

Effective: Fall 2021

**COURSE INFORMATION**

**Course Title:** Introduction to Development Economics

**Course Number:** ECON 227

**Credits:** 3

**Total Weeks:** 14 (Fall, Spring)  
12 (Summer)

**Total Hours:** 39

**Course Level:**  First Year  Second Year  
 New  Revised Course  
 Replacement Course

**Department:** Economics

**Department Head:** S. Plater

**Former Course Code(s) and Number(s) (if applicable):** n/a

**Pre-requisites (If there are no prerequisites, type NONE):** ECON 101, 102 and first-year English or Communications

**Co-requisite Statement (List if applicable or type NONE):** NONE

**Precluded Courses:** NONE

**COURSE DESCRIPTION**

In the past decades, the health condition of individuals has improved, the mortality rates of infants have declined, the universal access to fundamental education is foreseeable, and the poverty of citizens across nations have fallen. Twenty years ago, about 40% of the global population lived in extreme poverty with less than \$1.25 per day, and that has fallen to about 20% today. How did developing countries get to this? What contributed to the differences in the economy of developed and developing countries?

The growth and development of an economy is an enduring process of many decades. The goal of this course is to understand how we got where we are, how great progress has been made in recent years, and why many development problems remain so difficult to solve. Topics will include economic growth, poverty and inequality, health, education, population, migration, human capital, agriculture, and environment. This course will utilize both theoretical and empirical approaches in analyzing problems associate with economic development.

**LEARNING OUTCOMES**

Upon successful completion of the course, students will be able to:

- Recognize, evaluate, and compare economic development theories
- Utilize economic concepts to analyze and model development problems
- Access, interpret, and manipulate data relevant to economic development variables
- Research, read, and understand peer-reviewed journal articles on development economics

**INSTRUCTION AND GRADING**

Instructional (Contact) Hours:

| Type               | Duration |
|--------------------|----------|
| Lecture            | 39       |
| Seminars/Tutorials |          |
| Laboratory         |          |
| Field Experience   |          |
| Other (specify):   |          |
| Total              | 39       |

**Grading System:** Letter Grades  Percentage  Pass/Fail  Satisfactory/Unsatisfactory  Other

**Specify passing grade:** 50%

**Evaluation Activities and Weighting** (total must equal 100%)

|   |                   |  |   |
|---|-------------------|--|---|
| Assignments: 20%<br><i>Specify number of, variety, and nature of assignments:</i><br>3 to 5 written assignments | Lab Work: %       | Participation: %<br><i>Specify nature of participation:</i><br>In class activities | Project: 30%<br><i>Specify nature of project:</i><br>Research Paper |
| Quizzes/Test: %   | Midterm Exam: 20% | Final Exam: 30%  | Other: %  |

**Typical Proportion of Individual Work and Group Work:**

% of Individual Work: 70                      % of Group Work: 30

### TEXT(S) AND RESOURCE MATERIALS

Provide a full reference for each text and/or resource material and include whether required/not required.

Required Textbook: Todaro, Michael P. and Smith, Stephen C. **Economic Development**. Twelve Edition, Upper Saddle River, NJ: Pearson. ISBN-13: 978-013340678-8

### COURSE TOPICS

List topics and sequence covered.

1. Introducing Economic Development: A Global Perspective
  - What is Development Economics?
  - What do we mean by Development?
  - Case Study: Progress in the Struggle for More Meaningful Development: Brazil
2. Comparative Economic Development
  - Indicators of Development
  - Characteristics of the Development World
  - Case Study: Comparative Economic Development: Pakistan and Bangladesh
3. Classic Theories of Economic Growth and Development
  - Classical Growth Theories
  - Development of Growth and its Models
  - Case Study: Schools of Thought in Context: South Korea and Argentina
4. Poverty, Inequality, and Development
  - Measurements of Inequality
  - What is Poverty?
  - Case Study: Institutions, Inequality, and Incomes: Ghana and Côte d'Ivoire
5. Population Growth and Economic Development
  - Causes, Consequences, and Controversies
  - Policy Approaches
  - Case Study: Population, Poverty, and Development: China and India

6. Urbanization and Rural-Urban Migration: Theory and Policy
  - Cities and Urbanization
  - Migration and Development
  - Case Study: Rural-Urban Migration and Urbanization in Developing Countries: India and Botswana
7. Human Capital: Education and Health in Economic Development
  - Roles of Education and Health
  - Educational Systems, Health Systems, and Development
  - Case Study: Pathways Out of Poverty: Progresa/Oportunidades in Mexico
8. Agricultural Transformation and Rural Development
  - Agricultural Progression and Challenges
  - The Role of Women
  - Case Study: The Need to Improve Agricultural Extension for Women Farmers: Kenya
9. The Environment and Development
  - Basic Environmental and Developmental issues
  - Scope, Mitigation, and Adaptation of Global Warming and Climate Change
  - Case Study: A World of Contrasts on One Island: Haiti and the Dominican Republic

### NOTES

1. Students are required to follow all College policies. Policies are available on the website at: [Coquitlam College Policies](#)
2. To find out how this course transfers, visit the BC Transfer Guide at: [bctransferguide.ca](http://bctransferguide.ca)

**Last Revised:** September 2021

**Last Reviewed:** September 2024