

**Economics C171/EnvEcon&Policy C151, Fall 2007**  
**Economic Development**  
Instructor: Alain de Janvry  
GSIs: Lourdes Rodriguez, Melissa Hidrobo

**Course Syllabus**

Tu & Th, 9.30 to 11 a.m., 101 Morgan Hall

Information about the class, including the course outline and reading list, homework assignments, and past years examinations can be obtained from the course's homepage on the Internet at the following address: <http://are.berkeley.edu/courses/EEP151/fall2007/> Please see the homepage for instructions regarding policies on examinations and grades.

This is a four unit course with three hours of lecture and one hour of discussion per week. You need to sign up for one of the discussion sections through Tele-BEARS. You need to sign up in one section the first time the session is held to be kept on the class list. Sign up sheets will be available in the sections.

Attendance to one discussion section is mandatory. There are four sections are scheduled as follows:

Monday, 1-2pm, 2308 Tolman  
Monday, 2-3pm, 2308 Tolman  
Wednesday, 2-3pm, 109 Morgan  
Wednesday, 4-5pm, 183 Dwinelle

Grading of assignments and exams will not be done by each GSI separately, but collectively by the instructor and the two GSIs.

**Readings**

Textbook: Michael Todaro and Stephen Smith. *Economic Development*. Eighth or Ninth Edition, Boston: Addison-Wesley.

This text is available at the ASUC bookstore. Check under both EEP 151 and Econ 171.

Handouts: distributed at the beginning of class and posted on the course website.

News Clippings: will be posted on the course website throughout the semester.

**Course description**

This course will examine the determinants of underdevelopment, poverty, and environmental damage in developing countries, and analyze alternative strategies to overcome these conditions. Emphasis will be given to the roles attributed to market forces, state interventions, corporations and private firms, and civil society organizations in alternative development strategies. We will analyze the roles of human and capital resources, the contributions of different sectors of the economy to economic growth and the specific functions of agriculture, the expected gains from international trade, the determinants of technological and institutional innovations, and the political economy of government behavior. Specific problems that will be addressed include the formulation of planning models, stabilization and adjustment policies, import substitution and export-led industrialization strategies, project evaluation techniques, the role of agriculture in economic development, land reform and rural development, the behavior of peasant households, the logic of agrarian institutions and grassroots organizations, cooperation and community behavior, and sustainability in the use of natural resources. The course will be issue oriented but will make rigorous use of the tools and techniques of applied economic analysis.

There will be five exercises. Several exercises require use of a spreadsheet such as Excel and use of the Internet to access information. There will also be five policy briefs consisting in one page opinion statements about selected current issues.

**Prerequisites**

Econ 100 A&B, or EEP 100, or consent of instructor. Development Studies students who have satisfied the major's lower division requirements are welcome.

**Requirements**

**1. Exercises**

The five exercises will be due at the following dates:

Exercise 1: Thursday, September 13  
Exercise 2: Tuesday, October 2  
Exercise 3: Thursday, October 25  
Exercise 4: Thursday, November 20  
Exercise 5: Thursday, December 6

Exercises will be given to students two weeks before the due date. The text and data for the exercises can be retrieved from the course homepage on the Internet. Answers to the exercises must be typewritten and they must be done individually. Late exercises will be discounted at the rate of 2 points per day. Late policy briefs will be discounted at the rate of 0.5 points per day.

**2. Policy briefs**

There will be five one-page briefs to be handed out in response to questions raised in class and short readings assigned for this purpose which are in the Reader or on the Homepage. Policy briefs will be given to students one week before the due date. Briefs should be typewritten. They can be done by teams of two or individually. Due dates are as follows:

Policy Brief 1: Tuesday, September 4  
Policy Brief 2: Thursday, September 20  
Policy Brief 3: Tuesday, October 9  
Policy Brief 4: Tuesday, November 6  
Policy Brief 5: Tuesday, November 29

**3. Examinations**

There will be a mid-term and a final examination at the following dates:  
Mid-term examination: Thursday, October 18, 9.30-11am  
Final examination (exam group 7): Saturday, December 15, 8-11am

These exams are at fixed dates and there will be no make ups. See policy on exams on the homepage. Review questions will be handed out no less than a week before the examinations. An evening review session will be held by the instructor before each examination.

**4. What you are expected to know for the examinations**

International economic development is an area of knowledge that is particularly vast. It is consequently important for me to be quite specific as to what I expect you to know for the examinations. Here is it:

1. Have studied your class notes.

2. Have studied the handouts which closely parallel (but are not a copy) of the class notes.
3. Have read the assigned news clippings.
4. Have read the assigned chapters or pages in Todaro and Smith.
5. Recall what you will have learned from the Policy Briefs and the Exercises.

To help you prioritize this information, I will give you review questions before both mid-term and final examinations. You can see past review questions and examinations on the course website.

#### **5. Grades**

The grade for the course will be based on the following components:

- 32% Homeworks: five, of which the four best will count for 8 percent each.
- 8% Policy briefs: five, of which the four best will count for 2 percent each.
- 20% Mid-term examination (in class, 1h20').
- 40% Final examination (exam group 7, 3 hours).

#### **Office hours**

Alain: Giannini Hall 211, Fr 4-5.30 pm.  
Lourdes: Giannini Hall 238, Th 4-6 pm.  
Melissa: Giannini Hall 238, Tu 4-6 pm.

#### **E-mail addresses**

Alain: [alain@are.berkeley.edu](mailto:alain@are.berkeley.edu)  
Lourdes: [lourdes\\_rodriguez@berkeley.edu](mailto:lourdes_rodriguez@berkeley.edu)  
Melissa: [mhidrobo@berkeley.edu](mailto:mhidrobo@berkeley.edu)