

ECON 4774-001: Economic Reform in Developing Countries

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- Class Schedule: M-F 9 – 12 noon in ECON 119.
- Office Hours: M 12 – 1:30 p.m. and by appointment.
- Textbooks: There is one required textbooks for this class: *Economic Growth* by David Weil, Pearson Press, 3rd edition.
- Course Objectives: The persistent disparities in incomes per capita across the world today pose one of the most important questions that confront economists. What are the fundamental determinants of sustained economic development? Is economic integration good for economic development? What about socio-political progress? Thanks to a proliferation of reliable data both at the macro and the micro levels in the last two decades, economists have made important strides in helping to answer this question. Yet, the continuing failure of many countries to pull out of the ranks of the hopelessly poor is a testament to the amount of work that still needs to be done. While many determinants of sustained economic growth and progress are economy-wide (like the establishment of the rule of law, the security of property rights, sustained rates of technological progress and levels of investment etc.), many others stem from decisions made within the household (like how many children to have and how much to invest in each). In this class, we shall explore how and why some countries have succeeded and many others have failed (so far) in the pursuit of economic prosperity. An important emphasis will be on trying to assess the impact of globalization in all this.

Assignments and Grading:

The final grade for the class will be determined as follows:

Midterm	25 %
Group Presentation	25 %
Class Participation	20 %
Final Exam	30 %

No makeup exams or substitute grading assignments will be given. The only exceptions are covered by campus guidelines on absences due to religious observance (see below).

Group Project:

Each group is expected to pick one article from the reading list for the class (see below) by the end of the first week. They will present the main findings and conclusions of their paper in class. The main purpose of the presentation, which should last about 40 minutes, is to (a) help convey your assessment of the article to the class and (b) stimulate a class discussion.

Exam Absence:

If you fail to show up for an exam with out an acceptable excuse (such as an illness that can be documented with a medical note or you have been given permission by me to take a make-up exam), you will get a zero for that exam.

Classroom Behavior:

Turn your cell phones and laptops off. If you use your laptop for class purposes, you are required to sit in the last row of the classroom.

Harassment Policy:

The University of Colorado at Boulder policy on Discrimination and Harassment (<http://www.colorado.edu/policies/discrimination.html>) applies to all students, staff and faculty. Any student, staff member or faculty member who believes (s)he has been the subject of discrimination or harassment based on race, color, national origin, sex, age disability, religion, sexual orientation, or veteran status should contact the Office of Discrimination and Harassment (ODH) at (303) 492-2127 or the Office of Judicial Affairs at (303) 492-5550.

Disability Accommodations:

If you qualify for accommodations because of a disability, please submit to me a letter from Disability Services in a timely manner so that your needs may be addressed. Disability Services determines accommodations based on documented disabilities. Contact: 303-492-8671, Willard 322, and <http://www.Colorado.EDU/disabilityservices>

Absences due to Religious Observance:

Campus policy regarding religious observances requires that faculty make every effort to reasonably and fairly deal with all students who, because of religious obligations, have conflicts with scheduled exams, assignments or required attendance. See full details at http://www.colorado.edu/policies/fac_relig.html If you have scheduling conflict covered by this policy, please let me know at least one week in advance so that we can reschedule the relevant assignment.

Academic Integrity: All students of the University of Colorado at Boulder are responsible for knowing and adhering to the academic integrity policies of UCB. Violations of these policies may include: cheating, plagiarism, aid of academic dishonesty, fabrication, lying, bribery and threatening behavior. All incidents of academic misconduct should be reported to the Honor Code Council (honor@colorado.edu or (303) 725-2273).

Reading List:

<http://www.colorado.edu/Economics/courses/iyigun/E4774readlist.pdf>

Preliminary Course Outline:

<u>Day</u>	<u>Topic</u>
5/13	The Course Mechanics and logistics Introduction Facts to be Explained (Ch. 1)
5/14	A Framework for Analysis Physical Capital (Chs. 2 & 3)
5/15	Pritchett, Jones, Temple (Reading list I.7, I.12, I.15) Population and Economic Development (Ch. 4)
5/16	Demographics & Development (Chs. 5 & 6)
5/17	The Roles of Productivity & Technology (Chs. 7, 8, 9, 10)
5/20	Growth in the Open Economy (Ch. 11) Government (Ch. 12)
5/21	History, Institutions & Development (Ch. 14, 15)
5/22	In Class Midterm review

5/23	Midterm Exam I
5/24	Politics, Economics and Development (Reading List Articles, TBA)
5/27	Politics, Economics and Development (Reading List Articles, TBA)
5/28	Article Presentations
5/29	Article Presentations
5/30	Class review, Practice Materials Review
5/31	Final Exam