

Faculty of Liberal Arts & Professional Studies
Department of Economics
ECON 3559 M: Economic Growth and Development (Writing)
Winter 2024

(UPDATED Course Outline: January 14, 2024)

Course: AP/ECON 3559 M – Economic Growth and Development (Writing)

Term: Winter (W) Term of Academic Year 2023-24

Course Instructor: Sudeshna Maitra

Office: 1072 Vari Hall (Office Hours: By email appointment)

Email: sm2.teaching@gmail.com

Time and Location of Lectures:

Mon & Wed, 2:30 pm – 4:00 pm, in DB 0005

Course Webpage (on e-class): <https://eclass.yorku.ca/course/view.php?id=83247>

Please check this site at least once a day for important announcements, lecture notes, assignments, and solutions.

Prerequisite / Co-requisite:

1. AP/ECON 1000 3.00 or AP/ECON 1010 3.00, or equivalent.

Course Credit Exclusions:

GL/ECON 3920 3.00, AP/ECON 3550 3.00.

Course Description

Overview: This course is an introduction to development economics. We will talk about the meaning of economic development and examine development issues as they occur in developing as well as developed countries. The specific set of topics we delve into will be chosen in collaboration with students, to match their questions and interests.

Course Learning Objectives:

- To understand how economists approach the analysis of development issues.
- To read and summarize different arguments and perspectives on development, as an economist.
- To collaborate effectively with other students to communicate, analyze and present ideas/arguments.
- To write cohesively on development issues and policy through the lens of an economist.

IMPORTANT: Required Course Supplies

- Course Text
Economic Development, by Michael P. Todaro and Stephen C. Smith (13th edition).
- Additional readings will be assigned in class and/or posted on e-class.
- Other Course Supplies
 - Bring a working laptop (that can connect reliably to AirYork) to each class.
 - Bring a notebook and writing materials (pens, pencils, erasers, rulers etc.) to each class.
 - Learn how to use e-class – EVERYTHING pertaining to the course, including important announcements, will be posted there. If you miss announcements made in e-class, you will miss important deadlines; **if you miss a deadline, you will receive a grade of 0**. No exceptions.
 - Plan to check e-class at least once a day to see if new material has been posted.

Course Organization:

- This course will have in-person lectures and exams. There may also be some supplemental lectures/presentations on zoom. The dates/topics of the online presentations will be announced in e-class.
- The specific content (topics) of this course will be crafted over the twelve-week term, *in collaboration with students*. So, it is vital that you attend every lecture and actively participate in the discussions/activities. Questions from students are actively encouraged in every lecture!
- Expect to spend 3-4 hours every week on homework, which may include reading or other assignments.

Class Structure, Writing Tasks & Participation:

- Be prepared to read, write, collaborate, analyze, and communicate during lectures. Curiosity and questions are encouraged – the more you contribute to the lecture, the more you will benefit from the course! Remember that participation is more important than “being correct”!
- You may be grouped with other students for joint activities.
- You may be asked to make a presentation based on homework or class activities (alone or in collaboration with others).
- Missing lectures will adversely affect your grade. I will teach concepts in class that are not available in any one textbook. You will be required to use these concepts to solve questions on exams.
- If you miss more than 5 lectures starting Jan. 15 up to Apr. 8, 2024 (including any online zoom sessions), you will not receive a grade higher than C, regardless of your performance on the exams/assignments.

Course Components in the Final Grade: Weighting & Important Dates

MARK YOUR CALENDARS!!

Class Participation (10%): Every lecture

Midterm Test (20%): Wed, **Feb 14**, 2024

Writing Assignments (40%):

- Article for an Encyclopedia (15%): Due on Fri, **Feb 16**, 2024 (In-class presentations: Mon, **Feb 5**, 2024)
- Blog post (10%): Due on Fri, **Mar 29**, 2024 (In-class presentations: Wed, **Mar 13**, 2024)
- Essay Question on the writing assignments, in the final exam (15%): Date TBA by Registrar's Office

Final Exam (30%): **Apr 10 – 25, 2024 (Exam Period)**

The date of the final exam will be set by the Registrar's Office.

DO NOT PLAN TO TRAVEL DURING THIS PERIOD.

NOTE: If you miss more than 5 lectures starting Jan. 15 up to Apr. 8, 2024 (including any online zoom sessions), you will not receive a grade higher than C, regardless of your performance on exams/assignments.

Further Information on Course Components:

1. Exams:

- There will be no makeup exams. If you miss the midterm exam, you can apply (using medical or other exceptional and documented circumstances) to have its weight transferred to the final exam. If you miss the final exam, you must apply to write a deferred exam. All exams are closed notes, closed book.

2. Writing Assignments:

- Details will be provided in class.
- You must submit the first and second draft of the paper on the due dates listed above. Late submissions will not be accepted. **YOU WILL RECEIVE A GRADE OF 0 IF YOUR SUBMISSION IS LATE.**
- You may be required to collaborate with your classmates for your writing assignments.
- You may be required to make an in-class presentation/s based on your writing assignments..
- There will be an essay-style question based on your writing assignments on the final exam (worth 15%).

Important Course Information for Students

Important Dates:

- Jan 8, 2024: Classes start.
- Jan 22, 2024: Last day to enroll without permission of instructor.
- Jan 31, 2024: Last day to enroll with permission of instructor.
- Feb 17-23, 2024: Reading Week.
- Mar 11, 2024: Last day to drop course without a grade.
- Mar 12 – Apr 8, 2024: Course Withdrawal Period
(withdraw from a course and receive grade of “W” on transcript)
- Apr 8, 2024: Classes end.
- Apr 9, 2024: Study Day.
- Apr 10-25, 2024: Exam period. Exams dates are set by the Registrar. Special exam dates cannot be set by the instructor. **Do not pre-book travel that could conflict with the final exam date.**

Other Important Information:

- **Academic honesty and integrity:**
In this course, we strive to maintain academic integrity to the highest extent possible. Please familiarize yourself with the meaning of academic integrity by completing SPARK’s Academic Integrity module at the beginning of the course. 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 and can be punishable according to the Senate Policy on Academic Honesty.
- 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.
- All students are expected to familiarize themselves with the following information, available on the Senate Committee on Curriculum & Academic Standards webpage; <http://secretariat-policies.info.yorku.ca>

- Senate Policy on Academic Honesty and the Academic Integrity Website: <https://secretariat-policies.info.yorku.ca/policies/academic-honesty-senate-policy-on/>
- Ethics Review Process for research involving human participants: <https://secretariat-policies.info.yorku.ca/policies/ethics-review-process-for-research-involving-human-participants-policy/>
- Academic Accommodation for Students with Disabilities (Policy): <https://secretariat-policies.info.yorku.ca/policies/academic-accommodation-for-students-with-disabilities-policy/>
- Student Conduct Standards: <http://www.yorku.ca/oscr/standards.html>
- Religious Observance Accommodation: <https://secretariat-policies.info.yorku.ca/policies/academic-accommodation-for-students-religious-observances-policy-guidelines-and-procedures/>
- Religious Observances Dates <https://registrar.yorku.ca/enrol/dates/religious-accommodation-guidelines-2021-2022>
- Grading Scheme and Feedback (Senate) Policy:* <http://secretariat-policies.info.yorku.ca/policies/grading-scheme-and-feedback-policy/>
- Alternate Exam and Test Scheduling: <https://altexams.students.yorku.ca/>
- Important Sessional Dates: <https://registrar.yorku.ca/enrol/dates>

**Additional information:*

- ***Grading Scheme and Feedback Policy***

The Senate Grading Scheme and Feedback Policy stipulates that (a) the grading scheme (i.e. kinds and weights of assignments, essays, exams, etc.) be announced, and be available in writing, within the first two weeks of class, and that, (b) under normal circumstances, graded feedback worth at least 15% of the final grade for Fall, Winter or Summer Term, and 30% for 'full year' courses offered in the Fall/Winter Term be received by students in all courses prior to the final withdrawal date from a course without receiving a grade. Final course grades may be adjusted to conform to Program or Faculty grade distribution profiles.