

## **Economics 4784-001: Economic Development**

Fall 2008

MWF 2-2:50PM

Room: Economics 119

Class Website through CULearn: <https://culearn.colorado.edu/>

No Class: 9/1 (Labor Day), 11/24-11/28 (Fall Break)

Professor Francisca Antman

Office: Economics 14b

Office Hours: Monday 3:00-4:30PM, Wednesday 3:00-4:30PM, and by appointment

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### **Course Description**

In this course we will explore empirical, theoretical, and policy issues surrounding economic development. These topics will include theories of economic growth, inequality, poverty, demographic change, migration, as well as characteristics of land, labor, and credit markets in developing countries. Note that the field of development economics is very broad and so an introductory course will naturally vary from instructor to instructor. The approach taken in this course is to touch on the many areas of interest to development economists to provide a broad introduction to the field.

**Prerequisites:** Economics 3070 (Intermediate Microeconomic Theory) or Econ 3080 (Intermediate Macroeconomic Theory).

**Textbook:** Debraj Ray, *Development Economics*, Princeton University Press, 1998.

### **Grading**

Midterm 1: 20%

Midterm 2: 20%

Final Exam (cumulative): 40%

Homework 1 & 2: 10%

In-class Exercises, Attendance & Participation: 10%

### **Class Policies**

The text covers far more material than will be covered in class and I will present material in class that is not in the textbook, so it is in your interest to come to class. You will be responsible for material covered in lectures unless otherwise mentioned in class or noted by email or on the course website. Occasionally, I will also make available articles from other sources that I would like for you to read for class discussion.

There is no excuse for missing an exam unless there is a documented medical or family emergency. Note that you are required to submit documentation of any emergency. In all other cases, failure to take an exam will result in a zero for that exam. If a legitimate emergency arises, other exams will be re-weighted; no make-up exams will be given. If you foresee any

legitimate conflict with the dates of the assignments or exams, please see me at least two weeks beforehand or as soon as possible.

If you miss a class, you are responsible for obtaining notes on the material we covered from another classmate. I encourage you to come to my office hours to discuss the material you missed, but not before you have gone over the material yourself through notes and the textbook.

Homework will be graded on a check-plus, check, check-minus, zero grading system based largely on the effort demonstrated in solving the problems. Homework is due in class at the beginning of lecture on the dates specified. Following a 15-minute grace period, your homework grade will be lowered by one grade level for every day that the assignment is late (with a zero being the minimum obtainable score). This means that if the assignment is due at 2PM and you turn it in at 3PM and you got a check, your score will be recorded as check-minus. You may collaborate with your classmates on homework, but each student must submit their own homework and provide the names of any students with which he collaborated on the first page of the assignment. It is important that you demonstrate that you are thinking independently as I will compare your answers to those of other students in the class.

Throughout this class, we will do in-class exercises that will help prepare you for homework and exams while also encouraging you to think on your feet, work in groups, and possibly present your work to the class. These exercises may not be formally graded, but I will count your level of involvement in these exercises along with your attendance and participation in class (e.g. answering questions posed to the class) at random intervals throughout the course. You will be given the opportunity to make up for up to two absences by turning in brief response papers to the articles discussed in class at the end of the semester. Due to the short period between the second midterm and the final exam, we will do in-class exercises in lieu of an additional homework assignment.

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. In this class, please see me at least two weeks prior to any conflicts due to religious observances. See full details at [www.colorado.edu/policies/fac\\_relig.html](http://www.colorado.edu/policies/fac_relig.html)

### **Other Policies**

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 be addressed. Disability Services determines accommodations based on documented disabilities. Contact: 303-492-8671, Willard 322, and [www.Colorado.EDU/disabilityservices](http://www.Colorado.EDU/disabilityservices)

Students and faculty each have responsibility for maintaining an appropriate learning environment. Those who fail to adhere to such behavioral standards may be subject to discipline. Professional courtesy and sensitivity are especially important with respect to individuals and topics dealing with differences of race, culture, religion, politics, sexual orientation, gender, gender variance, and nationalities. Class rosters are provided to the instructor with the student's legal name. I will gladly honor your request to address you by an alternate name or gender

pronoun. Please advise me of this preference early in the semester so that I may make appropriate changes to my records. See policies at <http://www.colorado.edu/policies/classbehavior.html> and at [http://www.colorado.edu/studentaffairs/judicialaffairs/code.html#student\\_code](http://www.colorado.edu/studentaffairs/judicialaffairs/code.html#student_code)

All students of the University of Colorado at Boulder are responsible for knowing and adhering to the academic integrity policy of this institution. Violations of this policy may include: cheating, plagiarism, aid of academic dishonesty, fabrication, lying, bribery, and threatening behavior. All incidents of academic misconduct shall be reported to the Honor Code Council ([honor@colorado.edu](mailto:honor@colorado.edu); 303-725-2273). Students who are found to be in violation of the academic integrity policy will be subject to both academic sanctions from the faculty member and non-academic sanctions (including but not limited to university probation, suspension, or expulsion). Other information on the Honor Code can be found at <http://www.colorado.edu/policies/honor.html> and at <http://www.colorado.edu/academics/honorcode/>

The University of Colorado at Boulder policy on Discrimination and Harassment, the University of Colorado policy on Sexual Harassment and the University of Colorado policy on Amorous Relationships apply to all students, staff and faculty. Any student, staff or faculty member who believes s/he has been the subject of discrimination or harassment based upon 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. Information about the ODH, the above referenced policies and the campus resources available to assist individuals regarding discrimination or harassment can be obtained at <http://www.colorado.edu/odh>

**Economics 4784-001 Tentative Course Outline, Fall 2008**

Week	Dates	Material
1	Aug 25-29	Intro to Economic Development (ch.1, 2) --Measuring economic development. Review of Statistical Methods (Appendix 2)
	Sep 1	No Class--Labor Day
2	Sep 3-5	Review of Statistical Methods, continued --Interpreting empirical results
3	Sep 8-12	Theories of Economic Growth (ch.3) --Harrod-Domar model. Solow model. --Explaining cross-country income differences. Convergence hypotheses.
4	Sep 15-19	Theories of Economic Growth (ch.4) --Human capital and growth --Total Factor Productivity
5	Sep 22-26	Inequality, Development, and Growth (ch.6, 7) --Measuring inequality. Inverted-U hypothesis. Self-perpetuating inequality.
	Fri, 9/26	<b>Homework 1 due at beginning of lecture</b>
6	9/29-10/3	HW1 Review; MT1
	Fri, 10/3	<b>Midterm 1 in class</b>
7	Oct 6-10	Poverty & Development (ch.8) --Measuring poverty --Nutritional poverty trap
8	Oct 13-17	Population & Fertility (ch.9) --Demographic transition. Macro- and micro- inertia of population growth rates. --Externalities within the household. Positive and negative effects of pop. growth.
9	Oct 20-24	Environment --Economic growth & environmental quality --Environmental externalities
10	Oct 27-31	Rural-Urban Interaction (10) --Lewis model of surplus labor. Harris-Todaro model of rural-urban migration.
	Fri, 10/31	<b>Homework 2 due at beginning of lecture</b>
11	11/3-11/7	HW1 Review, MT2
	Fri, 11/7	<b>Midterm 2 in class</b>
12	Nov 10-14	Agricultural Markets (Ch. 11)
	Wed 11/12	--Market imperfections. Moral hazard. Adverse selection.
13	Nov 17-21	Land & Labor Markets (Ch. 12 & 13: 12.1-12.3, 13.4) --Sharecropping, Fixed rent, Fixed wage contracts. --Poverty, nutrition, and labor markets
14	Nov 24-28	No Class--Fall Break & Thanksgiving
15	Dec 1-5	Credit Markets (Ch. 14: 14.1, 14.2, 14.5) --Formal & Informal credit markets --Alternative credit policies
16	Dec 8-12	Review for Final Exam In-class exercises

Mon 12/15 **Final Exam 4:30-7PM**