

Syllabus

Economics 4360/7360: Economic Development

Meeting time	Tuesdays and Thursdays from 11:00 to 12:15 am
Meeting place	217 Strickland Hall
Instructor	Martin Pereyra
Office Hours:	MWF from 10:30 to 11:30 or by appointment.
Office:	237 Professional Building
Phone:	884-1588
Email:	pereyra@missouri.edu

Course description

Currently more than two-thirds of the world's population lives in poor countries. While this course focuses mainly on poor countries, we will consider the question of what makes some countries rich and others poor. This course explores the interactions between rich and poor countries and examines whether poor countries have a chance to become rich eventually. We will define globalization and study its impacts on both poor and rich countries, as well as the importance of international free trade as a possible solution to the differences among countries. This course applies economic reasoning and has a major writing component.

Course Webpage

Course materials including syllabus, handouts, and writing assignment descriptions will be posted on the Blackboard site (www.courses.missouri.edu).

Readings (Required)

William Easterly, *The Elusive Quest for Growth*, MIT Press, 2001.
 Joseph E. Stiglitz, *Making Globalization Work*, W.W. Norton, 2006.
 Razeen Sally, *New Frontiers in Free Trade*, Cato Institute, 2008.

The Campus Writing Program (CWP)

This course has been designated as "writing intensive" by the University and with that designation come additional resources available to the student. A tutor from the CWP has been assigned to the course and will be available to assist students with the writing assignments. Details on how to reach this person will be announced later. Other CWP resources are available at the website <http://cwp.missouri.edu/>.

Grading

Plus/minus course grades will be assigned based on the following point allocation:

1. Journal, in-class writings and participation	25%
2. Writing assignment #1	20%
3. Writing assignment #2	20%
4. Writing assignment #3	35%
First draft	20%
Second draft	15%
Total	100%

Academic Dishonesty

Academic integrity is fundamental to the activities and principles of a university. All members of the academic community must be confident that each person's work has been responsibly and honorably acquired, developed, and presented. Any effort to gain an advantage not given to all students is dishonest whether or not the effort is successful. The academic community regards breaches of the academic integrity rules as extremely serious matters. Sanctions for such a breach may include academic sanctions from the instructor, including failing the course for any violation, to disciplinary sanctions ranging from probation to expulsion. When in doubt about plagiarism, paraphrasing, quoting, collaboration, or any other form of cheating, consult the course instructor.

Note: in-class quizzes are closed book.

American with Disabilities Act

If you need accommodations because of a disability, if you have emergency medical information to share with me, or if you need special arrangements in case the building must be evacuated, please inform me immediately. Please see me privately after class, or at my office.

To request academic accommodations (for example, a notetaker), students must also register with the [Office of Disability Services](http://disabilityservices.missouri.edu), (http://disabilityservices.missouri.edu), S5 Memorial Union, 882-4696. It is the campus office responsible for reviewing documentation provided by students requesting academic accommodations, and for accommodations planning in cooperation with students and instructors, as needed and consistent with course requirements. For other MU resources for students with disabilities, click on "Disability Resources" on the MU homepage.

Intellectual Pluralism

The University community welcomes intellectual diversity and respects student rights. Students who have questions concerning the quality of instruction in this class may address concerns to either the Departmental Chair or Divisional leader or Director of the

[Office of Students Rights and Responsibilities](http://osrr.missouri.edu/) (<http://osrr.missouri.edu/>). All students will have the opportunity to submit an anonymous evaluation of the instructor(s) at the end of the course

Writing Assignments

Before the beginning of the fourth week of the semester, you are to choose a (poor developing) country on which you will write for the formal writing assignments. You should choose a country (1) which you are interested in studying; and (2) for which data and research materials are readily available. Talk to the instructor if you have trouble deciding on a country to study.

Journal writing and in-class writing assignments

Due: periodically throughout the semester.

Journal:

You will be keeping a running log of notes on the readings assigned throughout the semester. These readings accompany the lectures as specified in the course outline (posted in blackboard). In this journal, you will first summarize the problem stated by the author in each chapter assigned. You will later note the main solutions posed by the author to these problems. You will then criticize the author's solutions or reasoning using your own judgment. The writing need not be long (usually a couple of pages per assigned chapter are enough) and it need not be polished. It also does not have to be typed but has to be legible: after collecting your first journal I will let you know if subsequent journal submissions have to be typed (i.e. if you do not want to type any journal, then use legible handwriting starting with your first journal submission). The instructor will periodically collect your journals writings and assign a grade.

In-class writing assignments:

Every now and then there will be impromptu in-class writing exercises. These may be short essays in response to a question or topic posed by the instructor. The exercises will generally not last the whole class period. These papers will, oftentimes, be critiqued by fellow students in the same class period.

Writing assignment #1

(1000 words excluding tables and graphs)

Due: Friday, September 18 (end of 4th week)

You will choose a country to focus on for this and subsequent writing assignments. For the country you have chosen, you will present the reader with an overview of the state of the economy. General indicators might include the size of the economy, extent of

poverty, income distribution, the structure of production (agricultural/industrial), trade composition, etc.

You should go beyond income and production figures and try to give the reader a feel for the human condition in the country. In particular, try thinking about the ideas about development as measured by certain “freedoms” and “capabilities”, not just by income. It is useful in such a description to include a benchmark (such as how these compare to the world average or to the U.S. economy, etc.) You will also highlight one particular problem or issue in this country that stands out (civil war, famine, etc.). Remember, your job is to convince the reader that this issue is in fact something that deserves attention and that has an impact on the everyday life of the population of that country.

The instructor will discuss more details about this assignment in lecture.

Writing assignment #2

(1000 words excluding tables and graphs)

Due: around end of 8th week.

Topic to be announced in lecture

Writing assignment #3

(2000 to 2500 words excluding tables and graphs)

Short prospectus due around end of 10th week

First version due around end of 14th week.

Revised version due during Finals Week

Topic to be announced in lecture