

**UNIVERSITY OF FLORIDA
DEPARTMENT OF ECONOMICS**

ECS 4013

Economic Development

Fall 2020

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<i>Zoom Office Hours:</i>	Tuesday 11:40 p.m. – 3:00 p.m.
<i>Office Hours Link:</i>	https://ufl.zoom.us/j/6170314670
<i>Live Class Link:</i>	https://ufl.zoom.us/j/97677144238

SYLLABUS

Course Description: In this online class, we analyze the economics of development in poor (low-income) countries. We cover topics such as economic growth, physical and human capital accumulation, productivity and technological change, income inequality, poverty, household decisions, education, and the role of international trade and government in the process of development. The course will present theoretical and empirical approaches to economic development problems, and will identify policies contributing to poverty alleviation.

Online Delivery Platform: There are three online delivery tools: Canvas Website; Zoom Video Conferencing; Honorlock, and email communications.

Canvas Website contains the written information about the class including the syllabus, class announcements, PowerPoint lecture notes, practice exam quizzes, and graded exams.

Zoom Video Conferencing will be used to deliver live synchronous lectures every Monday and Wednesday and weekly Zoom office hours every Tuesday from 1:40 pm until 3:00 pm. Please read the policy statement at the end of the syllabus regarding recorded zoom class sessions.

Honorlock is an online exam proctoring tool which will be used for each exam. Honorlock is an online proctoring service that allows you to take your exam from the comfort of your home. To get started you will need to Google Chrome and to download the Honorlock program at www.honorlock.com/extension/install. Before you take an exam, you should read the file “Honorlock Guide for Students” located in the files>Honorlock folder in Canvas.

Prerequisites: The emphasis of the course will be on the conceptual framework of development economics. The building blocks of the framework consist of data tables, graphs, algebra, and occasional use of calculus. You must have taken introductory microeconomics and introductory macroeconomics (ECO 2013 and ECO 2023) to take the course. The course will also utilize analytical techniques developed in intermediate economics (ECO 3101).

Textbooks (required):

Julie Schaffner *Development Economics: Theory, Empirical Research, and Policy Analysis*, First Edition, 2014, Wiley.

David N. Weil, *Economic Growth*, Third Edition, 2013, Pearson.

These books are designated as *Schaffner* and *Weil* below.

Lecture Notes: PowerPoint lecture notes are available in Canvas (*files > Lecture Notes*)

Grades: There will be two exams with each exam counting for fifty percent towards the course grade. The following table translates numerical scores into letter grades. Because Canvas is notorious in calculating and reporting letter grades, the following process will be used to calculate the final letter grade for this class. The **final class score** equals the average exam score and will be posted in Canvas. The grade distribution table below translates the final class score to the class letter grade. For example, a student who receives 82 in exam 1 and 92 in exam 2 will obtain a final class score of $[(82+92)/2] = 87$. This score corresponds to a letter grade of A-.

Grade Distribution

Final Class Score	Letter Grade
90.00 – 100.00	A
85.00 - 89.99	A-
80.00 - 84.99	B+
75.00 - 79.99	B
70.00 - 74.99	B-
65.00 - 69.99	C+
60.00 - 64.99	C
55.00 - 59.99	C-
50.00 - 54.99	D+
45.00 - 49.99	D
40.00 - 44.99	D-
0.00 - 39.99	E

Exams: Each exam will consist of three essay/problem questions, will be taken through Canvas and will be proctored by *Honorlock*. Exams are closed book, closed notes, no phone use, no computer use. Calculators (no phone calculators though) are allowed. You will have about 90 minutes to complete each exam. You can use three blank sheets of paper and a scientific (no phone) calculator for simple calculations.

Practice Exam Questions: As the class progresses, practice exam questions will be posted in Canvas (*files > practice questions*).

Exam Dates: Both exams will be taken during **live class time** on the following dates: **EXAM 1: Tuesday, October 14; EXAM 2: Tuesday, December 8.**

COURSE OUTLINE

1. Introduction and Overview

Schaffner, Chapter 1, “What is Development Economics Good for?”
Weil, Chapter 1, “The Facts to be Explained”.
Schaffner, Chapter 2, “Well-Being”.

2. Economic Growth and Development

Weil, Chapter 3, “Physical Capital”.
Weil, Chapter 4, “Population and Economic Growth”.
Weil, Chapter 6, “Human Capital”.
Schaffner, Chapter 19, “Education”.
Weil, Chapter 8, “The Role of Technology in Growth”.

3. Poverty and Inequality

Schaffner, Chapter 5, “Poverty, Inequality, and Vulnerability”
Weil, Chapter 12, “Government”
Weil, Chapter 13, “Income Inequality”

4. Decisions, Markets and Institutions

Schaffner, Chapter 6, “Consumption, Time Allocation, and Production Choices”.
Schaffner, Chapter 8, “Domestic Markets for Goods and Services”.
Krugman, Paul, Maurice Obstfeld, and Marc Melitz, Chapter 11, “Trade Policy in Developing Countries”, *International Economics: Theory and Policy*, Tenth Edition, 2015, Pearson.
Responsible of only the PP slide lecture notes available in Canvas (*files>Lecture Notes*).
Weil, Chapter 11. “Growth in the Open Economy”.
Schaffner, Chapter 11, “International Markets and General Equilibrium”.

5. Policy Analysis

Schaffner, Chapter 13, “Policy, Governance, and Political Economy”
Schaffner, Chapter 17, “Agricultural Market Interventions and Reforms”
Schaffner, Chapter 21, “Microfinance”

Zoom Video Conferencing Policy: Our class sessions may be audio-visually recorded for students in the class to refer back and for enrolled students who are unable to attend live class sessions. Students who participate with their camera engaged or utilize a profile image are agreeing to have their video or image recorded. If you are unwilling to consent to have your profile or video image recorded, be sure to keep your camera off and do not use a profile image. Likewise, students who unmute during class and participate verbally are agreeing to have their voices recorded.

If you are not willing to consent to have your voice recorded during class, you will need to keep your mute button activated and communicate exclusively using the “chat” feature, which allows students to type questions and comments live. The chat will not be recorded or shared.

As in all courses, unauthorized recording and unauthorized sharing or recorded materials is prohibited.