

AP/ECON 3569 (cross-listed as AP/PPAS 3569) 3.0 M
Economic Policy in Developing Countries

Start date: January 6, 2020
Location: 101 McLaughlin College (MC)
Time: Mondays 7-10pm.
No class on February 17 (Family Day, University closed)

Note: If you have a documented disability at York that you wish to have accommodated in this course, please see me immediately.

Office: 122 McLaughlin College, School of Public Policy & Administration (SPPA)
Office Hours: 5 to 6pm on Mondays, or by appointment

Note:

- Please ring the bell to the SPPA corridor on the main office side (119 MC), advance email notice also recommended if you intend to stop by.
- Send an email to request an appointment; please do not leave phone messages.

E-mail: akimakov@yorku.ca

Course website: Moodle

Course description:

Examines policy issues arising from development planning. Topics include agriculture versus industry, international trade, monetary and fiscal policies, foreign investment, foreign aid and self-reliance, and global issues. Prerequisites: AP/ECON 1000 3.00 and AP/ECON 1010 3.00 or equivalents. Course credit exclusions: AP/ECON 3560 3.00, AP/PPAS 3560 3.00.

Expected learning outcomes:

Upon completing this course, students should be able to:

- Identify and analyze policy challenges facing less developed countries.
- Develop context-dependent policy recommendations conducive to economic growth and development.
- Evaluate alternative policy frameworks in terms of economic efficiency, equity as well as practical feasibility.
- Articulate policy research questions, search the literature and compile a relevant bibliography.
- Communicate research findings in both oral and written format clearly and effectively.

Evaluation:

Test 1: 25% (on February 10, location TBA)

Test 2: 20% (on March 23, location TBA)

Essay: 40%

- Research proposal and bibliography 15% (due on February 3 via Moodle)
- Final paper 25% (due on April 6 via Moodle)

Class presentation: 10% (on March 16 or 30 or earlier, schedule through Moodle)

Participation: 5% - important throughout the course!

Important to note:

- The weights of the grade components will not be changed under any circumstances.

- If you miss a test due to a documented emergency, you will have to write the make-up test prior to the next class. No further make-up tests will be offered.
- If you do not make a class presentation by the March 30 deadline, you will receive 0% for this grade component. It is the students' responsibility to ensure in consultation with the course director that there is sufficient time to accommodate their presentation during class time. Presentations need to be scheduled with at least one week advance notice.
- Late submissions for the Research Proposal assignment and Final Paper will carry a 5% point penalty per day.
- All students are expected to familiarize themselves with and adhere to the Senate Policy on Academic Honesty at: <http://secretariat-policies.info.yorku.ca/policies/academic-honesty-senate-policy-on/>
- The grading scheme for the course conforms to the standard system used in undergraduate programs at York (e.g. A+ = 90 to 100, A = 80 to 90, B+ = 75 to 79, etc.).
- Last date to drop the course without receiving a grade is March 13, 2020.
- Course Withdrawal Period (withdraw from the course and receive a "W" or "Withdrawn" notation on the transcript) is: March 14 - April 5, 2020. See policy at: <http://secretariat-policies.info.yorku.ca/policies/withdrawn-from-course-w-policy-and-guidelines/>
- Course add/drop deadlines:

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(W)**

Last date to add a course without permission of instructor (also see Financial Deadlines)	Jan. 19
Last date to add a course with permission of instructor (also see Financial Deadlines)	Feb. 3
Drop deadline: Last date to drop a course without receiving a grade (also see Financial Deadlines)	March 13
Course Withdrawal Period (withdraw from a course and receive a grade of "W" on transcript – see note below)	March 14 - April 5

Tests:

Students will be responsible for the material presented at the lectures and in the required readings. For the tests you should be able to understand and interpret models and concepts in the context of real world experience and empirical evidence.

Each test will consist of three roughly equally weighed parts: multiple choice questions, problem solving and essay-type questions. A bonus question worth additional 10% will be offered.

Research proposal, essay and class presentation on the same developmental topic of your choice:

- The proposal should be ½-1 page long. In addition to that you should provide min. 10 references based on your literature search on the subject matter.
- Expected length of essay: 6-8 pages (excluding reference list), font 12, single or 1 ½ line spacing
- Expected length of presentation: 8 min.

The objective of these components is to encourage student interest in current issues while serving as a demonstration of the applicability of the theoretical tools. The assignments aim to improve students' writing and presentation skills. See the course website under Assignments for more detailed guidelines for these grade components. You can also utilize SPARK – Student Papers and Academic Research Kit at: <https://spark.library.yorku.ca/> and the Writing Centre at: <https://writing-centre.writ.laps.yorku.ca/>

Required Text:

Perkins, Radelet, Lindauer, Block (2012). *Economics of Development*, 7th edition, W.W. Norton & Company.

Note: You can also use an older edition of the textbook, but you need to be aware that the order of chapters/topics in the book may have changed and there might be some new information in the 7th edition that you will need to account for. Some Suggested Resources available online:

York University Libraries	http://www.library.yorku.ca/
(Research Guides, eResources, data, workshops, one-on-one research help, etc.)	
World Bank	www.worldbank.org
International Monetary Fund	www.imf.org
OECD	www.oecd.org
EBRD	www.ebrd.org
Inter-American Development Bank	www.iadb.org
United Nations	www.un.org
World Trade Organization	www.wto.org
Google Public Data	http://www.google.com/publicdata/directory

Outline**Week 1****Introduction to Development and Investment and Savings**

Required reading: Economics of Development, Chapters 1 and 10.

Week 2**Fiscal Policy**

Required reading: Economics of Development, Chapter 11.

Week 3**Financial Development and Inflation**

Required reading: Economics of Development, Chapter 12.

Suggested Reading:

Hardy, Daniel, Paul Holden, and Vassili Prokopenko (2002): "Microfinance Institutions and Public Policy". IMF WP/02/159.

<http://www.imf.org/external/pubs/ft/wp/2002/wp02159.pdf>

Week 4**Foreign Debt and Financial Crises**

Required reading: Economics of Development, Chapter 13.

Suggested Reading:

Hausmann, Ricardo (1999): "Currencies: Should There Be Five or One Hundred and Five?" *Foreign Policy*, No. 116 (Autumn, 1999), pp. 65-79.

Week 5**Managing Short-Run Crises in an Open Economy**

Required reading: Economics of Development, Chapter 15.

Week 6 (February 10)**Test 1, location TBA**

Week 7

Foreign Aid and post-test review

Required reading: Economics of Development, Chapter 14.

Week 8

Agriculture and Development

Required reading: Economics of Development, Chapter 16 and 17.

Suggested Reading:

Schiff, Maurice and Alberto Valdes (1998): "Agriculture and the Macroeconomy", World Bank WPS 1967, August 1998.

Week 9

Trade and Development

Required reading: Economics of Development, Chapter 18 and 19.

Suggested reading:

Mitchell, Donald (2004): "Sugar policies opportunity for change," World Bank WPS 3222.

Week 10 (March 16)

Class presentations and pre-test review

Week 11 (March 23)

Test 2, location TBA

Week 12 (March 30)

Class presentations, Q&A for final paper submissions and post-test review