

**ECON 8774: Development Economics I**  
Syllabus

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Class Schedule: MW 10:30 a.m. – 11:45 p.m. in Economics 5.

Office Hours: F 10:00 a.m. – 11:30 a.m. and by appointment.

Textbook and Reading Materials:

There is no required text for this course. The lectures and discussion will be primarily based on journal articles and working papers in the reading list for this class (see below). In some lectures, I will rely on some of the textbooks listed on the same reading list.

Course Objectives: This class, together with ECON8784, is part of a development economics sequence. The sequence is designed for second or third year Ph.D. students who intend to specialize in the field and plan to conduct original theoretical and empirical research. ECON8774 will cover both theoretical and empirical issues in economic development, but the primary focus will be on the theoretical, macroeconomic side (except when I will delve into some of my more recent research interests in the field that have more of a micro/labor/household blend).

University 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 may 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)

We will make reasonable accommodations for students who have conflicts between religious observance dates and course examinations or assignments. Please talk to me at the beginning of the semester, if you think you may require such accommodation. For university policies on this and on other things such as classroom behavior, see [www.colorado.edu/policies/index.html](http://www.colorado.edu/policies/index.html).

Assignments:

1. During the course of the semester, you will be required to present in class four papers (that you will select based on your interests) from the reading list. The presentation should last about 30 minutes and help your fellow students grasp the main ideas of the paper. Each paper should be summarized and critiqued in a three-page report that should be handed in to me at the end of the presentation. Your grade will mostly depend on your critique and analysis of the article assignment. At the end of the semester, these reports will serve as the basis of the review materials for the final test.
2. The class participation grade will be based on your willingness to contribute meaningfully to class discussion during the paper presentations. It will help if you read the papers in advance.
3. I will ask you to write referee reports for either 2 or 3 unpublished papers. Each referee report should be at least 3 pages double-spaced. The report should summarize the paper briefly and then critique it in detail. It should conclude with a publication recommendation and a justification for that decision.
4. You will develop a theoretical framework on a topic of your own choosing. Students who intend to take ECON8784 could use this assignment to develop the conceptual framework that will serve as the basis of their empirical research assignment for that class. The proposal should be as detailed as possible in outlining the research question and combine an appropriate literature review that will highlight why the question at hand is important. The proposal will be due towards the end of the semester; an exact due date will be announced.
5. There will be a short final exam based on the articles presented in class during the course of the semester.

Grading: The following weights will be used to compute your final grade:

Article Presentations	25 percent
Class Participation	15 percent
Referee Reports	20 percent
Research Proposal	20 percent
Final Exam	20 percent

Reading List:

<http://www.colorado.edu/Economics/courses/iyigun/E8774readlist.pdf>