

Faculty of Science Course Syllabus
Department of Economics

ECON 3333- Section 01

Economic Development

Winter 2023

Dalhousie University is located in Mi'kma'ki, the ancestral and unceded territory of the Mi'kmaq. We are all Treaty people.

We acknowledge the histories, contributions, and legacies of the African Nova Scotian people and communities who have been here for over 400 years.

Instructor: *Daniel Rosenblum*

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Office location: *C22, Department of Economics*

Office Hours: *TBA*

Course delivery: *in-person*

Classroom: *LSC C332*

TA: *Carlos Arango* **TA Email:** *carlos.arango@dal.ca*

TA Office Hours: *TBA*

Course Description

This course surveys applications of economic theory to economic development as well as recent empirical research in development economics. Topics may include growth theory, poverty and inequality, fertility and population growth, health, education, the environment, credit markets and microfinance, corruption, gender, and the political economy of development.

Course Prerequisites

Prerequisites: ECON 2200.03 (or ECON 2210.03 or ECON 2220.03), ECON 2201.03, with minimum grades of C

Course Objectives/Learning Outcomes

- Understand macro (growth) and microeconomic theories of economic development.
- Understand recent empirical research in a range of development economics topics

Course Materials

Required Textbook: *Essentials of Development Economics*, Taylor and Libbert, 3rd edition.

Note: the 2nd edition of the textbook is also acceptable. The content is very similar.

Other *required* assigned readings will be posted to Brightspace.

Additional *optional* readings will be posted to Brightspace. These are for students interested in going beyond the normal required readings, and students will not be expected to have read them unless students are specifically asked to do so as a part of an assignment.

Course Website (Brightspace)

Lecture slides, additional readings, assignments, solutions, grades, and announcements will all be posted on Brightspace. When connecting to online resources from outside of Canada, students are responsible for ensuring that they are aware of and observing any applicable laws of the country they are connecting from. Students are responsible to establish whether they have access to all course material as soon as the term begins and before the ADD/DROP date. *If you do not have access to certain material, inform the instructor as soon as possible. Alternative access methods are not guaranteed.*

Course Assessment

Component	Weight (% of final grade)	Date
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Take-Home Final Exam	40%	Tentatively Due on April 19 th .
In-Class Midterm Exam	20%	Feb 16
7 Assignments	40% (each assignment has equal weight)	Jan 27, Feb 3, 10, March 10, 17, 24, 31

Midterm: The midterm will cover Chapters 1 through 7 plus material covered during class. It will be on paper and contain multiple choice, problem solving, and/or open-ended essay questions. It is a closed book exam.

Final Exam: The final exam will cover all required course readings and material covered during class. It is an open book exam. However, only required course content listed on the syllabus (course textbook and required readings posted to Brightspace) can be used. The final exam will consist of several short essay questions focused on the course content. Once the exam is posted, you will have one week to submit your answers. Collaboration is not allowed on the final exam, and, aside from contacting your professor for clarification, the exam cannot be discussed with anyone during the exam period.

Assignments: There will be 7 assignments. Some parts of the assignments will be mathematical and involve economic models and some parts will involve short writing assignments and looking up additional information or research papers. All assignments must be uploaded to Brightspace. Paper copies will not be accepted. The lowest assignment grade will be dropped.

Conversion of numerical grades to Final Letter Grades follows the Dalhousie Common Grade Scale

A+ (90-100)	B+ (77-79)	C+ (65-69)	D (50-54)
A (85-89)	B (73-76)	C (60-64)	F (<50)
A- (80-84)	B- (70-72)	C- (55-59)	

Policy on Missed or Late Academic Requirements due to Student Absence:

Unless an extension is approved **ahead of time** or there is an emergency, **late work will be given a grade of zero**. Medical notes are **NOT** required and will not be accepted. You also do **NOT** need to submit a Student Declaration of Absence form.

If you are absent for the midterm, the weight of the midterm will be applied to the final exam. That is, your final exam would then be worth 60% of your final grade instead of 40%. **There is no make-up midterm exam.**

Course Policies Related to Academic Integrity

Collaboration Policy

You are not allowed to work in groups for your assignments. All assignments must be completed **individually**. Students should never submit an assignment that is a copy of another student's work.

Plagiarism Detection Software

Assignments containing essay components and the Take-Home Final Exam may be checked for plagiarism with the Urkund software program on Brightspace.

Academic Integrity: Dalhousie University defines plagiarism as “the submission or presentation of the work of another as if it were one’s own.” All of the content of your assignments and final exam is expected to be your own thoughts and words unless that content is cited appropriately. You are expected to have completed the Writing Centre Academic Integrity Module (link on Brightspace). If you have any questions about whether you may or may not be violating the university’s academic integrity policy, contact your professor before submitting the assignment/exam for assistance.

Class Participation:

There is no class participation grade. **You are not required to attend any of the classes.** However, if you do attend in-person classes, you are expected to pay attention. In particular, **students are not allowed to use phones, tablets, or computers during class** without the permission of the professor. Use of such devices may reduce your course grade.

IF YOU FEEL SICK, PLEASE DO NOT ATTEND CLASS. GO GET A COVID TEST.
There is no grade penalty for missing classes due to illness.

Course Adjustments Due to COVID:

If your professor must cancel office hours or make other course adjustments for any reason, he will notify you via e-mail as soon as possible. If classes are cancelled due to weather or other reasons, the course content will be adjusted accordingly. If the campus is closed due to weather on the midterm day, the midterm will take place the next class.

All students are required to comply with health and safety requirements on campus and should be considerate of others' health concerns. Non-compliance may be reported under the Code of Student Conduct.

Students are expected to wear masks (at least 3 layers, e.g. blue medical masks or better) in the classroom. If you have not already done so, I encourage all students to get their booster dose of vaccine if they are eligible as well as your flu vaccine. *Food and drink are not allowed in class and masks should always remain on and never lowered.*

Tentative Course Content and Outline (subject to change by the professor)**Week 1 (Jan 10, 12): Introduction; What is development economics? How do economists think?**

Larry Summers Memo

Taylor and Lybbert Chapter 1: What Development Economics Is All About

Ray, Debraj (2008). "Development Economics" in *The New Palgrave Dictionary of Economics*, edited by Lawrence Blume and Steven Durlaf.

Week 2: Research Methods in Development Economics (Jan 17, 19).

Taylor and Lybbert Chapter 2: What Works and What Doesn't?

Week 3: Measuring Poverty (Jan 24, 26)

(Assignment 1 Due January 27**)**

Taylor and Lybbert Chapter 3: Income **and** Chapter 4: Poverty

Week 4: Inequality and Human Development (Jan 31, Feb 2)

(Assignment 2 Due February 3**)**

Taylor and Lybbert Chapter 5: Inequality **and** Chapter 6: Human Development

Week 5: Growth (Feb 7, 9)

(Assignment 3 Due February 10**)**

Taylor and Lybbert Chapter 7: Growth

Week 6: Review and Midterm Exam (Feb 14 and 16)

Feb 14: Review

February 16: In class, closed book **MIDTERM EXAM**

Winter Study Break Feb 17-21: NO CLASSES**Week 7: Institutions (Feb 28, March 2)**

Taylor and Lybbert Chapter 8: Institutions

Week 8: Agriculture (March 7, 9)

(*Assignment 4 Due March 10***)**

Taylor and Lybbert Chapter 9: Agriculture

Week 9: Information and Markets (March 14, 16)

(*Assignment 5 Due March 17***)**

Taylor and Lybbert Chapter 11: Information and Markets

Week 10: Credit and Insurance (March 21, 23)

(*Assignment 6 Due March 24***)**

Taylor and Lybbert Chapter 12: Finance

Week 11: Missing Women (March 28, 30)

(*Assignment 7 Due March 31***)**

Sen, Amartya (1990) "More than 100 Million Women Are Missing," *New York Review of Books*.

Anderson, S., & Ray, D. (2010). "Missing women: age and disease." *The Review of Economic Studies*, 77(4), 1262-130

Duflo, Esther. "Women empowerment and economic development." *Journal of Economic literature* 50.4 (2012): 1051-79.

Week 12 (April 4, 6): Game Theory in Development Economics and Review

no readings

Review class on April 6th.

Take-Home Final Exam: April 13-19 (exact dates to be confirmed later in the semester)

See Brightspace for Faculty of Science Course Syllabus Sections B (University Policies and Statements) and C (Student Resources and Support).