

**UNIVERSITY OF FLORIDA
DEPARTMENT OF ECONOMICS**

ECS 4013

Economic Development

Fall 2018

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SYLLABUS

Course Description: In this class, we will analyze the economics of development in poor (low-income) countries. We will cover topics such as economic growth, physical and human capital accumulation, productivity and technological change, income and resource 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.

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. You can also purchase a course package with the same PowerPoint lecture notes from Target Copy.

Grades: There will two exams with each exam counting for fifty percent towards the course grade. The following table translates numerical scores into letter grades.

Grade Distribution	
Score Range	Letter Grade
93.00 - 100.00	A
90.00 - 92.99	A-
85.00 - 89.99	B+
80.00 - 84.99	B
75.00 - 79.99	B-
70.00 - 74.99	C+
65.00 - 69.99	C
60.00 - 64.99	C-
55.00 - 59.99	D+
50.00 - 54.99	D
45.00 - 49.99	D-
0.00 - 44.99	E

Exam Dates: First exam: Tuesday, **October 9**, in class; Second exam: Tuesday, **December 4**, in class; Exams are closed book, closed notes, no phone use, no computer use. Calculators (no phone calculators though) are allowed.

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 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".
Schaffner, Chapter 11, "International Markets and General Equilibrium".
Weil, Chapter 11. "Growth in the Open Economy".

6. Policy Analysis

Schaffner, Chapter 13, "Policy, Governance, and Political Economy"
Weil, Chapter 12, "Government"
Schaffner, Chapter 17, "Agricultural Market Interventions and Reforms"
Schaffner, Chapter 21, "Microfinance"