THE UNIVERSITY OF HONG KONG
HKU BUSINESS SCHOOL
ECON2262 Economic Development

GENERAL INFORMATION

Instructor: Dr. Gedeon Lim
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Office: TBA
Phone: TBA
Meeting time: 9:30-12:20 Wednesday
Office hour: TBA

Tutor: TBA
Email:

Pre-requisites: ECON1210 Introductory Microeconomics and ECON1220 Introductory Macroeconomics. For students of the BASc (GHD) programme, the pre-requisite is GHAD1002 Introductory Economics and Finance. (Note: students with knowledge of econometrics or statistics will benefit more from this course).

Course Website: HKU Moodle

COURSE DESCRIPTION

This course introduces the leading theories in development economics and their empirical applications. Our aim is to understand why some countries remain underdeveloped and the extent to which policies can shape growth and development. After an overview of the classic models of economic growth, the course will discuss the importance of institutions, politics, factor accumulation and inequality, among others, in economic development. As a result of taking the course students are expected to understand both classic and frontier theories of economic development, and to be able to conduct preliminary research in an empirical fashion.

FACULTY GOALS

Goal 1: Acquisition and internalization of knowledge of the programme discipline
Goal 2: Application and integration of knowledge
Goal 3: Inculcating professionalism and leadership
Goal 4: Developing global outlook
Goal 5: Mastering communication skills
COURSE LEARNING OUTCOMES

Course Learning Outcomes

CLO1 Acquaintance of the main theories and topics of development economics
CLO2 Application of economic theory and empirical methods to examine various development issues
CLO3 Developing a global outlook in the perspective of comparative development
CLO4 Communication and presentation skills

Aligned Faculty Goals
Goals 1, 2, and 3
Goals 1, 2, and 3
Goals 1, 2, 3, and 4
Goals 1, 2, 3, and 5

COURSE TEACHING AND LEARNING ACTIVITIES

Course Teaching and Learning Activities Expected contact hour Study Load (%)
T&L1. Lecture with class discussion 36 33%
T&L2. Pre-class reading and self-study 36 33%
T&L3. Assignments and presentation 25 23%
T&L4. Consultation 12 11%
Total 109 100%

Assessment Methods Brief Description Weight Aligned Course Learning Outcomes
A1. Class participation Class attendance/discussion 10% CLO1, 2, 3, and 4
A2. Assignments Individual assignments 20% CLO1, 2, and 3
A3. Term paper Group work on a short essay 20% CLO1, 2, 3, and 4
A4. Presentation Group work; present your term paper in class 10% CLO1, 2, 3, and 4
A5. Final examination Closed-book exam 40% CLO1, 2, and 3
Total 100%

STANDARDS FOR ASSESSMENT

Course Grade Descriptors
A+, A, A- Excellent. Strong evidence of superb ability to fulfill the intended learning outcomes of the course at all levels of learning: describe, apply, evaluate, and synthesis
B+, B, B- Good. Strong evidence of the ability to fulfill the intended learning outcomes of the course at all levels of learning: describe, apply, evaluate, and synthesis
C+, C, C- Pass. Evidence of adequate ability to fulfill the intended learning outcomes of the course at low levels of learning such as describe and apply but not at high levels of learning such as evaluate and synthesis
D+, D Poorly Pass. Evidence of basic familiarity with the subject
F Fail. Little evidence of basic familiarity with the subject
Assessment Rubrics for Each Assessment

1. Class participation: 1) the attendance, and 2) the quality of discussions at class.
2. Assignments: 1) pertinence, clarity, and reasoning, 2) the depth of analysis, 3) originality/novelty of your own comments/critiques/extension (for review work), and 4) writing and layout.
3. Term paper: 1) the originality, pertinence, and clarity of the topic, 2) the clarity of framework and reasoning, 3) the suitability/reliability of data/materials and research methods, 4) the depth of analysis, and 5) writing and layout.
4. Presentation: all rubrics of the term paper apply to the presentation. In addition, the grading of presentation is based on 1) the performance in the lecture and Q&A, and 2) the quality/layout of the PPT.

COURSE CONTENT AND TENTATIVE TEACHING SCHEDULE

1: Overview
2: Growth and Trade
3: Geography and Institutions
3: Political Economy: Leaders and Institutions
4: Factor Accumulation: Health and Education
5: Factor Accumulation: Land and Capital (Credit, savings and insurance)
6: Inequalities and (Mis-)Allocation: Family and Gender
7: Inequalities and (Mis-)Allocation: Conflict
8: Productivity: Firms, Labor Markets and Poverty Traps
9: Environment
10: Student presentations

REQUIRED/RECOMMENDED READINGS & ONLINE MATERIALS (e.g. journals, textbooks, website addresses etc.)

TBA