

ECON 184

Economic Development in Africa

Instructor: Jorge Agüero

Spring 2008

Introduction: About ECON 184

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1 General information

Time and location: TR 9:40-11:00am BOYHL 1471

Office hours: T 2-3pm, W 11am-12pm (4108 Sproul Hall)

Phone: 951.827.4108

E-mail: jorge.aguero@ucr.edu

Website: <http://faculty.ucr.edu/~jorgea/econ184>

- Enrollment issues: Karen Ward, 4124 Sproul Hall, (951) 827-1473, karen.ward@ucr.edu.

2 Requirements and grading

- Assignments due: beginning of the class or in my oce before the class.
- Dates are final. No exceptions (except medical emergencies).

Two problem sets	5% each.
One midterm (May 1st)	25%.
One presentation (in groups)	10%.
One 15-page paper due May 29	25%.
One final (Friday June 13, 09:00 - 11:00A.M.)	30%.

- Best student prize.

3 Textbooks

Required

- Easterly, William (2002) *The Elusive Quest for Growth: Economists' Adventures and Misadventures in the Tropics*. The MIT Press. [HC59.72.P6 E17 2001]
- Kevane, Michael (2004) *Women and Development in Africa: How Gender Works*. Lynne Rienner Publishers. [HQ1240 5 A35 K48 2004]
- Collier, Paul (2007) *The Bottom Billion* [HC79.P6 C61 2007]

Suggested

- Banerjee, A., R. Bènabou, and D. Mookherjee (2006) *Understanding Poverty*. OUP. [HC79.P6 U534 2006].

4 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.

5 Other sources

- News: BBC
<http://news.bbc.co.uk/2/hi/africa/default.stm> and
All-Africa News (<http://allafrica.com/>)
- Course blog: <http://appliedmicro.blogspot.com/>
- Background information for African countries: World Factbook
(<http://www.cia.gov/cia/publications/factbook/index.html>)
- Specialized economic journal: Journal of African Economies.

6 Course outline and readings

I Patterns of economic development in Africa.

II Economic growth: capital accumulation.

III Economic growth: geography vs. institutions.

IV Agriculture and land tenure.

V Poverty and inequality.

VI Insurance and shocks.

VII Health and education.

VIII The economics of conflict, war and corruption.