



# St. Francis Xavier University

## Department of Economics

### ECON 305/DEVS 305: Economic Development I

Instructor: Zeynep Ozkok

Fall 2021

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**Classes:** Tuesday 3:45 pm – 5:00 pm and Thursday 2:15 pm – 3:30 pm

**Office Hours:** Tuesday 2:00 pm – 3:00 pm and Thursday 12:30 pm – 1:30 pm

#### Description

This course provides an overview of the most pressing issues and problems facing present day developing countries. It focuses on the economic development strategies and prospects used around the world. We study the common features shared by many developing countries and examine economic models for these countries to follow in their transformation to become developed nations. Overall, the course offers a detailed analysis on the progress of developing countries and underlines the remaining problems and challenges that need to be addressed in the future. Topics include poverty, inequality, and development; past and present theories of economic growth; alternate approaches to economic development; models of development and underdevelopment; population growth; rapid urbanization and rural-urban migration; education and health in economic development.

#### Objectives and Learning Outcomes

The course has four main objectives:

- (1) To provide a broad understanding of the existing economic realities in developing countries.
- (2) To help students develop analytic skills and broaden their perspectives of the wide scope of development economics.
- (3) To present a clear analysis on what has been accomplished and what remaining problems have to be addressed for developing countries.
- (4) To foster students' ability to understand contemporary economic problems of developing countries and help reach independent and informed judgments and policy conclusions about their possible resolution.

## Prerequisites

ECON 101 and 102.

## Textbook

Todaro, Michael P., and Stephen C. Smith. (2020). *Economic Development*. 13<sup>th</sup> Edition. Pearson- Addison Wesley. (**Note:** The same textbook will be used for ECON/DEVS 306 in the Winter 2022 semester. You **CAN** also use the 12<sup>th</sup> Edition or older editions.)

## Recommended reading

- Banarjee, Abhijit V., and Esther Duflo. (2012). *Poor Economics: A Radical Rethinking of the Way to Fight Global Poverty*. New York: Public Affairs.
- Gates, Melinda. (2019). *The Moment of Lift: How Empowering Women Changes the World*. New York: Flatiron Books.
- Rosling, Hans, Ola Rosling, and Anna Rosling Ronnlund. (2018). *Factfulness: Ten Reasons We are Wrong About the World – and Why Things are Better Than You Think*. New York: Flatiron Books.

## Evaluation

The course grade is based on a midterm, three assignments, two reading responses/opinion pieces and a final exam as follows:

- Midterm: 25%
- Assignments (3): 15%
- Reading responses/opinion pieces (2): 20%
- Final exam: 40%

Students are expected to attend all lectures. The mid-term exam is scheduled for **October 21** during class time. **No make-up mid-term exams** will be offered. Should a student miss a mid-term for a medical reason, the weight of the mid-term will be added to the final exam. Students may drop a course, online in Banner, on or before the relevant deadline. The drop date is November 3, 2021 for first-term, three-credit courses. The final exam, to be scheduled by the examinations office in December 2021, will be cumulative.

Three assignments will be given throughout the term. Students are free to work with other students on these assignments and submit their work in groups of 1, 2 or 3. Assignments should be handed in during the start of the lecture in which they are due. Late assignments will not be accepted and will receive a mark of zero. Assignments will include theoretical questions, as well as empirical ones that require obtaining data and making tables. The solutions for the assignments will be posted on Moodle.

Two reading responses or opinion pieces will also be given during this term. These will be personal responses or opinions to the readings, which will be posted on Moodle. These readings will be based on the content covered in class and will provide an additional

analysis on the topics examined in this course. Students are asked to provide up to two pages (typed, single-spaced) responses/opinion pieces to the readings. Given the nature of these responses/opinion pieces, students are required to work **alone** and submit their own work.

The office hours for this term will be conducted online, on Blackboard Collaborate. The links for the virtual office hours will be posted on Moodle. Please allow for 5 to 10 minutes for everyone to get on Blackboard Collaborate. Aside from the online office hours, you can also send me questions via email.

Please note that this in-person course will switch to online delivery if circumstances related to Covid-19 require it in the Fall term. Also, note that the materials in this course are designed for use in Econ/Devs 305 at StFX University and are the property of the instructor. Copying this material for distribution, online posting, or selling of this material to third parties for distribution without permission is subject to Canadian Copyright Law and is strictly prohibited. Copying this material for distribution (e.g. uploading material to a commercial third-party website) may lead to a charge of misconduct under StFX's Community Code of Conduct and the Senate Policy on Academic Integrity. For more information, please visit the StFX copyright guide: <http://www2.mystfx.ca/library/campus-copyright>

## Course Outline

### ***Part I: Principles and Concepts***

	Chapter
1. Introducing Economic Development: A Global Perspective	1
2. Comparative Economic Development	2
3. Classic Theories of Economic Growth and Development	3
4. Contemporary Models of Development and Underdevelopment	4

### ***Part II: Problems and Policies: Domestic***

1. Poverty, Inequality, and Development	5
2. Population Growth and Economic Development: Causes, Consequences, and Controversies	6
3. Urbanization and Rural-Urban Migration: Theory and Policy (If time permits)	7
4. Human Capital: Education and Health in Economic Development (If time permits)	8

## **Important Dates**

**September 30:** National Day for Truth and Reconciliation (University is closed)

**October 1:** December exam schedule available

**October 11:** Thanksgiving Day (No classes)

**October 21:** Midterm

**October 27:** Fall term midterm grades available on Banner

**November 3:** Last day to drop first-term three-credit courses

**November 8-14:** Fall Study Break

**November 15:** Classes resume after the study break

**December 7:** Last day of classes for first term

**December 22:** Fall term grades available on Banner