Course Description: This course is an introduction to the field of Economic Development. The object of this course is to gain a greater understanding of economic development, to analyze economic problems of developing countries and to discuss strategies for achieving inclusive growth and reducing poverty and extreme inequality.

Course meets: MWF 10-10:50pm (Section 101) and MWF 11-11:50 (Section 201) in Tydings 101.

Office Hours: Wednesday 2 - 3pm 3147C Tydings Hall, or by appointment.

Prerequisites: Students are expected to have taken ECON201 and ECON200.


Readings and videos: Occasionally extra readings and videos will be posted through Canvas.

Course Website: If you are registered for this course, you should use your directory ID and password to access www.elms.umd.edu. Copies of this syllabus, homework assignments, your grades, and other relevant documents will be made available through the course website. It is important you check the website regularly.

Communication: Email is the best way of communicating with me. Please include ECON 315 in the subject of your email. I will do my best to respond within 36 hours. Please email me directly (not through canvas) as that allows me to answer more quickly.

Inclement Weather / University Closings: In the event that the University is closed unexpectedly, I will attempt to communicate via Canvas to students regarding schedule adjustments, including rescheduling of exams and assignments due to inclement weather and campus emergencies. Official closures and delays are announced on the campus website (http://www.umd.edu) and snow phone line (301-405-SNOW), as well as local radio and TV stations.

Exams: There will be two midterms and a cumulative final exam. Midterm dates are subject to change.

Tentative Schedule:
- Midterm 1: February 24th (regular class time)
- Midterm 2: April 15th (regular class time)
- Final: Wednesday May 18th, 8 – 10 am (section 101)
- Saturday May 14th, 8 – 10 am (section 201)
**Make-up policy:** Students are required to take both midterms and the final since these assessments are “major scheduled grading events”. Absences from exams must be fully documented and university authorized. Make-up exams will be granted only to those students whose excuse complies with University policy. If you believe you need a make-up, please inform me as far in advance as possible and at a minimum the day of the exam.

**Homework:** Homework problem sets will be given out occasionally, and are to be submitted through Canvas. Problem sets will be graded as “well done”, “satisfactory” or “unsatisfactory”. Homework that is not handed in, is handed in late, or shows blatant lack of effort, will be deemed unsatisfactory. Independently of homework grading, working through problem sets is very useful for keeping up with material and making sure you understand key concepts. It is also a very good way to prepare for exams. It is ok to do homework with a classmate or in a group, as long as: 1) the group is not more than 4 people, 2) each student submits his/her own solution through Canvas and 3) any collaboration is documented at the top of the homework (by writing at the top of the first page of your homework the name of the students you worked with). Clearly, working together on a problem set does not mean copying solutions from a classmate. All problem sets will be discussed in class.

**In class exercises:** Lectures and homeworks will be complemented by in class exercises. These will be posted online and/or handed out in class, and we will go over their solution in class. You will be responsible for this material in exams.

**Quizzes:** Occasionally online quizzes will be used to make sure you are keep up to date will necessary material for lectures and in class discussions and exercises.

**Grading:** Final grades will be determined as follows

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<th>Component</th>
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<tr>
<td>Midterm 1</td>
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<td>Midterm 2</td>
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<tr>
<td>Final Exam</td>
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<td>Quizzes</td>
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**Course Material:** To facilitate the learning process in this course, I post lecture outlines and other material of interest to the class. Please note that all my lectures and course materials, including power point presentations, tests, quizzes, homeworks, exercises, and similar materials, are protected by copyright. You may take notes and make copies of course materials for your own use. **You may not and may not allow others to reproduce or distribute lecture notes and course materials publicly whether or not a fee is charged without my express written consent.** Selling or distributing course materials may violate the Code of Student Conduct. Persons who publicly distribute or display or help others publicly distribute or display copies or modified copies of an instructor’s course materials may be considered in violation of the University Code of Student Conduct, Part 9(k).
**Attendance:** Attendance is not mandatory, but *strongly recommended*. Please note that the material we cover each week builds on the content of the previous weeks. If you miss class, you are still responsible for the material that was covered. I recommend you try to catch up right away: if not, you will find yourself slipping farther and farther behind.

**Academic Integrity:** The University of Maryland has a nationally recognized Code of Academic Integrity, administered by the Student Honor Council. This Code sets standards applicable to all undergraduate students, and you are responsible for upholding these standards as you complete assignments and take exams in this course. Please make yourself aware of the consequences of cheating, fabrication, facilitation, and plagiarism. For more information see www.studenthonor council.umd.edu. If I observe what I believe is a violation of the Code of Academic Integrity, I will refer any and all students involved to the Student Honor Council.

**Accommodations for students with disabilities:** I will make every effort to accommodate students who are registered with the University’s Disability Support Services (DSS) office and who provide me with an updated DSS form by February 15th, 2016. I am not able to accommodate students who are not registered with DSS or who do not provide me with the documentation in advance of exams.

**Course Evaluations:** I look forward to receiving your feedback on the course, both during and at the end of the semester. In particular, your participation in the evaluation of courses through CourseEvalUM is a responsibility you hold as a student member of our academic community. Your feedback is confidential and important to the improvement of teaching and learning at the University.

**Course outline:**
Please note this outline is subject to change! It is intended to give you a rough idea of what topics will be covered over certain dates during the semester and when you can (more or less) expect course work to be assigned/due.

**Week 1** (Jan 25th – Jan 29th): Introduction

- *Why study development economics? Patterns of development*
- INTRO: Video Pathways to Development, UNDP 2010
- Chapter 1

**Week 2** (Feb. 1st – 5th) Measuring Growth and Development

- *How do you measure growth and development? What are some of the common indicators?*
- INTRO Video: Hans Rosling: The best stats you have ever seen.
- Chapter 2
- In class exercise
Week 3 (Feb. 8th – 12th) Economic growth: key concepts and theories
   *What makes countries grow? What are some of the characteristics of high growth economies?*
   INTRO Reading: Economix, by Michael Goodwin, Chapter 1
   Chapter 3 and 4
   Quiz 1

Week 4 (Feb. 15th – 19th) Economic growth: key concepts and theories
   *What makes countries grow? What different theories have been put forward to explain growth?*
   Chapters 3 and 4
   Class exercise
   Homework 1
   February 19th: Career Center Presentation

Week 5 (Feb. 22 – 26th) Economic growth: key concepts and theories
   *What makes countries grow? What is the role of government in growth?*
   Chapters 5
   Quiz 2
   Review
   MIDTERM 1 on Wednesday FEB. 24th

Week 6 (Feb.29th – March 4th) Inequality and Poverty
   *What do we mean by inequality? How is inequality related to poverty and development?*
   INTRO: Inequality for All
   Chapter 6
   Class exercise

Week 7 (Mar 7th – 11th) Inequality and Poverty
   *What do we mean by inequality? How is inequality related to poverty and development?*
   INTRO: Movie “Poor Us: an animated history of poverty”
   Chapter 6, reading “What the Poor say”
   Homework 2

Week 8: March 14th – 20th : SPRING BREAK

Week 9 (Mar 21st – 25th) Population
   *What is the relationship between population growth and poverty? What are the causes of rapid population growth, the effects of such growth, and policy options?*
   INTRO: Video “7 Billion: How Did We Get So Big So Fast?”
   Chapter 7
   Quiz 3
**Week 10** (Mar 28th – April 1st) Education

*What is the relationship between education and development?*

INTRO: Movie “Girl Rising”

Chapter 8

Class exercise

**Week 11** (April 4th – 8th) Education

*What is the relationship between education and development?*

Chapter 8

Homework 3

**Week 12** (April 11th – 15th)

Review

Friday April 15th: MIDTERM 2

**Week 13** (April 18th – 22nd) Health

*What is the reality of health conditions in developing countries? What are some of the challenges to improving health conditions in developing countries?*

INTRO: House M.D., Season 2 Ep.2 (TB or not TB) OR “Anyone can have TB” (Frontline clip)

Chapter 9

**Week 14** (April 25th – 29th) Savings and investment

*How do different sources of savings and investment affect growth and development? What is the role of Foreign Direct Investment?*

Parts of Chapter 10, 11 and 14

Quiz 4

Homework 4

**Week 15** (May 2nd – 6th) Agriculture and industry in development

*What is the role of agriculture in developing economies? How does industry affect development?*

Chapter 16 and 18

**Week 16** (May 9th) REVIEW