

Economics 350: Economics of Developing Countries Fall 2023 Syllabus

ECON 350U-002, CRN 10910
M/W 12:00 noon - 1:50 pm
Class: Parkmill 183
(1633 SW Park Avenue)
Professor John Luke Gallup

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Office Hours: M 3-4; W 3:30-4:30 at
URBN 450G or
pdx.zoom.us/j/7232927375

This course studies the economic and social context of the majority of the people in the world who live in low- and middle-income countries, which is quite different from our context. Among the topics are: What is economic development? What are its causes and what are its consequences? What is its connection to social and political institutions? What has been the relationship between economic growth, poverty and inequality? How does education, health and population affect economic development, and how does economic development affect education, health and population? What is the effect of trade and globalization on developing countries? What is necessary to make economic development environmentally sustainable, and what are the likely impacts of global climate change on developing countries? What is the impact of foreign aid, and how can it be made more effective?

Each student will be expected to read all the assigned material, participate in classroom discussions, and complete the written assignments. Students' own ideas and experience are important to the course. Squaring them with the theories and data we study is a central goal.

The course will use the text *Economics of Development, 7th Edition* by Perkins, Radelet, Lindauer, and Block (ISBN-13: 9780393934359). You can use the 6th Edition (ISBN-13: 978-0393926521) instead which is much less expensive (look for used copies on alibris.com or Amazon), but you are responsible for figuring out differences in page numbers, etc.

All other readings are on the Canvas website for this course.

There will be short weekly quizzes about the readings for the forthcoming week each Tuesday.

This course uses your smartphone, tablet or computer in class for quizzes. If you do not have access to a smartphone or a wireless device, let me know.

Grades are determined by:

- 5% on short in-class quizzes
- 45% on a classroom presentation
- 45% on a final exam, and
- 5% on class attendance and participation.

Regular attendance is vital for understanding the material, so attendance will be noted. All assignments are due in class on the dates announced and will be marked down if late. It's always much better to turn in an assignment late than to decide not to turn it in at all.

Do not plagiarize or **engage in** any other form of **academic dishonesty**. While I encourage you to discuss your assignments with other people, the final product must be your own, containing full citations to any work on which you draw. **I vigorously pursue suspected cheating** because it undermines honest work.

Students with accommodations approved through the Disability Resource Center should tell me during the first week of term to discuss accommodations. Students who believe they are eligible for accommodations but who have not yet obtained approval should contact the DRC immediately.

Portland State University supports equal opportunity for all, regardless of age, color, disability, marital status, national origin, race, religion or creed, sex or gender, sexual or gender identity, sexual orientation, veteran status, or any other basis in law.

I have a responsibility to create a safe learning environment. As a faculty member, I am required to report any instances of sexual harassment, sexual violence and/or other forms of prohibited discrimination. If you would rather share information about sexual harassment, violence or discrimination with a confidential employee who does not have this reporting responsibility, you can find [a list](#) of those individuals. More information about Title IX is on the [Title IX website](#).

Course Outline and Readings

- Week 1, Class 1 (September 27)
 - Introduction and History of Economic Development.
 - Jeffrey Sachs, “The Spread of Economic Prosperity”
 - Perkins, Radelet & Lindauer, Chapter 1
- Week 2, Class 2,3 (October 2, 4)
 - Concept and Measurement of Development
 - Amartya Sen, “Introduction” of Development as Freedom
 - Perkins, Radelet & Lindauer, Chapter 2
- Week 3, Class 4,5 (October 9, 11)
 - Economic Growth: Concepts and Patterns
 - Jeffrey Sachs, “Why Some Countries Fail to Thrive”
 - Perkins, Radelet & Lindauer, Chapter 3
- Week 4, Class 6,7 (October 16, 18)
 - ***presentation description due*** October 16th
 - Institutions
 - Basu, “Asian Century”
 - Chang, “Lazy Japanese and Thieving Germans”
 - Perkins, Radelet & Lindauer, Chapter 5
- Week 5, Class 8,9 (October 23, 25)
 - Inequality and Poverty
 - Narayan, Pritchett, Kapoor, The Moving Out of Poverty Study: An Overview
 - focus on sections “Meet Three People” (pp. 4-7) and “Findings” (pp. 18-42) - skim rest)
 - Perkins, Radelet & Lindauer, Chapter 6
- Week 6, Class 10,11 (October 30, November 1)
 - Population and Education
 - Perkins, Radelet & Lindauer, parts of Chapters 7 & 8:
 - Chapter 7: Population
 - pp. 220-224 The Demographic Transition
 - pp. 236-237 Population Growth and Economic Development (up to Population and Accumulation)
 - pp. 246-249 Family Planning
 - Chapter 8: Education
 - pp. 257-258 Introduction
 - pp. 264-269 Schooling versus Education; The Benefits of Education
 - pp. 278-297 Puzzles – end of chapter

- Week 7, Class 12,13 (November 6, 8)
 - Health
 - Jeffrey Sachs, “Africa: The Voiceless Dying”
 - Perkins, Radelet & Lindauer, Chapter 9
- Week 8, Class 14,15 (November 13, 15)
 - **presentations due** November 13th
 - Sustainable Development
 - “Overview” from World Development Report 2010: Development and Climate Change.
 - Perkins, Radelet & Lindauer, Chapter 20
- Week 9, Class 16,17 (November 20, 22)
 - Trade
 - Bardhan, “Does Globalization Help or Hurt the World's Poor?”
 - Barry, “Rural Indian Girls Chase Big-City Dreams”
 - Perkins, Radelet & Lindauer, Chapter 19
- Week 10, Class 18,19 (November 27, 29)
 - Foreign Aid
 - Jeffrey Sachs, “Myths and Magic Bullets” and “Why We Should Do It”
 - Perkins, Radelet & Lindauer, Chapter 14
- Final – Thursday, December 7th, 12:30-2:20pm

Readings

Bardhan, Pranab. “Does Globalization Help or Hurt the World's Poor?” *Scientific American*, April 2006, Vol. 294 Issue 4, pp. 84-91.

Barry, Ellen. “Rural Indian Girls Chase Big-City Dreams,” *The New York Times*, Sept. 24, 2016.

Basu, Kaushik. “Asian Century: A Comparative Analysis of Growth in China, India and other Asian Economies,” eSocialSciences Working Paper, <http://ideas.repec.org/p/ess/wpaper/id3278.html>, 2009.

Chang, Ha-Joon. “Lazy Japanese and Thieving Germans,” chapter 9 of *Bad Samaritans: Rich Nations, Poor Policies, and the Threat to the Developing World*. London: Random House, 2007.

Diamond, Jared. "The Worst Mistake In The History Of The Human Race," *Discover*, May 1987, pp. 64-66.

Narayan, Deepa, Lant Pritchett, and Soumya Kapoor. "An Overview", Chapter 1 of *The Moving Out of Poverty Study: Success from the Bottom Up*. Washington, D.C.: The World Bank, 2009, pp. 3-49.

"Overview," *World Development Report 2010: Development and Climate Change*. Washington, D.C.: World Bank.

Perkins, Dwight H., Steven A. Block, David L. Lindauer, and Steven Radelet. *Economics of Development*. New York: Norton, Seventh Edition, 2011 (ISBN-13: 9780393934359).

Sachs, Jeffrey D. *The End of Poverty: Economic Possibilities for Our Time*. New York: Penguin Books, 2005.

Sen, Amartya. "Introduction," *Development as Freedom*. New York: Anchor Books, 1999, Chapter 1, pp. 3-11.