

Course Specifications

Valid in the academic year 2018-2019

Economics of Development (F000181)

Course size (nominal values; actual values may depend on programme)

Credits 6.0 Study time 180 h Contact hrs 45.0 h

Course offerings and teaching methods in academic year 2018-2019

A (semester 1)	English	guided self-study	5.0 h
		lecture: response	5.0 h
		lecture	
		self-reliant study	2.5 h
		activities	
		lecture	35.0 h

Lecturers in academic year 2018-2019

D'Haese, Marijke LA27 lecturer-in-charge

Offered in the following programmes in 2018-2019

	crdts	offering
Bachelor of Science in Business Administration	6	A
Master of Science in Complementary Studies in Economics	6	A
Master of Science in Economics	6	A
Master of Science in Economics	6	A
Exchange programme in Economics and Business Administration	6	A

Teaching languages

English

Keywords

Development economics, developing countries, global south

Position of the course

The aim of this course is to introduce concepts, theories and measures of economic development. Students will learn to understand how economic development affects poverty and human welfare. The course starts with a general introduction of the main problems in developing countries. After a more general part on theories and patterns of development, the course focuses on certain aspects of development economics such as poverty, population growth, education, nutrition, health issues and the environment.

Contents

Part 1 of the course introduces the concepts of economic development and how economic development can be measured. Issues such as economic growth, structural changes, development and welfare will be tackled. We introduce concepts of development economics as well as problems common to developing countries. Different theories of economic development are discussed.

Part 2 deals with poverty and inequality in developing countries and studies its relationship with economic development.

Part 3 studies a number of specific topics such as population growth, urbanisation, education, health and nutrition and the environment.

An extra partim is added to this course to cover the extra credit awarded to it in comparison to the F000182 (5ECTS) course. This partim will cover a number of response lectures and the writing of a critical essay on a particular topic in development economics which will be defined based on what is a topic of interest at the moment of teaching. The students will be asked to read a set of papers and prepare questions before coming to class (flipped classroom model). Students are asked to actively participated in the debate and to make a critical essay on the topic.

Initial competences

Knowledge of economic principles, basic growth theories, and issues of developing countries.

Final competences

- 1 Acknowledge problems and challenges of developing countries
- 2 Describe important concepts and theories in development economics
- 3 Discuss the relationships between economic development, poverty and equality
- 4 Discuss the economic importance of topics such as population growth, urbanization, education and health care
- 5 Critically analyse the current status of developing countries using theories and determinants of development
- 6 Critically evaluate aspects of development problems and policies

Conditions for credit contract

Access to this course unit via a credit contract is unrestricted: the student takes into consideration the conditions mentioned in 'Starting Competences'

Conditions for exam contract

Access to this course unit via an exam contract is unrestricted

Teaching methods

Guided self-study, lecture, self-reliant study activities, lecture: response lecture

Extra information on the teaching methods

ex cathedra colleges, self-evaluation tests, group discussions
Exercise: write an essay with a critical point of view on a topic of interest in development economics based on papers discussed in class and guestlectures.

Learning materials and price

Book: Todaro, M.P., Smith, S.C. (2014). Economic Development. 12th Edition, Addison Wesley: Harlow, UK.
or a more recent edition of the book if available
An extensive powerpoint presentation per chapter is available (Minerva).

Cost: 75 EUR

References

Several books on development economics are available in the library.
Websites of international organisations (World Bank, IFPRI, IFAD, IMF)
World Development Reports
International journals including World Development, Journal of Development Economics, Journal of Development Studies, Food Policy, Development Policy Review, Agricultural Economics.

Course content-related study coaching

An extensive powerpoint presentation per chapter is available (Minerva).
Upon appointment with lecturers and assistants.

Evaluation methods

end-of-term evaluation and continuous assessment

Examination methods in case of periodic evaluation during the first examination period

Written examination

Examination methods in case of periodic evaluation during the second examination period

Written examination

Examination methods in case of permanent evaluation

Participation, assignment

Possibilities of retake in case of permanent evaluation

examination during the second examination period is possible in modified form

Extra information on the examination methods

Written exam, closed book, with at least three questions and a set of questions on concepts. We may include calculation questions in these questions as applications on the theory.
Permanent evaluation: Active participation during the response lectures (several lectures for a total of about 5 hours - to be confirmed) and a critical essay based on these lecturers. Attendance to the response lectures is mandatory.

Calculation of the examination mark

Combination of periodic evaluation (written exam counting for 80% of the final mark) and permanent evaluation (essay and active participation in the response lectures,

counting for 20% of the final mark).

Students who are absent due to legitimate reasons during the response lectures have to hand in a written argumentation on the subject at a later moment. Students who are absent during the response lectures without any good reason, will be penalized and their final mark for the course may be lowered to a maximum of 9/20 irrespective of the mark on their exam and essay. Students are requested to hand in their essay no later than the deadline. If they fail to do so, one point will be deducted from their score. In case a student scores less than 10/20 and hence fails one part of the evaluation, the final mark will be reduced to 9/20.

Facilities for Working Students

Facilities for students with work contracts can be agreed upon with the lecturer.