

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

Start date: January 8, 2025

Note: no class on February 19 due to Reading Week

Time: Wednesdays 2:30-5:30 PM

Location: In person delivery in HNE 033 (Please note that lectures will not be recorded.)

**Notes:**

- Students who require accommodation in a course need to be registered with Student Accessibility Services. The Letter of Accommodation should be provided to the course director as soon as possible. More information at: <https://accessibility.students.yorku.ca/>  
The York University [Senate Policy on Academic Accommodation for Students with Disabilities](#) applies along with [relevant guidelines, procedures and definitions](#).

**Office Hours:** In person or via Zoom - **by appointment only**

Office: 123 McLaughlin College

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

**E-mail:** [akimakov@yorku.ca](mailto:akimakov@yorku.ca)

Course website: eClass

Mail: SPPA Office, 119 McLaughlin College

Course Websites hosted on York's "eClass" are accessible to students during the first week of the term. It takes two business days from the time of your enrolment to access your course website. Course materials begin to be released on the course website during the first week. To log in to your eClass course visit the [York U eClass Portal](#) and login with your Student Passport York Account. If you are creating and participating in Zoom meetings you may also go directly to the [York U Zoom Portal](#).

For IT support, students may contact University Information Technology Client Services via [askit@yorku.ca](mailto:askit@yorku.ca) or (416) 736-5800. Please also visit [Getting Help - UIT webpages](#).

Zoom is a free video conferencing software app that allows us to engage virtually for video, presentations, group work and chat rooms. More detail about these systems will be shared at the beginning of the course. Students shall note the following:

- Zoom is hosted on servers in the U.S. This includes recordings done through Zoom.
- If you have privacy concerns about your data, provide only your first name or a nickname when you join a session, but make sure to inform the course director accordingly.
- The system is configured in a way that all participants are automatically notified when a session is being recorded. In other words, a session cannot be recorded without you knowing about it.

You can find links to resources for students about online learning and eClass at:

<https://going-digital.laps.yorku.ca/student-resources/>

**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:**

Quiz and take-home test 1: 20% (on **February 5** via eClass)

Quiz and take-home test 2: 20% (on **March 26** via eClass)

Essay: 45%

- Research proposal and bibliography 15% (due on **February 14 or earlier** via eClass)
- Final paper 30% (due on **April 8** via eClass)

Research presentation: 10% (**in person in class on March 19 or April 2 or earlier**, schedule through eClass)

Class participation and peer to peer feedback on research: 5%

Important to note:

- The weights of the grade components will not be changed under any circumstances.
- Late submissions will carry a 5% point penalty per day.
- If you do not make a research presentation by the April 2 deadline, you will receive 0% for this grade component. Presentations need to be scheduled with at least one week advance notice.
- Academic integrity is a fundamental and important value of York University. To maintain a fair and honest learning environment, students in this course are responsible for understanding and upholding academic integrity in all of their academic activities. To better understand expectations, familiarize yourself with the [Senate Policy on Academic Conduct](#). To learn more about how to demonstrate academic integrity in your courses and to access related resources and support, visit the [Academic Integrity website](#).
- 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 14, 2025.
- Course Withdrawal Period (withdraw from the course and receive a “W” or “Withdrawn” notation on the transcript) is: March 15 - April 4, 2025. See policy at: <http://secretariat-policies.info.yorku.ca/policies/withdrawn-from-course-w-policy-and-guidelines/>
- Course add/drop deadlines:

	<b>Winter (Term W)</b>
Last date to add a course without permission of instructor (also see Financial Deadlines)	<b>January 20</b>
Last date to add a course with permission of instructor (also see Financial Deadlines)	<b>January 31</b>
Drop deadline: Last date to drop a course without receiving a grade (also see Financial Deadlines)	<b>March 14</b>
Course Withdrawal Period (withdraw from a course and receive a grade of “W” on transcript – see note below)	<b>March 15 - April 4</b>

### **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: quiz with multiple choice questions, problem solving and essay-type questions.

### **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: 5 slides (excluding title slide and references), 8 minutes.

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/> It is advisable that you seek timely guidance and feedback on your ongoing research efforts throughout the course. The class presentation aims to provide an opportunity for feedback on your research in progress for the final research paper.

### **Private Third-Party Tutoring Companies, Academic Honesty and Support Resources**

Many private, third-party tutoring companies advertise their services to YorkU students. One way you can help eliminate these advertisements is by changing your eClass profile settings to private (see instructions below). Some of these private companies claim to be affiliated with, or recognized and supported by, York University. Some also claim to help you by providing you with quiz and test answers, suggesting that this practice is safe and permitted by York. These claims are **not** true. York University has not officially recognized or endorsed any third-party tutoring service. When you are provided with quiz, test and exam answers, you run the risk of violating the **University’s Academic Conduct Policy**. Students have been caught using these services to cheat and gain unfair advantage over honest students. The cheating students and “tutors” have received academic dishonesty punishments ranging from failing courses, to being expelled, to losing their YorkU degrees.

Officially supported resources to help students learn course material will be provided by YorkU officials, such as your professors and your department. These services are offered at no cost to

you as a student. If you require help with any of your numeracy-related courses that involve math, statistics or Excel, drop in online to meet with one of our peer tutors at the **Student Numeracy Assistance Centre at Keele (SNACK)**. If you are ever unsure of whether a resource is allowable or endorsed by YorkU, please feel free to email the Department of Economics at [lapsecon@yorku.ca](mailto:lapsecon@yorku.ca) and they would be happy let you know.

**To hide your email address in eClass:** Step1: Click your name on the top-right of the eClass website, then click “Profile” on the drop-down menu; Step 2: Under “User details” click “Edit profile”; Step 3: From the “Email display” drop-down menu choose “Hide my email address from non-privileged users”; Step 4: Scroll to the bottom of the page and click on the “Update profile” button.

**Required Text:**

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

**Different options to acquire the required textbook and associated costs:**

- Looseleaf printed book: CAD 229.50
- Digital book (180-day access): CAD 130 (estimate)
- Digital book (Lifetime access): CAD 193.32 (estimate)
- This is a well-established book and used copies are available e.g. on Amazon.ca for approx. CAD 100 or less
- Note: You can also use an older edition of the textbook if necessary, 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 7<sup>th</sup> edition that you will need to account for.

**Some suggested resources available online at no additional charge:**

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

**Outline**

Week 1 (January 8)

**Introduction to Development and Investment and Savings**

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

Week 2 (January 15)

**Fiscal Policy**

Required reading: Economics of Development, Chapter 11.

Week 3 (January 22)

**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 (January 29)

**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 (February 5)

**Quiz and take-home test 1 online (no lecture)**

Week 6 (February 12)

**Managing Short-Run Crises in an Open Economy and post-test review**

Required reading: Economics of Development, Chapter 15.

**Research proposal due via eClass no later than Friday, February 14**

**No class on Wednesday, February 19 (Reading Week)**

Week 7 (February 26)

**Foreign Aid**

Required reading: Economics of Development, Chapter 14.

Week 8 (March 5)

**Agriculture and Development**

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

Week 9 (March 12)

**Trade and Development**

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

Week 10 (March 19)

**Pre-test review and research presentations**

Week 11 (March 26)

**Quiz and take-home test 2 online (no lecture or presentations)**

Week 12 (April 2)

**Research presentations, Q&A for final paper submissions** – keep in mind that the main objective of these presentations is to receive feedback on your research for your final paper.

**Final research papers due on April 8 via eClass**