline to drop a first term half course:

Thursday September 17, 2020
Thursday November 12, 2020

Oversleeping or Misreading the Exam Schedule: Faculty of Social Science policy states that oversleeping or misreading the exam schedule is NOT grounds for a makeup. This rule applies to all exams in the Department of Economics.

End of Term Travel: Students must book travel arrangements AFTER final exam dates have been posted; travel is not an acceptable excuse for absence from a final exam.

Rewriting Exams and Retroactive Reweighting are NOT Permitted: Students who proceed to write a test or examination must be prepared to accept the mark. Rewriting tests or examinations, or retroactive reweighting of marks, is **not** permitted.

Accommodation Policies: Students with disabilities should work with Accessible Education (formerly SSD), which provides recommendations for accommodation based on medical documentation or psychological and cognitive testing. The accommodation policy can be found here: [Academic Accommodation for Students with Disabilities](#).

Academic Consideration for Student Absence: Students will have up to two (2) opportunities during the regular academic year to use an on-line portal to self-report an absence during the term, provided the following conditions are met: the absence is no more than 48 hours in duration, and the assessment for which consideration is being sought is worth 30% or less of the student's final grade. Students are expected to contact their instructors within 24 hours of the end of the period of the self-reported absence, unless noted on the syllabus. Students are not able to use the self-reporting option in the following circumstances:

- for exams scheduled by the Office of the Registrar (e.g., December and April exams)
- absence of a duration greater than 48 hours
- assessments worth more than 30% of the student's final grade
- if a student has already used the self-reporting portal twice during the academic year

If the conditions for a Self-Reported Absence are *not* met, students will need to provide a Student Medical Certificate if the absence is medical or provide appropriate documentation if there are compassionate grounds for the absence in question. Students are encouraged to contact their Faculty academic counselling office for more information about the relevant documentation. It is strongly recommended that students notify the instructor as soon as possible, ideally before the assessment, when they become aware of an absence. University policy is that students must communicate with their instructors no later than 24 hours after the end of the period covered by the SMC or immediately upon their return from their documented absence. Failure to follow University policy and procedures may result in denial of academic accommodation and a grade of zero.

Individual instructors are not permitted to receive documentation directly from a student, whether in support of an application for consideration on medical grounds or for other reasons. **All required documentation for absences that are not covered by the Self-**

Reported Absence Policy must be submitted to the Academic Counselling office of a student's Home Faculty.

For Western University policy on Consideration for Student Absence, see: [Policy on Academic Consideration for Student Absences - Undergraduate Students in First Entry Programs](#).

For the Student Medical Certificate (SMC), see: http://www.uwo.ca/univsec/pdf/academic_policies/appeals/medicalform.pdf.

Religious Accommodation: Students should consult the University's list of recognized religious holidays and should give reasonable notice in writing, prior to the holiday, to the Instructor and an Academic Counsellor if their course requirements will be affected by a religious observance. Additional information is given in the [Western Multicultural Calendar](#).

Policy Regarding Class Attendance and Engagement: If the instructor deems a student's attendance or engagement in the class to be unsatisfactory, that student may be prohibited from writing the final examination. Examples of unsatisfactory class engagement include frequent absences from an in-person or synchronous online class, lack of assignment submissions, and inadequate use of online course materials. Instructors who intend to make use of this policy will notify the student in advance.

Statement on Mental Health and Support Services: Students under emotional/mental distress should visit http://uwo.ca/health/mental_wellbeing/ for more information and a complete list of resources on how to obtain help.