

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

September 2024

Instructor: L. MacDonald
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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): Tuesdays: 2:30 – 3:30pm in SSC 4065 and Wednesdays 3 – 4 pm via Zoom.

Classroom meeting times & location: SSC 3022, T 12:30 – 2:30, Th 12:30 – 1:30

Course website: <https://westernu.brightspace.com/>

Undergraduate inquiries: 519-661-3507 SSC Room 4078 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, labor 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.
- Students may choose an assignment where they research a developing country or topic, identify the problems facing the country and suggest policies to improve social and individual welfare, relating these policies to class content.

Textbook:

Michael Todaro and Stephen Smith, *Economic Development, 13th Edition* (Pearson Education, 2020).

Bookstore link: https://bookstore.uwo.ca/textbook-search?campus=UWO&term=W2024A&courses%5B0%5D=001_UW/ECO2124A

e-book website: <https://www.vitalsource.com/en-ca/products/economic-development-michael-todaro-stephen-c-v9781292291208>

Technical Requirements:

- Laptop or computer
- Stable internet connection
- Microphone and webcam (if we have virtual office hours)

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:

Assessment: As everyone has different interests, strengths and schedules, I am trying to give you as much flexibility as possible. iClicker is optional. If the assignment is completed, it must be included in your final grade.

Note that all dates and times are tentative as they must be approved by Exam Central. Note that in the event that classes move to an online status, lectures will be delivered online and the assessment dates, times and choices may change. All times are ET. Note that only non-programmable, non-graphing calculators will be allowed during exams.

Option 1: Exams, Assignment and iClicker

Midterm	Tuesday, October 29, 2024	12:40 – 2:15	35%
Assignment	various options, various dates (see below)	in class	20%
Final Exam	To be scheduled by the registrar		35%
iClicker	see below		10%

Option 2: Exams and iclicker

Midterm	Tuesday, October 29, 2024	12:40 – 2:15	45%
Final Exam	To be scheduled by the registrar		45%
iClicker	see below		10%

Option 3: Exams and Assignment

Midterm	Tuesday, October 29, 2024	12:40 – 2:15	40%
Assignment	various options, various dates (see below)	in class	20%
Final Exam	To be scheduled by the registrar		40%

Option 4: Exams only

Midterm	Tuesday, October 29, 2024	12:40 – 2:15	50%
Final Exam	To be scheduled by the registrar		50%

Note: if you complete the assignment, it WILL be included regardless of whether it raises or lowers your grade so choose wisely. You have plenty of time to decide.

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.

Makeup Policy:

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 2024-2025** section of this syllabus for details on these procedures. If during the Fall 2024 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. ***Self-attestation will not be accepted for the midterm.*** There will be one time slot available for the midterm makeup exam, which may have a different ***format or length*** than the originally 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 more cumulative final exam. The medical certificate can be found at https://studentservices.uwo.ca/secure/medical_document.pdf.

iClicker:

iClicker is a free app which will allow you to use your laptop, phone or tablet to answer questions in class. iClicker will be used in class to ask a variety of questions. There will be a participation component as well as a component for obtaining the correct answer. Different questions may have different breakdowns. The first event will be practice and there will be no grades assigned. After that, iClicker can occur on any day, but not necessarily every day, and will be announced in advance. More information will be provided in class. Students may only use their own "virtual clicker" and the use of someone else's "virtual clicker" in class will constitute a scholastic offence and the possession of another student's virtual clicker will be interpreted as an attempt to commit a scholastic offence. **There will be no "makeups" or reweights for missed iClicker sessions. As iclicker is optional, self-attestation will not be accepted for missed iClicker sessions.** It is your responsibility to properly initialize your account through OWL. It is also your responsibility to notify the instructor **on the same day during class** the session has occurred if there have been any technology issues. During the iclicker sessions, I will announce the last warning to submit your answers. If you do not submit your answers by then, no adjustment will be made to your grade. However, I will calculate your grade using iclicker and excluding iClicker and use the higher of the two grades.

Classroom Policies:

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 or earbuds. 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. Videography/photography/recording are ***NOT permitted*** as use may violate the privacy of your classmates. 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. A schedule of readings as well as pertinent dates, etc will be provided. It will NOT provide ALL course content. You should check the site regularly for current updates to the reading list and announcements. An outline of the lecture notes will be available on OWL. **You are to bring these chapter outlines to class with you, as I will assume that you have them, 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 on OWL. 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. There is a strong correlation between class attendance and performance on the exams. 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 48 hours, not counting weekends or holidays. 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 Policies:

Feel free to hand in your assignment early if that fits better with your schedule. Late penalties are listed below. There will be specific dates listed on OWL by which you may request alternatives

for approval to the options listed on OWL. Otherwise, you are restricted to the topics listed on OWL. If you complete the assignment, it **will be** included in your final grade, ***regardless of whether it raises or lowers your grade***. Please do not ask me to not count it or to lower the weight as I am unable to do so.

Option 1:

Written Assignment, **due date on or before Tuesday, November 19, 2024 IN CLASS.**

This is a 4-6 page written analysis of a developing country that we have NOT discussed in class. There will be a sign-up list provided in class and the countries are available on a first-come first-served basis. If you wish to analyze a country not on the list, you must receive my approval. More detail will be provided later on OWL and in class. You do not need to decide if you are doing the assignment until later in the term.

Option 2:

Class presentation, Tuesdays throughout the term.

There are **limited dates and slots** for the class presentation, and these are first-come, first-served. The presentations will be on most Tuesdays throughout the term, except for the Tuesday before each exam and a few others, and will be approximately 10 minutes in length. The presentation can be a developing country analysis (similar to option 1), or any other topic (approved in advance) that you find interesting regarding developing countries that we are **not** covering in class.

Option 3:

Video assignment, **due date on or before Thursday, November 21, 2024 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, and be approximately 15 minutes. More detail will be provided later on OWL.

Assignment Due Dates:

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.

Note: Weekends **will** count when deciding on late paper penalties and 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 as you will have taken a time slot away from a classmate. If you choose to deliver a presentation, a copy of the presentation as well as bibliography and true/false questions must be handed in on the day of your presentation, otherwise you will receive a late penalty.

All submitted papers 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, including use of AI sources. 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>).

Policy Regarding the Use of AI:

Within this course, students are permitted to use AI tools exclusively for information gathering and preliminary research purposes. These tools are intended to enhance the learning experience by providing access to diverse information sources. However, it is essential that students critically evaluate the obtained information, exercise independent thinking, and engage in original research to synthesize and develop their own ideas, arguments, and perspectives. The use of AI tools can serve as a starting point for exploring a topic, with students expected to uphold academic integrity by appropriately attributing all sources of information and avoiding plagiarism. Assignments should reflect the student's own thoughts and independent written work. Students should also generate their own figures (e.g., graphs, diagrams) rather than using AI generated ones. By adhering to these guidelines, students contribute to a responsible and effective learning environment that promotes critical thinking, independent inquiry and allow them to produce original written contributions. The same principles also apply to the use of translation software to support the writing the essays and other written assessments.

Students who choose to use AI for this course should use it as a research tool in the process of completing assignments and/or the final project. If a student chooses to use AI, they must turn in a written statement along with the given assignment/final project that clearly explains how the student used AI in their work; failure to do so will be pursued as plagiarism.

Communication:

- Students should check the course OWL site for newly posted course material at the start of each week, utilizing the calendar provided.
- Students should check OWL announcements multiple times per week.
- Some important announcements will also be emailed to students' Western email accounts. Students are expected to check their Western email frequently.
- Students should post all course-related content questions on the OWL forum so that everyone can access answers to questions.
- For questions unrelated to course content, please contact the instructor via email from your Western email account. Students will receive a response in 24 – 48 hours.

Professionalism, Privacy, and Copyright:

- Students are expected to follow the [Student Code of Conduct](#).
- All lectures and course materials, including slides, presentations, outlines, recordings and similar materials, are protected by **copyright**. Students may take notes and make copies of course materials for their own educational purposes only.
- Students may not record lectures, reproduce (or allow others to reproduce), post or distribute lecture notes, assessments, or any other course materials publicly and/or for commercial purposes without written consent.

Preliminary Reading Schedule: (order may change as the term progresses)

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

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| 1. | Introduction | Chapter 1 |
| 2. | Comparative Economic Development | Chapter 2 |
| 3. | Case study, video or application. | |
| 4. | Inequality and Poverty | Chapter 5 |
| 5. | Case Study or video or Guest Lecturer | |
| 6. | Education & Health | Chapter 8 |
| 7. | Case Study | |
| 8. | Economic Growth: Concepts and Models | Chapter 3 |
| 9. | Population Growth | Chapter 6- optional if time permits |
| 10. | Case Studies, Review, Sample Problems | Applications of all Chapters |

PLEASE NOTE
DEPARTMENT & UNIVERSITY POLICIES FOR FALL 2024

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

1. **Guidelines, policies, and your academic rights and responsibilities** are posted online in the current Western Academic Calendar at: <http://westerncalendar.uwo.ca>. Claiming that “you didn’t know what to do” is not an acceptable excuse for not following the stated policies and procedures.
2. A [*new academic consideration and flexibility in assessment*](#) policy is in effect starting September 2024. Students can miss one assessment per course per term without medical documentation. Faculty can designate one assessment per course for which students **cannot** self-attest.
3. Students must familiarize themselves with the “**Rules of Conduct for Examinations**” http://www.uwo.ca/univsec/pdf/academic_policies/exam/administration.pdf.
4. **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 suspension or expulsion.
5. **Plagiarism:** Students must write their essays and assignments in their own words. When taking an idea/passage from another author, it must be acknowledged with quotation marks where appropriate and referenced with footnotes or citations. Plagiarism is an academic offence (see Scholastic Discipline for Undergraduate Students in the Western Calendar at http://westerncalendar.uwo.ca/PolicyPages.cfm?Command=showCategory&PolicyCategoryID=1&SelectedCalendar=Live&ArchiveID=#Page_20).

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 4.

6. It is a Department of Economics policy that **NO** assignments be dated, stamped or accepted by staff. Students must submit assignments to the instructor.
7. **Appeals:** University policies and procedures for appealing a mark can be found in the Student Academic Appeals section in the current Western Academic Calendar at: http://westerncalendar.uwo.ca/PolicyPages.cfm?Command=showCategory&PolicyCategoryID=1&SelectedCalendar=Live&ArchiveID=#Page_14. **Please note the relevant deadlines.**

Department of Economics procedures for appealing a mark can be found here: https://economics.uwo.ca/undergraduate/program_counselling/responsibilities_policies.html#appeals. 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 proceed to submit an appeal to econugrd@uwo.ca. Please follow the instructions and use the appeal form shown in the above link.

8. **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.
9. **ADD AND DROP DEADLINES:**

- Deadline to **ADD** first term full or half course: **Fri, Sept 13, 2024**
- Deadline to **DROP/WITHDRAW** first term full or half course: **Mon, Dec 2, 2024**

Policy Regarding Makeup Tests and Final Examinations

Faculty of Social Science policy states that oversleeping or misreading an exam schedule is NOT grounds for a makeup. This rule applies to midterm and final exams in the Department of Economics.

Policies Regarding Academic Accommodation

- Academic accommodation will not be granted automatically on request. Students must demonstrate by documentation that there are compelling medical or compassionate grounds before academic accommodation will be considered. The Faculty of Social Science's policies on academic accommodation are found at https://counselling.ssc.uwo.ca/procedures/academic_consideration.html
- **Accommodation for Students with Disabilities:** Students with disabilities or accessibility challenges should work with Accessible Education (formerly SSD, see http://academicsupport.uwo.ca/accessible_education/index.html), 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](#).
- **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. Students must also book travel arrangements AFTER final exam dates have been posted as they must not conflict with test or final exams.
- Unless medically incapable of doing so, students must notify their instructor prior to the test date or at least within **48 hours** when requesting a makeup exam. Failure to follow this procedure may result in denial of academic accommodation and a grade of zero. Students should also set up an appointment as soon as possible to meet with their instructor. If the instructor is not available, send an email message to the instructor, copying the Undergraduate Coordinator at econugrd@uwo.ca. **Notifying instructors of a missed exam does not automatically entitle students to a makeup.**

- For medical illnesses, students may consult Student Health Services and request a Student Medical Certificate from the physician. If assessed by an off-campus doctor, students must obtain a certificate from his/her office at the time of the visit/assessment. Student Medical Certificate (SMC) is available here:
https://www.uwo.ca/univsec/pdf/academic_policies/appeals/medicalform.pdf
- **Documentation for Accommodation:** 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.
- **Western University policy on Consideration for Student Absence** is available here:
https://counselling.ssc.uwo.ca/procedures/probation_rtw/appeals.html
- **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.

Statement on Remote Proctoring: While Western intends to hold most classes, mid-terms and finals in-person, the London-Middlesex Health unit may require western to teach in a remote format. If this occurs, all assessments will be done remotely and may involve the use of remote proctoring software (i.e., Proctorio, ProctorTrack). Instructors will provide information on the details should the need arise.