



University of Victoria

Course Syllabus
Department of Economics
ECONOMICS 320: A01 (CRN: 21009)
Economic Development
Winter Session 2024-2025, Second Term (Jan-Apr 2025)

Instructor Name: Omar Saleh

Delivery mode: Face-to-face

Lecture Recording: There is no lecture recording for this class.

Lectures A01: Monday, Wednesday, and Thursday, 2:30pm–3:20pm

Location A01: Engineering Computer Science Building (Room: 125)

Office Hours BEC 316: Wednesdays, 3:30 pm–4:20pm

UVic Land Acknowledgement

We acknowledge and respect the Lək̓ʷəŋən (Songhees and Esquimalt) Peoples on whose territory the university stands, and the Lək̓ʷəŋən and W̱ANEC Peoples whose historical relationships with the land continue to this day.

Course Description

An introduction to issues and policy problems faced by developing countries. Covers key principles, concepts and measurement issues, empirical facts and analytical perspectives associated with economic development. Topics include human development, inequality and poverty, population growth, education, health and agriculture and rural development. Topics may also include urbanization and migration, role of credit markets, globalization, environment and other current issues in development. Students will explore the multifaceted dimensions of economic growth, structural transformation, and the challenges faced by developing nations in the global economy.

Key Topics:

- **Theories of Economic Development:** Examination of classical and contemporary theories, including the role of institutions, markets, and government in economic transformation.
- **Poverty and Inequality:** Analysis of poverty measurement, the causes of inequality, and strategies for poverty alleviation.
- **Economic Policy and Planning:** Evaluation of development policies, including industrialization, trade, and agricultural strategies, and their impact on economic progress.
- **Human Capital and Labor Markets:** Exploration of the importance of education, health, and labor market dynamics in fostering sustainable development.
- **Globalization and Development:** Discussion of the effects of globalization on developing economies, including trade, investment, and technology transfer.
- **Environmental Sustainability:** Consideration of the environmental implications of economic development and the concept of sustainable development.

Learning Outcomes:

Upon completion of this course, students will be able to:

1. Analyze key concepts and theories of economic development and their application to real-world scenarios.
2. Evaluate the effectiveness of various development policies and their socio-economic impacts.
3. Assess the relationship between economic growth, poverty reduction, and inequality.
4. Understand the role of institutions and governance in shaping development outcomes.
5. Propose strategies for promoting sustainable economic development in diverse contexts.

Prerequisites:

- Complete all of the following
 - Complete 1 of:
 - [ECON103](#) - Principles of Microeconomics (1.5)
 - [ECON103C](#) - Introduction to Principles of Microeconomics and Financial Project Evaluation (1.5)
 - [ECON180](#) - Introduction to Economics and Financial Project Evaluation (1.5)
 - Complete all of:
 - [ECON104](#) - Principles of Macroeconomics (1.5)
 - Complete 1 of:
 - [ECON225](#) - Writing for Economists (1.5)
 - [ENGR240](#) - Technical Writing (1.5)

Texts/Materials

Required Textbook: Economic Development, by Michael P. Todaro and Stephen C. Smith, 13th edition, Pearson Education. Previous editions are acceptable as well.

Lectures Outline (*Tentative Schedule, it might be subject to changes*)

- 1- Chapter 1: Introducing economic development: A global perspective
- 2- Chapter 2: Comparative economic development
- 3- Chapter 3: Classic Theories of Economic Growth and Development
- 4- Chapter 4: Contemporary Models of Development and Underdevelopment
- 5- Chapter 5: Poverty, Inequality, and Development
- 6- Chapter 6: Population Growth and Economic Development: Causes, Consequences, and Controversies
- 7- Chapter 7: Urbanisation and Rural–urban Migration: Theory and Policy
- 8- Chapter 8: Human Capital: Education and Health in Economic Development
- 9- Chapter 9: Agricultural Transformation and Rural Development
- 10- Chapter 10: The Environment and Development
- 11- Chapter 12: International Trade Theory and Development Strategy
- 12- Chapter 13: Balance of Payments, Debt, Financial Crises, and Sustainable Recovery: Principles, Cases and Policies
- 13- Chapter 14: Foreign Finance, Investment, Aid, and Conflict: Controversies and Opportunities (If time permits)
- 14- Chapter 15: Finance and Fiscal Policy for Development (If time permits)

Important Dates:

Last day for adding fall term courses is January 22nd.

Last day for 100% reduction of second term fees for standard courses is January 16th.

Last day for 50% reduction of tuition fees for standard courses is February 9th.

Reading Break for all faculties: Monday, February 17th - Friday, February 21st.

Last day for withdrawing from full year and second term courses without penalty of failure is February 28th.

Last day of Econ 320 classes is April 3rd.

Grading Scheme

Your final grade will be determined as follows:

Assignments	20%
2 Midterms:	40% (February 13 th and March 20 th , during lecture time in class)
Final Exam:	40% (During exam period)

Please note that you are expected to show up in person for every exam. You are required to write the final exam and at least one midterm to complete the course.

Assignments: There will be two long assignments, each worth 10%. **The use of AI tools is strictly prohibited, and violations will incur penalties.** While group work is encouraged, each student must submit their individual work to receive a grade. If an assignment is not submitted by the due date, it will receive a zero. **No excuses will be accepted for missed assignments.** All assignments will be posted and submitted in PDF form through Brightspace. Further details regarding the timing and format will be shared later.

Midterms: Midterm 1 exam is scheduled for February 13th, and Midterm 2 exam is scheduled for March 20th. More specific details will be given in due time.

Missed midterms & final. When you are not able to complete an exam, please let me know as early as possible. You must make a formal request and state the reason for missing an exam clearly and explicitly.

Please see details at Undergraduate requests for academic concession. I will confirm the alternative arrangement (based on the outline) by replying to your email. Please note that if I do not get a formal request in email within a week from a missed exam (and reply to your email), you will get a zero for the missed exam.

- If you complete one midterm, the weight of the missed one will be carried evenly to the completed midterm (10%) and the final exam (10%).

- If you missed both midterms for valid reasons, you will be scheduled to write a deferred/make-up Midterm 2 exam.

Due to our limited resources, the exam will only be scheduled during a deferred exam session organized by the economics department (usually in a Friday afternoon.) As the sessions are limited, it is essential to contact me promptly to get the exam scheduled.

- Please note that you only get the above if you make a formal request by completing the form and receive my email confirmation within a week from the missed midterm.

Final exam: If you are not able to complete the final due to a valid reason, but you have completed as least one midterm, please formally apply a [request for a deferral](#) to write a deferred final exam in the upcoming term. Please note that the delivery method of the make-up exam will always be the same to that of the original exam. According to the university policy, students are advised to make travel plans after the exam schedule becomes available, and conflicts with travel plans are not considered as a valid reason for missing the final exam. The exam schedule has also taken into consideration students' course information, so having multiple exams in a period is not a valid reason either.

Grade concerns should be brought to the instructor as soon as possible. The grades of each assessment component are final after one week of being distributed.

Students are advised not to make work or travel plans until after the examination timetable has been finalized. Students who wish to finalize their travel plans at an earlier date should book flights that depart after the end of the examination period. Students do not qualify for an academic concession if travel plans conflict with the examination.

This course uses the standard Department of Economics grading scale:

A+	A	A-	B+	B	B-	C+	C	D	F or N
90-100	85-89	80-84	77-79	73-76	70-72	65-69	60-64	50-59	0-49

Students should review the University's more detailed [summary of grading](#).

Brightspace

- Brightspace is used extensively for the course. All students are expected to be fully functional with the system.
- All course materials will be posted on Brightspace.
- All announcements will be posted on Brightspace. Students are advised to check it frequently.
- For support with technical issues, please get in touch with the Computer Help Desk: helpdesk@uvic.ca

E-mail: osaleh@uvic.ca

- You should contact me by email primarily on matters that relate to your personal participation, e.g. you have a medical condition that prevents you from taking an exam. General administrative matters, such as the arrangement and the format for the assignments or exams, will not be addressed via e-mail.
- E-mail is a terribly inefficient way of communicating regarding course material. Any clarifying questions about the syllabus and/or course content have to be asked in class or during office hours. E-mails to me should be limited to missed assessment and personal concerns.
- If you contact me at my UVic e-mail address, please include your legal name (the name in the university records), student number and course title in the subject of your e-mail. Without such information, it is sometimes hard for the instructor to understand the nature of your queries. Please avoid inappropriate nicknames, e-mail id's and signatures. Text message lingo should not be used.

Copyright

All course content and materials are made available by instructors for educational purposes and for the exclusive use of students registered in their class. The material is protected under copyright law, even if not marked with a ©. **Any further use or distribution of materials to others requires the written permission of the instructor**, except under fair dealing or another exception in the Copyright Act. Violations may result in disciplinary action under the Resolution of Non-Academic Misconduct Allegations policy (AC1300).

Course Experience Survey (CES)

I value your feedback on this course. Towards the end of term, you will have the opportunity to complete a confidential course experience survey (CES) regarding your learning experience. The survey is vital to providing feedback to me regarding the course and my teaching, as well as to help the department improve the overall program for students in the future. When it is time for you to complete the survey, you will receive an email inviting you to do so. If you do not receive an email invitation, you can go directly to <http://ces.uvic.ca>. You will need to use your UVic NetLink ID to access the survey, which can be done on your laptop, tablet or mobile device. I will remind you nearer the time, but please be thinking about this important activity, especially the following three questions, during the course.

1. What strengths did your instructor demonstrate that helped you learn in this course?
2. Please provide specific suggestions as to how the instructor could have helped you learn more effectively.
3. Please provide specific suggestions as to how this course could be improved.

Course Policies

This course adheres to the [Undergraduate Course Policies](#) of the Department of Economics that deal with the following issues:

- Academic concessions
- Academic integrity (plagiarism and cheating)
- Attendance
- Grading
- Inclusivity and diversity
- Late adds
- Late assignments
- Repeating courses
- Review of an assigned grade
- Students with a disability
- Term assignments and debarment from examinations
- Travel plans
- Waitlists

The following policies are explicitly included because of their importance.

Examinations

Attendance at all scheduled examinations is mandatory. Consideration for missed examinations will be given only on the basis of documented illness, accident or family affliction, and for no other reasons. In the event of a missed final examination, students are advised to follow the procedures outlined in the University Calendar.

Students are advised not to make travel plans until after the examination timetable is finalized. Students who wish to book their trips early should book flights that depart after the end of the examination period. There will be no special accommodation if travel plans conflict with the examination.

University Policy on Human Rights, Equity and Fairness

The University is committed to promoting, providing and protecting a positive, supportive and safe learning and working environment for all its members.

Waitlist Policies

- Instructors have no discretion to admit waitlisted students or raise the cap on the course.
- Students on the waitlist should discuss with the instructor how to ensure they are not behind with coursework in the event they are admitted.
- Registered students who do not show up in the first seven calendar days from the start of the course may be dropped from the course.
- Registered students who decide not to take the course are responsible for dropping the course, and are urged to do so promptly out of courtesy toward waitlisted students.
- Waitlist offers cease after the last date for adding courses irrespective of published waitlists.

Classroom Etiquette

Behave politely and professionally. Do not create negative externalities. Do not disturb or distract your fellow students or the instructor.

Academic Integrity

Academic integrity requires commitment to the values of honesty, trust, fairness, respect, and responsibility. Students are expected to observe the same standards of scholarly integrity as their academic and professional counterparts. A student who is found to have engaged in unethical academic behaviour, including the practices described in the [Policy on Academic Integrity](#) in the University Calendar, is subject to penalty by the University.

Review [What is Plagiarism](#) for the definition of plagiarism. No form of plagiarism will be tolerated in this course. *Note:* Submitted work may be checked using plagiarism detection software.

Review the **Student Code of Conduct**

<https://www.uvic.ca/services/advising/advice-support/academic-units/student-code-of-conduct/index.php>

Educational Technology involving storage outside Canada

In case Zoom is used in the course and to the best of my knowledge, Zoom might store some personal information outside of Canada. If you are not comfortable with your personal information being stored outside of Canada, please speak to me within the first week of class about using an alternative (such as using an alias or nickname). Otherwise, by continuing in this course, you agree to the use of the educational technology in the course and the storage of personal information outside of Canada.

Repeating Courses

In order to request permission to attempt a course for the third time, you must follow the instructions provided under the [Repeating Courses](#) policy on the Economics website. Failure to obtain permission will result in deregistration from the course.

Accessibility & Health Resources

Centre for Accessible Learning

Students with diverse learning styles and needs are welcome in this course. In particular, if you have a disability/health consideration that may require accommodations, you are free to approach me. However, you must register with the [Centre for Accessible Learning](#) (CAL) for formal arrangements to be made. The CAL staff are available by appointment to assess specific needs, provide referrals and arrange appropriate

accommodations. The sooner you let us know your needs the quicker we can assist you in achieving your learning goals in this course.

[Health Services](#) - University Health Services (UHS) provides a full-service primary health clinic for students, and coordinates healthy student and campus initiatives.

[Counselling Services](#) - Counselling Services can help you make the most of your university experience. They offer free professional, confidential, inclusive support to currently registered UVic students.

[Elders' Voices](#) - The Office of Indigenous Academic and Community Engagement (IACE) has the privilege of assembling a group of Elders from local communities to guide students, staff, faculty and administration in Indigenous ways of knowing and being.

Sexualized Violence Prevention & Response

UVic takes sexualized violence seriously, and has raised the bar for what is considered acceptable behaviour. Students are encouraged to learn more about how the university defines sexualized violence and its overall approach by visiting www.uvic.ca/svp. If you or someone you know has been impacted by sexualized violence and needs information, advice, and/or support please contact the sexualized violence resource office in Equity and Human Rights (EQHR). Contact svpcoordinator@uvic.ca.

Use of AI

In general, the use of Generative AI is not allowed in this course. The university reserves the right to deploy plagiarism software to detect violations of academic integrity. Many of these kinds of software now include the detection of AI usage. Be mindful of your usage of Generative AI.