

Economic Development
4360-01/7360-01
University of Missouri -Spring 2022

Course Instructor

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Lecture Time: MWF 10:00 -10:50 am (Switzler Hall 201)
Office Location: 236 Professional Building
Office Hours: MW 12:00-1:00 pm or by an appointment

1 Course Description

This course will emphasize on the current empirical and theoretical literature on the microeconomics of development. We will cover variety of topics such as health, education, poverty, well-being, women's empowerment, labor markets, migration, and government policy in developing countries.

1.1 Course Prerequisites

- ECONOM 3229 and ECONOM 3251, or ECONOM 4351
- Students should have passed Intermediate Microeconomics and are expected to have understanding of algebra and basic calculus.

1.2 Course Communication

- Email: If you have any questions or comments, please email me using your university email account. I will answer within 24 hours. However, I will not discuss grades via email. If you have questions that require detailed responses, my office hours are more appropriate than email.
- Office Hours: Monday and Wednesday from 12:00-1:00 pm at 236 Professional Building. Please email me to set up an appointment if my usual office hours don't work for you. If you prefer an online office visit, please let me know ahead of time and I will send you a Zoom link.
- Canvas: I will use Canvas to post announcements, homework, and grades.

1.3 Readings

- Textbooks
 - Development Economics: Theory, Empirical Research, and Policy Analysis, Julie Schaffner
 - Abhijit Banerjee, Esther Duflo, Poor Economics: A Radical Rethinking of the Way to Fight Global Poverty, PublicAffairs, 2012
 - Todaro, Michael P. and Stephen C. Smith (2015), Economic Development, 12th Edition, Addison Wesley
- Reading list
 - I will provide you with a list of academic journal articles that are available through the library's electronic journals or are available for free online.

2 Grading

2.1 Exams

- There will be at most two exams. Each exam will be comprised of multiple choice and short answer questions. understanding of the material.
- If you are unable to sit for an exam due to an excused absence, you must notify me as soon as possible (before exam day). An alternative closed book exam will be administered within one week of the exam date. Excused absences include illness of the student, illness of an immediate family member under the student's care, religious observance, representation of the University of Missouri in an official capacity, and some other unforeseen circumstances.

2.2 Assignments

- **Summary of journal articles or podcasts** : You will be asked to submit short summaries of journal articles or podcasts. You should feel free to discuss with your peers but your writings should be your own. Work that is not original will not be given credit. All written assignments should be typed using Times New Roman, font size 12, double spaced, and should be submitted online via Canvas. Please do not email me your assignments. Late assignments will receive a grade of 0 but I will drop your 2 lowest scores.
- **Problem Sets/Papers**: I will assign problem sets intermittently. These problem sets serve as valuable practice for exams. You can work with your peers but you have to submit your own work to receive credit. Problem sets can be turned in up to 2 days (48 hours) late, with 50% of the total points possible deducted from the grade. Some of the problem sets may require you to obtain data and make use of excel.
- **Presentation**: Each student will present a paper of their choice from a list that I provide in the class. The presentation should be 20-25 minute long and will be graded on a rubric.

2.3 Weights

Assignment	Percent of the Grade
Midterm 1	20%
Final Exam/ Final Project	20%
Summary	15%
Presentation	20%
Problem Sets	15%
Attendance/Participation	10%

2.4 Grading Scale

100-97: A+	89.9-87: B+	79.9-77: C+	69.9-67: D+	59.9-0: F
96.9-93: A	86.9-83: B	76.9-73: C	66.9-63: D	
92.9-90: A-	82.9-80: B-	72.9-70: C-	62.9-60: D-	

- This grading scale will be strictly followed. For example, I will not grant requests for grades to be rounded up.

3 Responsibilities and Expectations

3.1 Course Expectation

Students are recommended to take detailed lecture notes. This class will be interactive where students are expected to participate and work with their peers. I also expect students to spend 2-3 hours outside of class for every hour in class. Besides reviewing notes, it is beneficial to meet with other students and discuss class material. You are encouraged to ask questions anytime. I am here to help you so please feel free to ask questions related to class material before class, during class, after class or during office hours.

3.2 Absence Policy

I will take attendance in this course. Exam questions will be based on the textbook and lecture notes so attending classes is only going to help you succeed in this class. When you are absent, it is your responsibility to ask for lecture notes from your peers. Of course you are welcome to drop by my office hours when you need clarification or have questions regarding class materials.

3.3 Late Policy

It is a sign of respect to me and your classmates to be on time for class.

3.4 Electronic Devices Policy

Mute all of your electronic devices during lectures. If you wish to use electronic devices to take notes, please come talk to me. Absolutely no electronic devices during exams.

4 Exam Accommodations

If you are entitled to receive exam accommodations through the Office of Disability Services, you need to do the following:

- present a copy of your accommodations letter to your instructor as soon as possible.
- schedule your exam time with the Office of Disability Services at least one week in advance of the midterm exam dates (the deadline for the final exam might be more than one week in advance of the final exam date).

Contact information for the Office of Disability Services can be found in one of the sections below.

5 Some Papers

Lagakos, David. 2020. "Urban-Rural Gaps in the Developing World: Does Internal Migration Offer Opportunities?" *Journal of Economic Perspectives*, 34 (3): 174-92.

Marx, Benjamin, Thomas Stoker, and Tavneet Suri. 2013. "The Economics of Slums in the Developing World." *Journal of Economic Perspectives*, 27 (4): 187-210

Das, Jishnu, Jeffrey Hammer, and Kenneth Leonard. 2008. "The Quality of Medical Advice in Low-Income Countries." *Journal of Economic Perspectives*, 22 (2): 93-114.

Bold, Tessa, Deon Filmer, Gayle Martin, Ezequiel Molina, Brian Stacy, Christophe Rockmore, Jakob Svensson, and Waly Wane. 2017. "Enrollment without Learning: Teacher Effort, Knowledge, and Skill in

Primary Schools in Africa.” *Journal of Economic Perspectives*, 31 (4): 185-204.

Currie, Janet. 2009. ”Healthy, Wealthy, and Wise: Socioeconomic Status, Poor Health in Childhood, and Human Capital Development.” *Journal of Economic Literature*, 47 (1): 87-122.

Munshi, Kaivan. 2019. ”Caste and the Indian Economy.” *Journal of Economic Literature*, 57 (4): 781-834.

Clemens, Michael, A. 2011. ”Economics and Emigration: Trillion-Dollar Bills on the Sidewalk?” *Journal of Economic Perspectives*, 25 (3): 83-106.

Anderson, Siwan. 2007. ”The Economics of Dowry and Brideprice.” *Journal of Economic Perspectives*, 21 (4): 151-174

6 MU Policies and Expectations

6.1 Decreasing the Risk of COVID-19 in Classrooms and Labs

MU cares about the health and safety of its students, faculty, and staff. To provide safe, high-quality education amid COVID-19, we will follow several specific campus policies in accordance with the advice of the Center for Disease Control and Boone County health authorities. This statement will be updated as information changes.

- If you are experiencing any COVID-related symptoms, or are otherwise feeling unwell, do not attend in-person classes and contact your health care provider and/or student health immediately. COVID symptoms include: fever greater than 100.4 or chills; cough, shortness of breath or difficulty breathing; fatigue; unexplained muscle or body aches; headache; new loss of taste or smell; sore throat; congestion or runny nose; nausea or vomiting; diarrhea.
- We will all wear face coverings while in the classroom, unless you have a documented exemption due to a disability or medical condition.
- We will maintain a 6-foot distance from each other at all times (except in specific lab/studio courses with other specific guidelines for social distancing).
- We will enter the classroom and fill the room starting at the front, filing all the way across a row. When class ends, we will exit the row nearest to the door first; the instructor or TA will give the signal for the next row to exit, in the same manner.
- In any small section or lab class that requires them, additional measures will be listed in the syllabus and be mandatory for class participation.
- Online office hours will be available for all students.
- This course may be recorded for the sole purpose of sharing the recording with students who can't attend class. The instructor will take care not to disclose personally identifiable information from the student education records during the recorded lesson.

Compliance with these guidelines is required for all; anyone who fails to comply will be subject to the [accountability process](#), as stated in the University's [Collected Rules and Regulations](#), Chapter 200 Student Code of Conduct. If an instructor has concerns about how a student is following COVID-19 policies and protocols, please report those concerns to the Office of the Dean of Students. You can fill out a COVID Safety Measures Reporting Form here: <https://cm.maxient.com/reportingform.php?UnivofMissouriSystemlayoutid=38>. By taking the above measures, we are supporting your health and that of the whole Mizzou community. Thank you in advance for joining me and your peers in adhering to these safety measures.

6.2 Academic Integrity

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 or the [Office of Academic Integrity](#).

Students are expected to adhere to this honor pledge on all graded work whether or not they are explicitly asked in advance to do so: "I strive to uphold the University values of respect, responsibility, discovery, and excellence. On my honor, I pledge that I have neither given nor received unauthorized assistance on this work."

6.3 Accommodation of Disabilities

The goal of the University of Missouri is to ensure an inclusive learning environment for all students. The University of Missouri Disability Center provides services and accommodations for students to participate fully in the learning experience and to experience equitable evaluation of their performance. Students (including online students) with a documented disability can contact the Disability Center to establish an [Accommodation Plan](#). Documented disabilities include hearing, vision, mobility, learning and attention, psychological health, and physical health. Students' accommodations are implemented with the input of students to maximize the learning experiences. The MU Disability Center keeps information about a student's disability confidential.

Please notify me of your eligibility for accommodations as soon as possible. Additionally, if there are aspects of the course that present as barriers, such as inaccessible course content (e.g., learning assessments, PowerPoints, non-captioned videos, images, tables, PDFs) or if you need an immediate accommodation due to an injury, please contact me or the Disability Center as soon as possible.

6.4 Nondiscrimination Policy (Prohibited Discrimination)

The University of Missouri does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, ancestry, religion, sex* (including gender), pregnancy, sexual orientation, gender identity, gender expression, age, disability, protected veteran status, and any other status protected by applicable state or federal law. Discrimination includes any form of unequal treatment such as denial of opportunities, harassment, and violence. *Sex discrimination includes rape, sexual assault, sexual harassment, unwanted touching, stalking, dating/domestic violence, stalking, and sexual exploitation. Retaliation for making or supporting a report of discrimination or harassment is also prohibited.

If you experience discrimination or sexual violence, you are encouraged (but not required) to report the incident to the MU Office for Civil Rights Title IX. Learn more about your rights and options at civilrights.missouri.edu or call 573-882-3880. You also may make an anonymous report online.

Students may also contact the Relationship and Sexual Violence Prevention (RSVP) Center, a confidential resource, for advocacy and other support related to rape or power-based personal violence at rsvp@missouri.edu or 573-882-6638, or go to rsvp.missouri.edu.

Both the [Office for Civil Rights Title IX](#) and the [RSVP Center](#) can provide assistance to students who need help with academics, housing, or other issues

6.5 Religious Holidays Accommodations

Many religious faiths are represented in the student body. The University of Missouri does not restrict student free exercise of religion, unless 1) the restriction is in the form of a rule of general applicability, and does not discriminate against religion or among religions; and 2) it can be demonstrated that the application of the restriction is essential to furthering a compelling university interest, and is not unduly restrictive considering the relevant circumstance. The policy of the University attempts to strike a reasonable balance between accommodating the religious practice of students and meeting academic needs and standards.

Consult IDE's [Guide to Religions](#) for the form that can be used to notify an instructor of an absence associated with religious practice. Students are expected to notify their instructor(s) by completing and submitting this form in a manner that is consistent with the procedure outlined in the university's policy on student religious accommodation. Providing false information regarding sincerely held religious practice is a violation of the university's Standard of Conduct and will not be tolerated.

6.6 Intellectual Pluralism

The University community welcomes intellectual diversity and respects student rights. Students who have questions or concerns regarding the atmosphere in this class (including respect for diverse opinions) may contact the departmental chair or divisional director, [the Office of Academic Integrity](#), or the [MU Equity Office](#).

6.7 Netiquette

Your instructor and fellow students wish to foster a safe online learning environment. All opinions and experiences, no matter how different or controversial they may be perceived, must be respected in the tolerant spirit of academic discourse. You are encouraged to comment, question, or critique an idea but you are not to attack an individual. Our differences, some of which are outlined in the University's nondiscrimination statement, will add richness to this learning experience. Please consider that sarcasm and humor can be misconstrued in online interactions and generate unintended disruptions. Working as a community of learners, we can build a polite and respectful course ambiance.

6.8 FERPA

The [Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act](#) (FERPA) of 1974 is a federal law designed to protect the privacy of educational records; to establish the rights of students to inspect and review their education records; and to provide guidelines for the correction of inaccurate and misleading data through informal and formal hearings. The law applies to any individual who is or has been in attendance at an institution and regarding whom the institution maintains educational records. Once students have matriculated to the University of Missouri, i.e. enrolled in course work, FERPA rights transfer to the student, regardless of the student's age.

Students can enable certain individuals to have access to their education records by signing a [FERPA waiver](#). The consent must specify records to be disclosed, state the purpose of the disclosure and identify the party or class of parties to whom the disclosure must be made.

6.9 Academic Inquiry, Course Discussion and Privacy

When students record something that happens in a course (a lecture, class discussions, meetings, etc.) it has an impact on the rights of the people captured in that recording. For example, the instructor and the University may have rights to the intellectual property contained in that recording. At the same time, another student who may have been recorded has the right to privacy. In order to protect these rights, MU employs a policy (called "[Executive Order No. 38](#)") to govern both situations you may encounter while taking a course – when an instructor allows recordings and when they do not.

- In this class, students may make audio or video recordings of course activity unless specifically prohibited by the faculty member. However, the redistribution of audio or video recordings of statements or comments from the course to individuals who are not students in the course is prohibited without the express permission of the faculty member and of any students who are recorded.

Students who violate this policy are subject to discipline in accordance with provisions of section [200.020](#) of the Collected Rules and Regulations of the University of Missouri pertaining to student conduct matters.

6.10 Mental Health

The University of Missouri is committed to supporting student well-being through an integrated network of care, with a wide range of services to help students succeed. The MU Counseling Center offers professional mental health care, and can help you find the best approach to treatment based on your needs. Call to make an appointment at 573-882-6601. Any student in crisis may call or go to the MU Counseling Center between 8:00 – 5:00 M-F. After hours phone support is available at 573-882-6601.

Visit our website at <https://wellbeing.missouri.edu> to take an online mental health screening, find out about workshops and resources that can help you thrive, or learn how to support a friend. Download Sanvello, a phone app that teaches skills and strategies to help you maintain good mental health. Log in with your Mizzou e-mail to unlock all the tools available through Sanvello at no cost to you.

***This syllabus is subject to change. If I change anything, I will announce it in Canvas and provide an updated syllabus.