

SEMESTER AT SEA COURSE SYLLABUS

Colorado State University, Academic Partner

Voyage:	Fall 2018
Discipline:	Economics
Course Number and Title:	ECON 460 Economic Development
Division:	Upper
Faculty Name:	Randy Bluffstone
Semester Credit Hours:	3

Prerequisites: One (1) intermediate macroeconomics course

COURSE DESCRIPTION

The course seeks to help students develop an in-depth understanding and facility with critical topics in economic development and particularly sustainable development. This course evaluates social well-being across countries, with a particular focus on low and lower-middle income regions. The course will examine why differences exist across countries and what can be done to improve human welfare in lower-income countries. During the course students will discuss the determinants of income levels and economic growth and evaluate why some countries seem to have taken off and others appear to be stuck with low per capita incomes. For example, are domestic economic policies and globalization key determinants of economic growth? Legacies of colonialism? Natural resource endowments? The course will examine the role of economic growth in economic development and consider ways in which income inequality, health and population growth affect human well-being. Natural resources are typically very important in developing countries. We will therefore also consider the role of natural resources in economic development and how their contributions may be affected by climate change.

LEARNING OBJECTIVES

At the conclusion of this course students should:

1. Understand potential meanings of economic development.
2. Be able to understand constraints developing country people face.
3. Understand Issues of sustainable development.
4. Have a better understanding of poverty and inequality
5. Appreciate some of the key economic development issues in port countries.
6. Understand when and why aid to developing countries may not be effective.

REQUIRED TEXTBOOK

AUTHOR: Dwight H. Perkins, Steven Radelet, David Lindauer and Steven Block
TITLE: Economics of Development
PUBLISHER: W.W. Norton & Company
ISBN #: ISBN-13: 978-0393934359 or ISBN-10: 0393934357
DATE/EDITION: 2012/7th edition

TOPICAL OUTLINE OF COURSE

Perkins et al. refers to the course text

Depart Hamburg, Germany – September 9

B1–September 12: Patterns of Development

Perkins et al. Chapter 1

Reading: Transforming our World: The 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development (Special focus on the goals on pages 17-28)

B2– September 14: Patterns of Development Continued

Reading: “The Spread of Economic Prosperity” in Sachs (2005)

Reading: The Economic Lives of the Poor

Barcelona and Valencia, Spain – September 15-18

B3–September 20: Key Observations on Economic Issues in Spain. Measuring Economic Growth and Development

Perkins et al. Chapter 2

Reading: “Why Some Countries Fail to Thrive” in Sachs (2005)

B4– September 22: Measuring Economic Growth and Development

Reading: “Introduction” and “The Ends and Means of Development” in Sen (1999)

Study Day – September 23: No Class

B5–September 25: Measuring Economic Growth and Development

Reading: Income, Health, and Well-Being around the World: Evidence from the Gallup World Poll

Reading: Biological Measures of Standard of Living

B6—October 1: Economic Growth: Concepts and Patterns

Perkins et al. Chapter 3

Tema, Ghana — September 27-30

Community Programming — October 2: No Class

B7—October 4: Key Observations on Economic Issues in Ghana.
Economic Growth: Concepts and Patterns

Reading: Do Poverty Traps Exist? Assessing the Evidence

B8— October 6: Exam #1

Reading: Mobile Phones and Economic Development in Africa

Cape Town, South Africa — October 7-12

B9—October 14: Environment and Development

Reading: Overconsumption

Study Day —October 16: No Class

B10—October 17: Institutions

Perkins et al. Chapter 5

Port Louis, Mauritius — October 19

B11—October 20: Institutions

Reading: Informality and Development

Study Day —October 21: No Class

B12—October 23: Institutions Continued

Reading: The Economics of Dowry and Brideprice

Reading: “India’s Market Reforms” in Sachs (2005)

B13— November 1: Inequality and Poverty

Perkins et al. Start Chapter 6

Reading: “Poverty as Capability Deprivation” in Sen (1999)

Reading: Young Rural Women in India Chase Big-City Dreams

Cochin, India – October 25-30

Reflection and Study –October 31: Global Studies Reflection

B14–November 3: Key Observations on Economic Issues in India.
Inequality and Poverty Continued

Perkins et al. Chapter 6

Reading: The Top 1% in International and Historical Perspective

Yangon, Myanmar – November 4-8

B15–November 10: Key Observations on Economic Issues in Myanmar. Inequality and
Poverty Continued

Reading: The Economics of Slums in the Developing World

Community Programming – November 11: No Class

B16–November 13: Exam #2
Population

Perkins et al. Chapter 7

Ho Chi Minh City, Vietnam – November 14-18

B17–November 20: Key Observations on Economic Issues in Vietnam.
Population Continued

Reading: Will the Stork Return to Europe and Japan: Understanding Fertility within Developed
Nations

Study Day – November 21: No Class

B18– November 23: China

Reading: Is China Socialist

Reading: “China: Catching Up after Half a Millennium” in Sachs 2005

Shanghai, China – November 24-29

B19–December 1: Key Observations on Economic Issues in China.
Education

Perkins et al. Chapter 8

Reading: Human Capital and China's Future Growth

Kobe, Japan – December 2-6

B20– December 8: Key Observations on Economic Issues in Japan.
Health

Perkins et al. Chapter 9

B21–December 10: Health

Reading: “The Voiceless Dying” in Sachs (2005)

Reading: Household Air Pollution

B22–December 12: Fiscal Policy

Perkins et al. Chapter 11

Reading: Why do Developing Countries Tax so Little?

Study Day – December 12: No Class (International Date Line Crossing , 2 days)

B23–December 14: Foreign Aid

Perkins et al. Chapter 14

Reading: The World Bank: Why it is still needed and Why it still Disappoints

Honolulu, Hawaii – December 16

B24– December 17: Sustainable Development

Perkins et al. Chapter 20

Study Day – December 18: No Class

B25–December 20: Final Exam. Photo Essay Due

Arrive San Diego, California — December 23

FIELD WORK

Semester at Sea field experiences allow for an unparalleled opportunity to compare, contrast, and synthesize the different cultures and countries encountered over the course of the voyage. In addition to the one field class, students will complete independent field assignments that span multiple countries.

We will utilize the beginning of the class meeting immediately following each port visit to discuss key observations on economic issues in that country.

Field Class & Assignment

The Field Class for this course is on Thursday, 15 November in Ho Chi Minh City, Vietnam.

Field Class attendance is mandatory for all students enrolled in this course. Do not book individual travel plans or a Semester at Sea sponsored trip on the day of your field class. Field Classes constitute at least 20% of the contact hours for each course, and are developed and led by the instructor.

Field Class Description:

Visit to the University of Economics in Ho Chi Minh City to discuss the research of economics faculty members, meet with students and receive a briefing on key development issues in Vietnam. Lunch at the University of Economics. Visit to high-technology park guided by Economics University students, providing insights into Vietnam's plan for continued economic development and transformation. This tour will provide ample opportunities for formal and informal discussions with students, offering the opportunity for enhanced inter-cultural understanding.

Learning Objectives:

1. Gain insight into the contemporary economic development process in Vietnam
2. Increase understanding of the role of sustainability in Vietnam
3. Have a better understanding of poverty and inequality in Vietnam

Field Class Assignment and Due Date:

One week after the port visit concludes, students should submit a 3 to 5 page paper (typed, double spaced) that discusses the economic development of Vietnam in light of their port experiences and field class material.

Independent Field Assignments

During the entirety of the voyage, students will compile a photo and written journal.

Written Journal: Students' should record important observations and insights from port visits as they relate to economic development and the topics covered in class. For example,

observations on poverty, technologies, institutions and welfare of particular segments of populations may be of keen importance. The journal entry for each of the eight ports (not including Honolulu and Mauritius) should be ½ to 1 page long, typed, double spaced. Students should plan to submit journal entries in electronic form or hard copy within one week after leaving each port. Each journal entry will be graded on a pass/fail basis.

Photo Essay: Students should identify a critical theme related to economic development that will be the focus of their photo essay. For example, the focus may be on poverty, pollution, status of women, children, transportation or technology. Students will then choose 4 of their best photos from each of the eight ports, add 1-3 sentence captions that link the photos to material discussed during the course. The photo essay is due in electronic form or hard copy at the time of the final examination.

GRADING SCALE

The following Grading Scale is utilized for student evaluation. Pass/Fail is not an option for Semester at Sea coursework. Note that C-, D+ and D- grades are also not assigned on Semester at Sea in accordance with the grading system at Colorado State University (the SAS partner institution).

Pluses and minuses are awarded as follows on a 100% scale:

<u>Excellent</u>	<u>Good</u>	<u>Satisfactory/Poor</u>	<u>Failing</u>
97-100%: A+	87-89%: B+	77-79%: C+	Less than 60%: F
93-96%: A	83-86%: B	70-76%: C	
90-92%: A-	80-82%: B-	60-69%: D	

METHODS OF EVALUATION

Examinations: There will be two 50 minute examinations and a comprehensive final examination that will last for 80 minutes. All examinations will be made up of short answer questions.

Journal Article Presentation: Students will take the lead on facilitating one of the journal articles during the course. Depending on enrollment, students may lead discussions in pairs or individually. Preferences will be solicited during the first week and a schedule distributed soon thereafter. Students should check in with Randy Bluffstone at least one class before the facilitation date to discuss ideas. Grading will be based on the quality of the discussion facilitation, including any supplementary materials that are made available to complement the journal article.

Field Class Assignment: More information is provided in the Field Work section above and additional information will be provided in class.

Photo Essay: Please see the Field Work section above.

Field Journal: Please see the Field Work section above.

Course Evaluation / Due Dates: Please Mark Your Calendar

Methods Of Evaluation	Grading Scale	Due Date* (See Topical Course Outline)
Exam 1	15%	6 October
Exam 2	15%	13 November
Field Class Participation and Reflection	20%	15 November
Journal Article Presentation	5%	Various
Field Journal	10%	Various
Photo Essay	10%	20 December
Final Exam	20%	20 December
Attendance and Participation	5%	Always
Total	100%	

* May be Subject to Change

Criteria for Grading Exam Questions

Percentage of Points Received	Criteria
100%	Complete correct answer, nothing missed; demonstrates in-depth, full understanding of the subject matter.
90 - 99%	Virtually complete, correct answer; something small missed; perhaps a calculation error; answer suggests less than complete understanding of the topic.
80 - 89%	Mostly complete and correct answer; significant, but still incomplete understanding of the subject addressed by the question.
70 - 79%	Partially correct, incomplete answer; Evidence of partial understanding of the topic.

ATTENDANCE/ENGAGEMENT IN THE ACADEMIC PROGRAM

Attendance in all Semester at Sea classes, including the Field Class, is mandatory. Students must inform their instructors prior to any unanticipated absence and take the initiative to make up missed work in a timely fashion. Instructors must make reasonable efforts to enable students to make up work which must be accomplished under the instructor’s supervision (e.g., examinations, laboratories). In the event of a conflict in regard to this policy, individuals may appeal using established CSU procedures.

LEARNING ACCOMMODATIONS

Semester at Sea provides academic accommodations for students with diagnosed learning disabilities, in accordance with ADA guidelines. Students who will need accommodations in a class, should contact ISE to discuss their individual needs. Any accommodation must be discussed in a timely manner prior to implementation.

A letter from the student's home institution verifying the accommodations received on their home campus (dated within the last three years) is required before any accommodation is provided on the ship. Students must submit this verification of accommodations to academic@isevoyages.org as soon as possible, but no later than two months prior to the voyage.

STUDENT CONDUCT CODE

The foundation of a university is truth and knowledge, each of which relies in a fundamental manner upon academic integrity and is diminished significantly by academic misconduct. Academic integrity is conceptualized as doing and taking credit for one's own work. A pervasive attitude promoting academic integrity enhances the sense of community and adds value to the educational process. All within the University are affected by the cooperative commitment to academic integrity. All Semester at Sea courses adhere to this Academic Integrity Policy and Student Conduct Code.

Depending on the nature of the assignment or exam, the faculty member may require a written declaration of the following honor pledge: "I have not given, received, or used any unauthorized assistance on this exam/assignment."

RESERVE BOOKS FOR THE LIBRARY

AUTHOR: Jeffrey D. Sachs
TITLE: The End of Poverty
PUBLISHER: Penguin Books
ISBN #: 0-14-30.3658-0
DATE/EDITION: 2005

AUTHOR: Amartya Sen
TITLE: Development as Freedom
PUBLISHER: Anchor Books
ISBN #: 0-385-72027-0
DATE/EDITION: 1999

ELECTRONIC COURSE MATERIALS

AUTHOR: J. Aker and I. Mbiti
ARTICLE/CHAPTER TITLE: Mobile Phones and Economic Development in Africa
JOURNAL/BOOK TITLE: Journal of Economic Perspectives
VOLUME: 24
DATE: Summer 2010
PAGES: 207-232

AUTHOR: Alvaredo, Facundo, Atkinson, Anthony B., Piketty, Thomas, and Saez, Emmanuel Saez
ARTICLE/CHAPTER TITLE: The Top 1 Percent in International and Historical Perspective
JOURNAL/BOOK TITLE: Journal of Economic Perspectives
VOLUME: 27(3)
DATE: Summer 2013
PAGES: 3-20

AUTHOR: S. Anderson
ARTICLE/CHAPTER TITLE: The Economics of Dowry and Brideprice
JOURNAL/BOOK TITLE: Journal of Economic Perspectives
VOLUME: 21
DATE: Fall 2007
PAGES: 151-174

AUTHOR: A. Banerjee and E. Duflo
ARTICLE/CHAPTER TITLE: The Economic Lives of the Poor
JOURNAL/BOOK TITLE: Journal of Economic Perspectives
VOLUME: 21
DATE: Winter 2007
PAGES: 141-168

AUTHOR: E. Barry
ARTICLE/CHAPTER TITLE: Young Rural Women in India Chase Big-City Dreams
JOURNAL/BOOK TITLE: the New York Times
VOLUME: N/A
DATE: September 24, 2016
PAGES: N/A

AUTHOR: T. Besley and T. Persson
ARTICLE/CHAPTER TITLE: Why do Developing Countries Tax so Little?
JOURNAL/BOOK TITLE: Journal of Economic Perspectives
VOLUME: 28
DATE: Fall 2014
PAGES: 99-120

AUTHOR: R. Bluffstone
ARTICLE/CHAPTER TITLE: Overconsumption
JOURNAL/BOOK TITLE: Provided by Instructor
VOLUME: N/A
DATE: 2016
PAGES: N/A

AUTHOR: A. Deaton
ARTICLE/CHAPTER TITLE: Income, Health, and Well-Being Around the World: Evidence from the Gallup World Poll
JOURNAL/BOOK TITLE: Journal of Economic Perspectives
VOLUME: 22
DATE: Spring 2008
PAGES: 53-72

AUTHOR: J. Feyrer, B. Sacerdote and A. Stern
ARTICLE/CHAPTER TITLE: Will the Stork Return to Europe and Japan: Understanding Fertility within Developed Nations
JOURNAL/BOOK TITLE: Journal of Economic Perspectives
VOLUME: 22
DATE: Summer 2008
PAGES: 3-22

AUTHOR: M. Jeuland, S. Pattanayak and R. Bluffstone
ARTICLE/CHAPTER TITLE: The Economics of Household Air Pollution
JOURNAL/BOOK TITLE: Annual Review of Resource Economics
VOLUME: 7
DATE: 2015
PAGES: 81-108

AUTHOR: A. Kraay and D. McKenzie
ARTICLE/CHAPTER TITLE: Do Poverty Traps Exist? Assessing the Evidence
JOURNAL/BOOK TITLE: Journal of Economic Perspectives
VOLUME: 28
DATE: Summer 2014
PAGES: 127-148

AUTHOR: R. La Port and A. Schleifer
ARTICLE/CHAPTER TITLE: Informality and Development
JOURNAL/BOOK TITLE: Journal of Economic Perspectives
VOLUME: 28
DATE: Summer 2014
PAGES: 109-126

AUTHOR: H. Li, P. Loyalka, S. Rozelle and B. Wu
ARTICLE/CHAPTER TITLE: Human Capital and China's Future Growth
JOURNAL/BOOK TITLE: Journal of Economic Perspectives
VOLUME: 31
DATE: Winter 2017
PAGES: 25-47

PAGES: 187-210
AUTHOR: B. Marx, T. Stoker and T. Suri

ARTICLE/CHAPTER TITLE: The Economics of Slums in the Developing World
JOURNAL/BOOK TITLE: Journal of Economic Perspectives
VOLUME: 27
DATE: Fall 2013
PAGES: 187-210

AUTHOR: B. Naughton
ARTICLE/CHAPTER TITLE: Is China Socialist?
JOURNAL/BOOK TITLE: Journal of Economic Perspectives
VOLUME: 31
DATE: Winter 2017
PAGES:

AUTHOR: M. Ravallion
ARTICLE/CHAPTER TITLE: The World Bank: Why it is still Needed and Why it still Disappoints
JOURNAL/BOOK TITLE: Journal of Economic Perspectives
VOLUME: 30
DATE: Winter 2016
PAGES: 77-94

AUTHOR: R. Steckel
ARTICLE/CHAPTER TITLE: Biological Measures of Standard of Living
JOURNAL/BOOK TITLE: Journal of Economic Perspectives
VOLUME: 22
DATE: Winter 2008
PAGES: 129 - 152

AUTHOR: United Nations
ARTICLE/CHAPTER TITLE: Transforming Our World: The 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development
JOURNAL/BOOK TITLE: Available for Download at
<https://sustainabledevelopment.un.org/post2015/transformingourworld>
VOLUME: N/A
DATE: 2015
PAGES: special focus on pages 17-28

ADDITIONAL RESOURCES

None