

# Syllabus

## Econ 181: Economic Development: Theory and Policy

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University of California, Riverside

Fall 2006

### **General information**

Time and location: MWF 3:10pm-4pm SPR 1340  
Office hours: M 11am-12pm, Th 1-2pm (4108 Sproul Hall)  
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### **Course description**

The goal of the course is to introduce the main issues of development economics. What affects economic growth, inequality, and poverty? Why do some countries achieve high levels of economic development and others do not? What are the policies governments can implement to change the growth path of their countries? In this course we will initially approach these questions from a “macro” perspective and later introduce a “microeconomic” view of the problems.

### **Requirements and grading**

All assignments mentioned below must be turned in at the beginning of the class or left in my office before the class meets. Only under extreme circumstances (such as medical emergencies) will late assignments be accepted at

the discretion of the instructor. The dates for all exams (once established) and assignments are final.

One 5 – 7 page paper due December 1	25%.
Four problem sets	5% each.
One midterm (around week 4)	25%
One final (Friday December 15, 3-4pm)	30%.

The following are some suggested topics for the paper: corruption and development, micro finances, behavioral economics, child labor or migration. If you decide to work on a topic outside this list or the ones listed in the course outline, please consult with me in advance. The guidelines for the paper (goals and structure) will be distributed later in the quarter.

## Textbooks

### Required

Perkins, D., S. Radelet, D. Snodgrass, M. Gillis, and M. Roemer (2001) *Economics of Development*, Fifth Edition. Norton. [PRSGR].

### Suggested

Banerjee, A., R. Bènabou, and D. Mookherjee (2006) *Understanding Poverty*. Oxford University Press. [BBM, HC79.P6 U534 2006].

Ray, D. (1998) *Development Economics*. Princeton University Press. [HD75 .R39 1998].

## Plagiarism

The appropriate ways for referencing the material used to write the paper will be discussed in class. Any student found committing plagiarism, not handing in original work of his/her own, or cheating, will be given an F in the course and will be subject to disciplinary action by the University.

# Course outline and readings

Each of the following topics should take us one week, on average. The [\*] symbol indicates the required readings. All others are suggested but some/most of them will be covered in class.

## I. Measurement of economic development

- PRSGR: chapters 1 and 2. [\*]
- BBM: chapters 1 and 4.
- Ray: chapter 2.

## II. Economic growth

- PRSGR: chapter 2[\*].
- BBM: chapters 2[\*], 3 and 5.
- Ray: chapters 3 and 4[\*].

## III. Poverty and inequality

- PRSGR: chapter 4. [\*]
- BBM: chapters 12.
- Ray: chapters 6 and 7.

## IV. Agriculture and rural development

- PRSGR: chapter 15. [\*]
- BBM: chapter 8.
- Ray: chapters 11 to 15.

## V. Industrialization

- PRSGR: chapters 17 and 18. [\*]

## **VI. Population**

- PRSGR: chapter 7. [\*]
- BBM: chapters 9 and 10.
- Ray: chapter 9.

## **VII. Education**

- PRSGR: chapter 9. [\*]
- BBM: chapter 18.

## **VIII. Health and nutrition**

- PRSGR: chapter 10. [\*]
- BBM: chapters 20 and 21.
- Ray: chapter 8 and 13.

## **IX. Savings and credit**

- PRSGR: chapter 11. [\*]
- BBM: chapter 22 and 23.
- Ray: chapter 14.

## **X. Globalization and trade**

- PRSGR: chapter 16, 18 and 19. [\*]
- BBM: chapters 6 and 7.
- Ray: chapters 16 and 17.