

Development Economics

Course # ECON 3246

Credits 6

Pre-requisites and Co-requisites: None

Course Description

This course focuses on processes of economic development within the context of low and middle-income countries, emphasizing the implications for development strategies and policies. Key issues include the level and nature of inter-relationships between rural and urban development, the processes of economic transformation, and the role of institutions and policies in development. The analytical approach and many of the issues discussed are drawn from development economics, although these will be positioned within the broader geographical, social and political context of Central Asia. The course employs theories and skills learnt in other economics courses and applies them in a less abstract way through collection and analysis of data from various sources. By the end of the course, the students should be able to identify relevant problems constraining the economic (rural and urban) development of the individual Central Asian republics and approach these problems in a rigorous and critical way.

Course Learning Outcomes

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

- Discuss economic theories that have shaped growth and development
- Explain the causes and consequences of underdevelopment, poverty and income inequality
- Apply the tools of economic analysis to problems of rural and urban development
- Analyze policy initiatives undertaken to spur economic growth and their economic, social and environmental impact
- Employ theory and data to conduct basic economic analyses on issues specific to economic development
- Evaluate empirical work in development.

Course Assessment and Grading

Item	Weight
Midterm	25%
Final exam (cumulative)	35%

Item	Weight
Policy Analysis / Debate	35%
Initial.position.(in.class)	(10)
Draft.(in.class)	(76)
Final.Memo	(76)
Presentation.and.Debate	(76)
Class participation	5%