

DEPARTMENT OF ECONOMICS

COLORADO STATE UNIVERSITY

ECON 460: ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

Spring 2009

Professor: Alexandra Bernasek

Office: C324 Clark

Office Hours: 11-12 T, R or by appointment

Course description:

This course focuses on the economics of developing countries. The course examines the experience of the so called “developed countries” and seeks to understand the processes by which countries enter into a stage where the standards of living of the masses of people are increased and these increases are sustained over time. One of the central issues in economic development is the issue of economic growth. Other issues include poverty and inequality, the Colonial legacy, the environment, institutions and globalization, as well as the importance of gender. This course focuses on both the macro and the micro issues that are central to growth and development.

Course objectives:

At the conclusion of this course students should;

1. Understand the particular structural characteristics of developing countries.
2. Understand theories of economic growth.
3. Understand the specific problems developing countries face and consider policies to address those problems.
4. Understand the causes of poverty and inequality in the developing world.
5. Understand the role that gender plays in economic development.
6. Understand environmental problems and issues associated with growth and development.

Course readings:

There are two texts for this course. Additional readings will be available on ram-ct.

James M. Cypher and James L. Dietz. *The Process of Economic Development*. Routledge: New York. 3rd Edition, 2009.

Lourdes Beneria. *Gender, Development and Globalization: Economics as if People Mattered*. Routledge: New York. 2003.

Week 2

T 1/27 Measuring economic growth and development; Cypher and Dietz Ch 2

R 1/29 Development in Historical Perspective; Cypher and Diets Ch 3

Week 3

T 2/3 Classical and Neoclassical Theories of development and underdevelopment; Cypher and Dietz Ch 4

R 2/5 Developmentalist Theories of Development; Cypher and Dietz Ch 5

Week 4

T 2/10 Heterodox Theories of Development; Cypher and Dietz Ch 6

R 2/12 The State as a Potential Agent of Transformation; Cypher and Dietz Ch 7

Week 5

T 2/17 Endogenous Growth Theories and New Strategies for Development; Cypher and Dietz Ch 8

R 2/19 The Initial structural transformation; Initiating Industrialization; Cypher and Dietz Ch 9

Week 6

T 2/24 Strategy Switching and Industrial Transformation; Cypher and Dietz Ch 10

R 2/26 Agriculture and Development; Cypher and Dietz Ch 11

Week 7

T 3/3 Population, Education and Human Capital; Cypher and Dietz Ch 12

R 3/5 Technology and Development; Cypher and Dietz Ch 13

Week 8

T 3/10 Transnational corporations and development; Cypher and Dietz Ch 14

R 3/12 Macroeconomic Equilibrium: The external balance; Cypher and Dietz Ch 15

SPRING BREAK (3/17, 3/19)

Week 9

T 3/24 The Debt Problem and Development; Cypher and Dietz Ch 16

R 3/26 International Institutional Linkages: The IMF, World Bank and Foreign Aid; Cypher and Dietz Ch 17

Week 10

T 3/31 International Trade and Development; Joseph Stiglitz TBA

R 4/2 Foreign Direct Investment and Development; TBA

Week 11

T 4/7 The Environment and Development; TBA

R 4/9 VIDEO -- TBA

Week 12

T 4/14 Microcredit and Development; TBA and Alexandra Bernasek, "Banking on Social Change: Grameen Bank and Lending to Women". *International Journal of Politics, Culture and Society*. Vol. 16, No. 3, Spring 2003: 369-385

R 4/16 Institutions and Development; TBA

Week 13

T 4/21 Development, Gender and Economics; Beneria Introduction and Ch 1

R 4/23 Gender in Economics, Markets and Globalization; Beneria Ch 2, Ch 3.

Week 14

T 4/28 Gender and Employment; Beneria Ch 4, Ch 5

R 4/30 Development As If People Mattered; Beneria Ch 6

Week 15

T 5/5 Summary/Student discussions of papers

R 5/7 Summary/ Student discussions of papers

Final exam: May 11, 2009 9:10-11:10am

Paper due in my office during this time or before (hand in to the economics office).

Expectations:

1. All written work is to be the work of the student.
2. Late assignments are not accepted except in the cases of documented illness or personal emergency or due to conflicts with university sanctioned events.

3. Any form of academic dishonesty is unacceptable and will be punished according to university policy.
4. Students and the professor will treat one another with respect in class discussions and differences of opinion will be dealt with in a civilized manner.
5. Students are expected to read the assigned chapters/readings before coming to class.
6. The professor reserves the right to make changes to the course syllabus as deemed necessary.