

York University, Department of Economics  
ECON 3550 Economic Growth and Development  
Summer 2015

Instructor: Andrea Podhorsky  
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Phone: 736-2300 ext. 77030  
Class Time and Location: Mondays and Wednesdays, 6:00 – 9:00 pm, Rm ACW 006

Course Description:

This course studies the economic problems of poor countries and poor communities. We will explore the meaning of development by analyzing the characteristics of economic underdevelopment, poverty, income and wealth distribution, rural versus urban development, population growth, and unemployment and migration. Additional topics include theories of development, growth and technological change, strategies for environmentally sustainable development, education, and health.

Prerequisites: AP/ECON 1000 3.00 and AP/ECON 1010 3.00 or equivalents. Course credit exclusions: GL/ECON/ILST 3920 3.00, AP/ECON 3559 3.00. PRIOR TO FALL 2009: Course credit exclusions: AK/ECON 3550 3.00, AS/ECON 3310 3.00.

Required Course Materials:

Text: Development Economics by Debraj Ray<sup>1</sup>

Evaluation:

Midterm*	50%	June 8, 2015
Final Exam	50%	TBA

\* Note that the midterm is optional however it is highly recommended that you write the midterm. If the midterm is not written, or if the grade on the final exam is greater than the grade that you received on the midterm, the final exam will be given the full weight of 100%.

Important Dates:

Last date to enroll without permission of course instructor	May 25, 2015
Last date to enroll with permission of course instructor	June 2, 2015
Last date to drop courses without receiving a grade	June 16, 2015

Policy on Make-up/Deferred Exams and Assignments:

No permission will be given to a student to write an exam prior to the dates given above. No make-up exam will be given for the midterm exam.

Important Course Information:

Final course grades given by the instructor will use the standard York grading scale and may be adjusted to conform to Program or Faculty grades distribution profiles. All students are expected to familiarize themselves with the following information, available from the York University website:

- York's Academic Honesty Policy and Procedures (Academic Integrity Website)

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<sup>1</sup> See <http://www.econ.nyu.edu/user/debraj>

- Course requirement accommodation for students with disabilities, including physical, medical, systemic, learning and psychiatric disabilities
- Student Conduct Standards and Grading/Feedback Policy
- Religious Observance Accommodation

Topics\*

May 20	Introduction and Overview (Chapters 1, 2)
May 25	Economic Growth (Chapter 3)
May 27	The New Growth Theories (Chapter 4)
June 1	History, Expectations, and Development (Chapter 5)
June 3	Review
June 8	Midterm
June 10	Economic Inequality (Chapter 6)
June 15	Inequality and Development: Interconnections (Chapter 7)
June 17	Poverty and Undernutrition (Chapter 8)
June 22	Population Growth and Economic Development (Chapter 9)
June 24	Rural and Urban (Chapter 10)
June 29	Review

\* While supplemental readings may be added during the course of the semester, we will follow the text closely. It is strongly recommended that assigned readings be completed prior to attending class.