

Department of Economics, Faculty of Liberal Arts & Professional Studies, York University
AP/ECON 3559 3.0 A: Economic Growth & Development (Writing) [Fall 2022]
Course Outline *[updated version would be available in eClass by the first day of class]*

1.1 Course Webpage

eClass (Moodle): eclass.yorku.ca (available by the first day of class).

1.2 Prerequisites: AP/ECON 1000 3.00 and AP/ECON 1010 3.00 or equivalents.

Course credit exclusions: GL/ECON 3920 3.00, AP/ECON 3550 3.00.

1.3 Course Instructor/Contact

Instructor: Dr. Simin Seury, Department of Economics, York University, 4700 Keele St., Toronto, ON M3J 1P3, CANADA. Phone: N/A. Email: seury@yorku.ca

Office Hours: Online. Thursdays 14:00 – 15:00 or by appointment (Zoom link will be available in eClass)

1.4 Lecture (Time/Location/Delivery Mode)

Lecture: **Tuesdays 14:30-17:30 (EST). Room: YK HNE B15**

Delivery: In-person. Students should be available during these hours for in-person live and synchronous lectures/tests/presentations and/or other synchronous activities.

Time-zones: Times for all activities, e.g., lectures, tests/exams, due dates, are according to **local Toronto time (EST)**. (Errors in calculations are not an acceptable reason to miss tests/deadlines).

2.1 Course Description

This course is an introduction to development economics in the context of economic issues relating to less developed and developing economies. We will explore the meaning of development by considering the characteristics of economic underdevelopment, poverty, income inequality, wealth distribution, rural versus urban development, population growth, unemployment, and migration. Additional topics include theories of development, growth and technological change, strategies for environmentally sustainable development, education, health, social choice, gender, urbanization, and human security.

Course Learning Objectives

- To learn and apply economic concepts and theories to critically analyze human development issues in less developed and developing countries.
- To learn and analyze neoclassical economics as well as interdisciplinary and alternative approaches to economic development.
- To evaluate the impact of development policies on individual/social wellbeing, and the economy, and write analytical papers on selected topics.
- To study the referred materials thoroughly (including text chapters, media clips, case studies and research papers) and reflect understanding of relevant materials in written work.

2.2 Course Text / Readings

Recommended:

Economics of Development, by Perkins, Radelet, Lindauer, Block (any edition).

OR

Economic Development, by Michael P. Todaro and Stephen C. Smith (any edition).

Should you intend to purchase any of the above texts, course packages for the latest editions are available from York University bookstore.

I would assign several materials from other sources for each topic chronologically, links (free access) for which will be available in our course page.

2.3. Tentative Topics

1. Growth and Development: Definitions, Measures and Empirical Patterns
2. Poverty, Inequality, and Development
3. Human Capital: Population, Education and Health
4. The Environment and Development
5. Agriculture, Trade, and Sustainability
6. Development Policymaking
7. Urbanization, Migration, and Employment

A **Tentative (Weekly) Schedule** would be posted in the course page with more details by the first day of our lecture. Your instructor reserves the right to make relevant changes to the coverage as the course develops.

3.1 Evaluations

Components	Due Date / Time / Structure ⁽¹⁾	Weight
Midterm	Tuesday, Oct 18, 2022, during class time, in class, in person, synchronous, includes contents from Topics 1 & 2.	20%
Quizzes/ Participation Tasks	Specific dates will be available by the first day of lecture. Lowest Quiz/Participation task grade will be dropped.	15%
Final Exam	TBA. According to the Fall Exam schedule; in person, synchronous. Syllabus: Cumulative (including everything covered throughout the semester).	30%
Paper	Paper (online submission in Turnitin) and presentation (in-person, during class time); see specific deadlines below.	35%

Notes: (1) If there are any changes in any of these dates, students would be notified on or before 2nd week.

Midterm Test: Midterm will be held on the date mentioned above. The exam would be in person, synchronous, including contents from Topics 1 & 2. There would be several problem-solving and analytical questions; you would need to answer all in 60 minutes. This is a closed book exam (no aids). Calculators are not allowed.

Quizzes/ Participation Tasks: There will be quizzes/participation tasks during several classes (starting after the first two lectures). All quizzes or writing participation tasks are open book tasks. Lowest Quiz/task grade will be dropped. As an example, if there are n quizzes/writing tasks, best marks from n-1 quizzes/writing tasks will be counted. Details and specific dates will be available by the first day of lecture and will be posted in our weekly schedule.

Final exam will be in person, synchronous, held according to the Fall 2022 exam schedule (TBA); the syllabus would be **cumulative** (including all the materials discussed in this course). There would be several problem-solving and analytical questions; you would need to answer all in 90 minutes. This is a closed book exam (no aids). Calculators are not allowed. **The Fall Exam Period runs from Dec 8 to Dec 22, 2022.** It is your responsibility as a student to ensure that you are available to sit for examinations during the entire exam period for the term corresponding to your course. No alternative date for the final exam will be offered.

More information about tests and exams and test specific instructions would be provided in our course website before each exam. Your instructor reserves the right to re-write an exam.

All components of the term paper (and presentation) have specific deadlines. The proposal is due on **October 07, 2022** (online submission through eClass), and the final version of the term paper is due on **November 25, 2022** (online submission through Turnitin, eClass). Paper presentation would be in-person, scheduled during classes after our midterm. (Presentation schedule would be posted after midterm,

determined by random draw, to avoid any bias resulting from alphabetical name ordering. Further details would be posted in the course page).

Your feedback is important to us. If at least eighty percent students registered in this course complete the course evaluation (announcements with links to the online course evaluations will be posted to the course website towards the end of the term), all students will have one percent bonus mark added to their overall course grade.

3.2 Missed exams/Tests and Other details

No permission is ever given to a student to write a test or exam in advance of its scheduled date.

No permission is ever given to a student to rewrite a test or exam to improve their grade.

Please note there will be no alternate arrangement for late enrollers in terms of any grading components.

There is no make-up for any quizzes/participation tasks, or any parts related to the paper. The marks from the lowest quiz/ participation task will be dropped by default, and you have several weeks to work on your paper, and as such no make-up (or option to shift the weight) would be available for these components. Lateness penalty applies to all submissions relating to the paper (details TBA in eClass).

Students missing the midterm may have the permission to write a makeup midterm if (a) they were sick at the time of the test, and (b) *they did not attempt the original midterm*. If these conditions are satisfied, the student would have the permission to write a make-up exam during the last class of this semester (no emails or forms or doctor's notes are required this term, given our emergency COVID situation). To discourage last minute cramming before the final, syllabus of the make-up midterm would cover topics 1, 2, 3, and 4. Students can review their makeup exam paper after grades are published, but they cannot get back the test. I will post and announce makeup exam instructions at least two weeks before the exam. Students are responsible to attend the makeup exam on the scheduled date, as there are no other make-up exams (that is, there is no make-up of a make-up midterm). If a student misses their make-up midterm, they will receive 0 out of 20% of the missed make-up midterm and will have their grade according to the alternate scheme: Final Exam (30%) + Quizzes/Participation tasks (15%) + Paper (35%).

Students missing the final exam and requesting deferred exams would need to notify the instructor by email (seury@yorku.ca) of why they have missed the exam within 48 hours of this missed final exam and comply with the Department of Economics policy on deferred exams before a deferred exam will be granted. Deferred Standing Mach forms (managed by the Department) must be completed and submitted online here:

<https://www.yorku.ca/laps/econ/undergraduate-programs/academic-resources/departments-policies/deferred-standing/>

Students who do not submit the Deferred Standing Mach form within 7 days of the missed exam, will receive a zero for their final exam score. There would be *only one* deferred exam date; the date of the deferred final exam is at the discretion of the course director.

3.3 Technology Requirements

This course is scheduled to have in-person lectures, term test final etc., but eClass Learning Management System (LMS) would be used for several activities. As such, access to a laptop or desktop computer with camera, microphone, and a strong, stable internet connection is required to fully participate in this course. To check if you have high speed Internet connection, you can run tests, such as [Speedtest](#). You are responsible for maintaining regular backup copies of your files, using antivirus software, and scheduling enough time when completing an online task to allow for delays due to technical difficulties. Computer virus/malware, crashed drives, broken printers/devices, lost/corrupted files, incompatible file formats, faulty internet, lost Wi-Fi connections, and similar mishaps are common issues when using technology, and are not acceptable grounds for missing a test/exam/deadline. Students might need to appear online (with their audio and video)

for purposes relating to grading or academic integrity concerns, and there may be live online office hours and/or other online interaction sessions. If you are not comfortable with these requirements, you may not wish to enroll in this section of this course.

Here are some useful links for student computing information, resources, and help:

[Student Guide to Moodle](#)

[Zoom@YorkU Best Practices](#)

[Zoom@YorkU User Reference Guide](#)

[Computing for Students Website](#)

[Student Guide to eLearning at York University](#)

For Technology requirements/FAQs for Moodle: <http://www.yorku.ca/moodle/students/faq/index.html>

- Should there be any Zoom session with other students, if you have privacy concerns, you can provide your first name or a nickname, and you can keep your webcam and microphone off. Students do not have the permission to record any Zoom sessions (unless they obtain special permission from me).
- For one-to-one Zoom sessions, I need to see you during our interaction and, therefore, you need to activate your webcam and microphone.

3.4 Grading and Re-evaluation Policy

To achieve a grade, you must earn it. Unless I made a record-keeping error regarding the scores you have earned, I will not be able to adjust your grade. The grading scheme for the course conforms to the 9-point grading system used in undergraduate programs at York (see <https://www.yorku.ca/laps/hist/academic-resources/academic-advising/grading-system> for more details). Final course grades given by the instructor will use the standard York grading scale and may be adjusted to conform to Program or Faculty grades distribution profiles. Should there be any request for re-grading, your Instructor/Grader reserves the right to re-grade the entire content of the exam (for example, maybe a problem/mistake in your answer was overlooked during the first evaluation, which might get noticed during the re-evaluation). As such, your marks may increase, may decrease, or may remain the same after re-evaluation.

4.1 Emails and Communication: Etiquette/Netiquette

Eclass (Moodle announcements, folders, assessments, and forums) would be used extensively for communication. In our course page, under Forums, you would find a discussion forum for each topic. If you have a question related to that specific topics/chapters, post it in the specified forum. If you can, try to answer another student's questions, which would be a great learning experience even if the answers are not totally correct. It is also a good way for students to engage in a meaningful discussion and learn from each other. I would also monitor your response in the forum and include my comments, as needed, usually once a day, during weekdays. *It is expected that you would check and read all available information before asking a question, and you would follow netiquette.* Forums might be hidden during Midterms/Final Exam days. You must follow all eClass announcement on a regular basis.

Emails are meant to be restricted solely **for administrative concerns**, which cannot be solved otherwise. Accordingly, *I am not going to respond to any content questions* (issues that are already explained in course outline/ schedule/ announcements etc.). *We have hundreds of students each semester; even if only a small percent of the students is sending emails, it results in a lot of emails.*

If, however, you have a question that is not explained in the contents and/or you cannot post it in the forums, follow the standard formal/official etiquette if you need to email me. Here is a guideline about *how to write an email*, with only three easy steps:

[1]: Address your professor. (Tips: You can start your email with "Hi/Hello Professor". That way, you do not need to write my name each time. Also, just "Hi" or "Hey" cannot be a formal way to address anyone. If you do that, you would self-identify yourself as a person who did not read this outline).

[2]: State your administrative concern clearly, in a nice and precise manner. (Tips: Make sure your “Caps Lock” key is not stuck.)

[3]: Sign off (best/ regards etc.) with **your full name** (no nicknames please), **full ID, course number, and section 3559A**. (We teach hundreds of students, several courses, often at multiple universities. So, please be precise about your details).

I will not be able to respond to your emails (or forum posts) outside business hours/during weekends/ during holidays. During weekdays, I will check forum at least once a day and would strive to respond to your emails in no later than two business days (which means I would try my best to respond to your emails much earlier than that). As such, allow minimum processing time after sending an email.

4.2 Letters of Accommodation

If you require accommodations or have any accessibility concerns about the course or course materials, please contact Student Accessibility Services (<https://accessibility.students.yorku.ca>) at the beginning of the semester as soon as possible. **Please note: Students no longer submit Letters of Accommodation to their instructor.** Rather, students request their Letter of Accommodation through a companion Student Portal available through Student Accessibility Services. Instructors will then access the Letters of Accommodation directly via a Faculty Portal. Accommodated Exam Centers will be opened to accommodate students for in-person exams. *Exams can be accommodated, but there are no extensions for term paper related components.*

4.3 Important Dates and ADD/Drop Deadlines for Fall 2022

	Fall 2022
Fall 2022 Semester Start date	Wednesday, Sep 07
Last date to add a course without permission of instructor (also see Financial Deadlines)	Tuesday, Sep 20
Last date to add a course with permission of instructor (also see Financial Deadlines)	Tuesday, Oct 04
Fall 2022 reading week	Oct 08 – Oct 14
Last date to drop a course without receiving a grade (also see Financial Deadlines)	Friday, Nov 11
Last Day of Classes – Fall 2022 Term: Fall classes end on Tuesday, Dec 06, 2022. For our course, the last class will be on Monday, Dec 05, 2022.	
Course Withdrawal Period (withdraw from a course and receive a grade of “W” on transcript – see note below)**	Nov 12 – Dec 07
Fall 2022 Final Exam period (our exam date, TBA by registrar’s office)	Dec 08 – 22

****Policy and Guidelines on Withdrawn from Course:**

<http://secretariat-policies.info.yorku.ca/policies/withdrawn-from-course-w-policy-and-guidelines/>

4.4 Other Important course information for students

Course materials and Copyright: 1) Course materials should be used for educational purposes only and as a means for enhancing accessibility; 2) students do not have permission to record, duplicate, copy and/or distribute the materials (these acts can violate not only copyright laws but also FIPPA); and 3) if there are any recordings by the instructor, those are to be destroyed after the end of classes.

Important Academic Forms

- Religious Accommodation - <https://secure.students.yorku.ca/pdf/religious-accommodation-agreement-final-examinations.pdf>

All students are expected to familiarize themselves with the following information, available on the Senate Committee on Curriculum & Academic Standards webpage: <https://www.yorku.ca/secretariat/policies/>

- Ethics Review Process for research involving human participants
- Course requirement accommodation for students with disabilities, including physical, medical, systemic, learning and psychiatric disabilities
- Student Conduct Standards
- Senate Policy on Academic Honesty and the Academic Integrity Website:
<https://www.yorku.ca/secretariat/policies/policies/academic-honesty-senate-policy-on/>

As per Senate Policy, academic honesty and integrity is defined as conduct that violates the ethical or legal standards of the University community or of one's program or specialization, which is subject to severe penalties. Students are responsible for understanding the nature and consequences of these offences (in the context of all graded components in this course, including the paper), as contained in the Senate Policy on Academic Honesty. Please familiarize yourself with the meaning of academic integrity by completing SPARK's Academic Integrity module: (<https://spark.library.yorku.ca/academic-integrity-what-is-academic-integrity>). Breaches of academic integrity range from cheating to plagiarism (i.e., the improper crediting of another's work, the representation of another's ideas as your own, etc.). All instances of academic dishonesty in this course will be reported to the appropriate university authorities, which may result in severe punishment, as per Senate Policies.

You need to agree to follow an “**ACADEMIC HONESTY STATEMENT/AGREEMENT**” for all graded components, a sample of which is provided here:

- You will complete all your graded components (assignments/tests/exams/quizzes/papers/projects) solely by yourself, unless explicitly directed by me as your instructor to do it differently. No other person will assist or complete these graded components for you; impersonation, and receiving or giving any form of assistance, paid or not, from or to another person is cheating and breaches academic honesty principle, and will be subject to academic penalty. More specifically:
- You will complete the graded components without any testing aids that are not approved by me as your instructor. Accordingly, you are NOT ALLOWED to use your notes, the textbook, or any other paper or digital resources (including online or in-person consultation with others) during tests/exams, unless explicitly allowed to do so by me as your instructor.
- You will not discuss the graded assignment/test/exam/quiz questions or potential answers with anyone, including other students, both in this course and elsewhere. This includes future online and in-person communication.
- Copying other people's words in your answers is not allowed and will be considered as plagiarism/cheating. This means that you must put answers/descriptions in your own words if you are using sources you have not written, such as the reference papers, course slides or other study notes.
- All test/exam materials are the property of the Department of Economics, York University, and unauthorized dissemination or recording of the tests/exams (including, but not limited to, unauthorized posting/emailing of any part of the tests/exams) is prohibited. You will not replicate, copy, print, take picture or record any lecture and/or questions on the graded assignments/quizzes/exam/test to share with others.
- It is your responsibility as a student to conduct your academic work, including your exams, in the manner that adheres to the university's standards of academic integrity, as outlined in: “<https://spark.library.yorku.ca/academic-integrity-what-is-academic-integrity/>”.

Let us have a respectful and enjoyable journey together!