

Economics 4784-001 Economic Development  
Fall 2007  
Course Meets 08/28/07 – 12/13/07  
Tue, Thurs 2:00-3:15 Econ 119  
No Class Nov. 20-22 (fall Break & Thanksgiving)

### ***Instructor Information***

Professor Barry W. Poulson, Professor, Department of Economics  
Office: Economics Building, Room 115  
Phone: 303-492-7414  
Email: [poulson@colorado.edu](mailto:poulson@colorado.edu)  
Office Hours: 11:00am-12:00pm Tuesday and Thursday

### ***Texts***

Gerald M. Meier and James E. Rauch, *Leading Issues in Economics Development*,  
Oxford University Press, 2005  
William Easterly, *The Elusive Quest for Growth*, MIT Press, 2002  
Barry Eichengreen, *Financial Crises*, Oxford University Press, 2002  
Amartya Sen, *Development as Freedom*, Random House, 2000

### ***Course Objectives***

|         |   |    |               |
|---------|---|----|---------------|
| Aug 28  | Measuring Development                   | IA | Sen 1-3       |
| Aug 30  | Economic Performance of Less Developed  | IB | Easterly II-2 |
| Sept 4  | The Discipline of Development Economics | IC | Easterly II-3 |
| Sept 11 | Essay due on Topic 1                    |    |               |

## Topic 2. Population and Migration

| Dates   | Topics  | Assignments    | Assignments            |
|---------|---|----------------|------------------------|
|         |   | Meir and Rauch | Other                  |
| Sept 6  | Overview  | IV Overview    |                        |
| Sept 6  | Population  | IV C           | Easterly II-5<br>Sen 9 |
| Sept 11 | Urban Growth and Infrastructure                   | VI A           |                        |
| Sept 13 | Rural Urban Migration and the Informal Sector     | VI B           |                        |
| Sept 18 | Roundtable Discussion on Population and Migration |                |                        |

## Topic 3. Human Resources

| Dates   | Topics               | Assignments    | Assignments   |
|---------|----------------------|----------------|---------------|
|         |                      | Meir and Rauch | Other         |
| Sept 20 | Education            | IVA            | Easterly II 4 |
| Sept 25 | Health and Nutrition | IV B           | Sen 7         |



### Topic 6. International Trade and Technological Change

| <b>Dates</b> | <b>Topics</b>   | <b>Assignments</b>    | <b>Assignments</b>  |
|--------------|---|-----------------------|---------------------|
|              |   | <b>Meir and Rauch</b> | <b>Other</b>        |
| Oct 30       | International Trade   | III Overview<br>III A |                     |
| Nov 1        | Technological Change  | III B                 | Easterly<br>III 8-9 |
| Nov 6        | Roundtable Discussion on<br>International Trade and<br>Technological Change |                       |                     |

### Topic 7. International Finance and Reform

| <b>Dates</b> | <b>Topics</b>                      | <b>Assignments</b>    | <b>Assignments</b>    |
|--------------|------------------------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|
|              |                                    | <b>Meir and Rauch</b> | <b>Other</b>          |
| Nov 8        | Investment and Finance             | V Overview<br>V 1-2   |                       |
| Nov 13       | International Financial<br>Markets | V 3-4                 | Easterly<br>II 6-7,10 |

## Topic 8. Income Distribution and Poverty

| <b>Dates</b> | <b>Topics</b>                                    | <b>Assignments</b>      |              |
|--------------|--|-------------------------|--------------|
|              |  | <b>Meir and Rauch</b>   | <b>Other</b> |
| Nov 29       | The Impact of Development on Income Distribution | VIII Overview<br>VIII A | Sen 4        |
| Dec 4        | The Impact of Income Distribution on Development | VIII B-C                |              |

## Topic 9. Political Economy

| <b>Dates</b> | <b>Topics</b>  | <b>Assignments</b>    |                       |
|--------------|--|-----------------------|-----------------------|
|              |  | <b>Meir and Rauch</b> | <b>Other</b>          |
| Dec 6        | Political Economy  | IX Overview<br>IX A-C | Sen 5-6,10-12         |
| Dec 11       | Institutional Reform   |                       | Easterly<br>III 11-14 |
| Dec 13       | Roundtable Discussion on Income Distribution, Poverty, and Political Economy |                       |                       |
| Dec 13       | Essay Due on Topics 8 and 9  |                       |                       |

## ***Course Requirements***

### **Five Essays**

Each student will write five essays focusing on the major topics of the course. Choose a developing country as the basis for your essays. Each essay should then relate the issues explored in the course to the experience of that country. Each essay should be 5 to 10 type written pages in length.

## **Term Paper**

In addition to the five essays each student will write a term paper. The term paper should explore one of the specific development issues in some depth, as it relates to the country the student has selected. The term paper should focus on the controversial questions regarding that issue. Since much of this controversy will be with regard to the public policies that country has pursued, the student is required to make and defend policy recommendations regarding that issue. The term paper should be approximately 10 typewritten pages in length.

The lectures will introduce different perspectives on the issues examined in the course. Students should use the lecture materials with other source materials as the basis for the essays and term paper.

In writing the essays and term paper you will find the required texts a good starting point in finding source materials. You should then incorporate other bibliographic sources, especially as they relate to the more recent development in the country you are examining. In writing these essays and term paper you are welcome to use any source materials that you find relevant. You will find an extensive literature on economic growth and development in different regions and countries on the internet, and you are encouraged to make full use of these resources. The following sites are a good place to start to put together source materials:

The World Bank

The International Monetary Fund

The essays and term paper should follow the format described in standard style manuals. Most importantly, the essays should be properly documented, including a bibliography, and footnotes or end notes. Papers without proper documentation will not be accepted.

## **Class Presentations and Participation**

Each student is required to participate in one roundtable discussion. That participation will include a brief (5-10 minute) summary of the major findings and policy recommendations in the term paper (don't read the term paper). This should allow time for questions from the class and discussion among the participants in the roundtable discussion.

Students are required to attend class and attendance will be taken. Students can miss one class in each of the five segments of the course identified above. If more than one class is missed in a particular segment this will lower the grade for that segment and the final grade.

Class participation is an important part of the course. Class discussions will focus on the controversial aspects of the development literature. One class period is set aside for a roundtable discussion of each of the topics explored in the course.

## ***Grading***

Students will receive five grades based upon the written essays and class attendance and class participation. These five grades are equally weighted and will account for three fourths of the final grade. The term paper and presentation in the roundtable discussion will account for one fourth of the final grade.

If students have any questions regarding the course requirements or grading they should meet with me at the beginning of the course, not at the end of the course. All university policies apply in this course relating to disabilities, religious observance, honor code, etc.. If you have any questions regarding these university policies see [www.colorado.edu/policies/index.html](http://www.colorado.edu/policies/index.html).