



Kuwait University
College of Business Administration
Economics Department



Course Syllabus
Econ 301 (325) – Economic Development

Prof. Mohammad Alawin
Spring 2024/2025

Lecture Time and Location

Mon. and Wed. 2:00 p.m. - 3:15 p.m.

Contact Information

Location: Economics Department – 3rd Floor – Zone A3 – Office No. 1016

Email: mohammad.alawin@ku.edu.kw

Office Hours: Mon. and Wed.: 12:30 p.m. - 2:00 p.m. or by appointment

Teaching Assistant

Name:

Location:

Email:

Office Hours:

Tutorial:

Course Description

More than half of the world's population is extremely poor – living on less than \$700 per person per year. The goal of this class is to study why extreme poverty, along with child mortality, low-levels of education, gender inequality, high fertility, child labor, and other woes are pervasive in the developing world. What distortions, market failures and institutional failures, hinder households' quest to improve their wellbeing? What can be done about it? Is there scope for policy to help the world's poor?

Prerequisites

ECON.

Course Learning Objectives (CLOs)

Upon successful completion of the course, students will be able to:

CLO1. Analyze policy issues related to economic development.

CLO2. Use an analytical framework to examine contemporary international economic issues.

CLO3. Write research papers in economic development.

CLO4. Discuss the importance of economic development for the world and how this has changed over the past decades.

CLO Mapping to CBA Skill Based Competency Goals*

CLO	Competency Goal			
	Analytical	Communication	Information Technology	Business Ethics
1	R			
2	R			
3		A		
4	R			

Type of Emphases:

- **(I)ntroduce:** Students will be introduced to the skill and their grasp of it assessed in the course.
- **(A)pply:** The course will not cover the skill. Students should have a high-level grasp of the skill and are required to apply it in the course.
- **(R)einforce:** Students should have an introductory-level grasp of the skill and the course will improve their mastery to a higher level.

Required Material:

Textbook:

- 1) "Economic Development," Todaro, Michael and Smith, Stephen, Addison-Wesley, 11th edition, 2012.
- 2) "Issues in Economics Today," Robert Guell, McGraw-Hill Higher Education, Edition 10, 2024.

Additional Material: Lecture slides are available on (MS Teams)

E-Learning System: MS Teams and Moodle

Course Website:

* CBA Competency Goals can be found at the end of this document

Course Requirements

- **Presentations:** There will be a class presentation. A student should be fully understood what to present and be ready for discussions after the presentation. The presented material should be also well written.
- **Homework:** There will be a number of homework. Some of the end chapter's exercises will be solved at class. But you will be required to solve the rest of them.
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- One HW will be targeting your *analytical skill* in this class. This HW will be distributed in the class and it will address the global financial crisis of 2007–2008 which led to a dramatic crash in the mortgage market. Especially, we have to address the role of banks. In this HW, we have to explain what have led to this global financial crisis? What are the main consequences of it? And how could we avoid similar crises in the future.
- **In-Class Tests:** There are total 6 in-class tests. These tests are scheduled on the due dates of the respective assignments and should be on the exact same material.
- **Participation:** The quality of our classroom discussions in large part depends on you and your preparation for class. Participation should include, among other things, (1) presenting case facts, (2) defining the problem, (3) exploring different alternatives, (4) persuasive, thoughtful, integrated analysis supported by the data given in the case, (5) Implementation plan for proposed actions. "Air time" is not nearly as important as meaningful analysis and recommendations supported by data. Remember, for most of these cases, there is no right or wrong answer.
- **Class Preparation – Readings, Videos, and Online Quizzes:** It is very important that students are prepared for each class period. For each class there will be a required reading (case or chapter course pack) or video. To ensure comprehension, a short, 15-minute quiz on the reading or video will need to be completed on **Blackboard** prior to **9:00 AM each class day**.
- **Class Preparation:** It is very important that students are prepared for each class period. For each class there will be a required reading (case or chapter course pack).
- **Writing Style:** Students must refer to MLA writing style for their assignments and report writing. Refer to the English Language Center for help.

Course Policies

- **Attendance and Participation:** Every student in this course must abide by the Kuwait University Policy on Attendance (published in the Student Guide, Chapter 3, Section 13). A copy of the student guide can be accessed online on:
http://www.kuniv.edu/cs/groups/ku/documents/ku_content/kuw055940.pdf
- **Cheating and Plagiarism:** Every student in this course must abide by the Kuwait University Policy on Cheating and Plagiarism (published in the Student Guide, Chapter 3, Section 2). A copy of the student guide can be accessed online on:
http://www.kuniv.edu/cs/groups/ku/documents/ku_content/kuw055940.pdf
Please carefully note all sources and assistance when you turn in your work. Under no circumstances should you take credit for work that is not yours. You should neither receive nor give any unauthorized assistance on any deliverable. If you have any questions about what constitutes "unauthorized assistance" please email me before the deliverable is submitted.

Grading

The scores in this course will be the weighted average of the following items:

Weight	Description
20	First
20	Second
10	Presentations and assignments
5	Participations
45	Final
100%	TOTAL

Grade Distribution

Grade	Range
A	≥ 95
A-	≥ 90 and < 95
B+	≥ 87 and < 90
B	≥ 83 and < 87
B-	≥ 80 and < 83
C+	≥ 77 and < 80
C	≥ 73 and < 77
C-	≥ 70 and < 73
D+	≥ 65 and < 70
D	≥ 60 and < 65
F	< 60

Course Outline

Title	Topics	Chapter	Weeks
Introducing Economic Development: A Global Perspective	All topics in chapter	Chapter 1	1
Comparative Economic Development	All topics in chapter	Chapter 2	2
Classic Theories of Economic Growth & Development	All topics in chapter	Chapter 3	3
Contemporary Models of Development & Underdevelopment	All topics in chapter	Chapter 4	4–5
Poverty, Inequality, and Development	All topics in chapter	Chapter 5	5–6
Population Growth and Economic Development: Causes, Consequences, and Controversies	All topics in chapter	Chapter 6	7
The Environment and Development	All topics in chapter	Chapter 7	8–9
Poverty and Welfare	All topics in chapter	Chapter 8	9–10
Economic Growth and Development	All topics in chapter	Chapter 9	11
Income and Wealth inequality: What's fair?	All topics in chapter	Chapter 10	12

Important Dates

Date	Event
Oct. 26 th , 2024	Last day to drop the course
Dec. 23 rd , 2024	Last day of classes
To be announced ...	First exam
To be announced ...	Second exam
Jan 6 th , 2025 / 8:00 a.m.	Final Exam

CBA Competency Goals

1. Analytical Competency: A CBA graduate will be able to use analytical skills to solve business problems and make a well-supported business decision.

Student Learning Objectives:

- 1.1. Use appropriate analytical techniques to solve a given business problem.
- 1.2. Critically evaluate multiple solutions to a business problem.
- 1.3. Make well-supported business decisions.

2. Communication Competency: A CBA graduate will be able to communicate effectively in a wide variety of business settings.

Student Learning Objectives:

- 2.1. Deliver clear, concise, and audience-centered presentations.
- 2.2. Write clear, concise, and audience-centered business documents.

3. Information Technology Competency: A CBA graduate will be able to utilize Information Technology for the completion of business tasks.

Student Learning Objectives:

- 3.1. Use data-processing tools to analyze or solve business problems.

4. Ethical Competency: A CBA graduate will be able to recognize ethical issues present in business environment, analyze the tradeoffs between different ethical perspectives, and make a well-supported ethical decision.

Student Learning Objectives:

- 4.1. Identify the ethical dimensions of a business decision.
- 4.2. Recognize and analyze the tradeoffs created by application of competing ethical perspectives.
- 4.3. Formulate and defend a well-supported recommendation for the resolution of an ethical issue.

5. General Business Knowledge: A CBA graduate will be able to demonstrate a basic understanding of the main business disciplines' concepts and theories.

Student Learning Objectives:

- 5.1. Acquire a fundamental understanding of knowledge from the main business disciplines (e.g. finance, accounting, marketing, and management information systems, among others).