Course Outline

ECON2900 / ECON2901 – Development, Poverty and Famine

ECON8901 – Advanced Topics in Poverty, Public Policy and Development

Semester 2, 2014

STUDENTS: Course details change from semester to semester. Please check that you are reading the Course Outline for the correct semester. This Course Outline consists of 6 pages.

Course Description

Why are some countries richer than others? Why have some countries experienced growth miracles while others have experienced stagnation or even growth disasters? Within developing countries, what does it mean to be poor? How to combat poverty? What are the challenges that the poor in developing countries face and what can be done to improve their living standards? This course intends to teach students what we know and what we do not know about these important questions and will focus on teaching students tools in understanding them. The topics covered will include explanations on why countries develop differentially, the effect of geography, institutions, foreign aid, corruption and differential, saving rates on the large disparities across countries. Within countries, we will examine the role of education, health migration and credit markets in the alleviation of poverty. The course will cover both theory and empirical evidence but focusing mainly on how to conduct empirical analysis in understanding these important economic development issues.

Information about how this course fits into your Program, e.g. how it contributes to Majors and Minors, and whether or not it is a core course or an elective course, can be obtained from Study@ANU, your lecturer, or the College Student Advisers.

Contacts

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Role</th>
<th>Office address</th>
<th>Email</th>
<th>Telephone</th>
<th>Consultation Times</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Course Convenor and Lecturer (Course Authority) Xin Meng</td>
<td>Room 2068, Crisp Building</td>
<td><a href="mailto:xin.meng@anu.edu.au">xin.meng@anu.edu.au</a></td>
<td>6125 3102</td>
<td>TBA</td>
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<td>TBA</td>
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<tr>
<td>School Administrator Finola Wijnberg</td>
<td>Room 1014, HW Arndt Building</td>
<td><a href="mailto:finola.wijnberg@anu.edu.au">finola.wijnberg@anu.edu.au</a></td>
<td>6125 0195</td>
<td>9.00am – 5.00pm</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Course Administrator Terry Embling</td>
<td>Room 1013, HW Arndt Building</td>
<td><a href="mailto:terry.embling@anu.edu.au">terry.embling@anu.edu.au</a></td>
<td>6125 0384</td>
<td>8.30am – 4.30pm</td>
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</table>
Communication

Email
E-mail addresses may be used when you need to contact staff about administrative or academic matters. They should NOT be used for instructional purposes. If necessary, the lecturer for this course will contact students on their official ANU student email address. Information about your enrolment and fees from the Registrar and Student Services' office will also be sent to this email address.

Announcements
The lecturer is the official forum for announcements of any kind. Students are expected to check the Wattle site regularly (at least once a week) for announcements about this course, e.g. changes to timetables or notifications of cancellations. Notifications of emergency cancellations of lectures or tutorials will be posted on the door of the relevant room.

Course URLs
More information about this course may be found on:
- Wattle, the University's online learning environment. Log on to Wattle using your student number and your ISIS password.
- the College of Business and Economics website, and
- Study @ ANU.

Course Information

Learning Outcomes
Upon successful completion of the requirements for this course, students will be able to:
- understand some of the long-run differences in economic development between countries;
- be aware of factors that determine poverty in developing countries;
- use economic analysis to examine the impacts of policy on development.

Workload
Students taking this course are expected to commit at least 12 hours a week to completing the work. This will include
- lectures
- tutorials
- private study
- Wattle

Be prepared for class. Thorough lecture preparation involves pre-reading (e.g., having read the appropriate readings for the week), which will enable you to obtain maximum benefit. Where notes are provided, bring them to the lecture and familiarise yourself with their contents.

Tutorial Registration
Enrolment in tutorials will be completed online using the Electronic Teaching Assistant (ETA). To enrol, follow these instructions:
2. You will see the Student Login page. To log into the system, enter your University ID (your student number) and password (your ISIS password) in the appropriate fields and hit the Login button.
3. Read any news items or announcements.
4. Select "Sign Up!" from the left-hand navigation bar.
5. Select your courses from the list. To select multiple courses, hold down the control key. On PCs, this is the Ctrl key; on Macs, it is the ⌘ key. Hold this key down while selecting courses with the mouse. Once courses are selected, hit the Submit button.

6. A confirmation of class enrolments will be displayed. In addition, an email confirmation of class enrolments will be sent to your student account.

7. For security purposes, please ensure that you click the Log Out link on the confirmation page, or close the browser window when you have finished your selections.

8. If you experience any difficulties, please contact the School Office (see page 1 for contact details).
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Week beginning</th>
<th>Theme / Topic / Module</th>
<th>Activity</th>
<th>Required student preparation</th>
<th>Tutorials/Assessment Deadlines</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>July 23</td>
<td>General introduction</td>
<td>Lecture</td>
<td>Preparation lecture and tutorial</td>
<td>No tutorials in this week, Econ2901/8901 lecture</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>July 30</td>
<td>Methodological issues</td>
<td>Lecture + Tutorial</td>
<td>Preparation lecture and tutorial</td>
<td>Econ2901/8901 lecture</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>August 6</td>
<td>Policy evaluation</td>
<td>Lecture + Tutorial</td>
<td>Preparation lecture and tutorial</td>
<td>ECON2901/8901: Research presentation</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>August 13</td>
<td>Economic development: Big picture vs. small steps</td>
<td>Lecture + Tutorial</td>
<td>Preparation lecture and tutorial</td>
<td>Econ2901/8901 lecture</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>August 20</td>
<td>Long-run economic development: The role of geography and institutions</td>
<td>Lecture + Tutorial</td>
<td>Preparation lecture and tutorial</td>
<td>ECON2901/8901: Research presentation</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>August 27</td>
<td>Foreign aid debate</td>
<td>Lecture + Tutorial</td>
<td>Preparation lecture and tutorial</td>
<td>Econ2901/8901 lecture</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>September 3</td>
<td>Poverty and inequality</td>
<td>Lecture + Tutorial</td>
<td>Preparation lecture and tutorial</td>
<td>ECON2901/8901: Research presentation ECON2900: Assignment 1 due on September 1st, 12noon</td>
</tr>
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</table>

**Mid Semester Break**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>September 24</th>
<th>Mid-semester exam – no Lecture</th>
<th>Examination</th>
<th>No tutorials in this week</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>October 1</td>
<td>Famine</td>
<td>Lecture + Tutorial</td>
<td>Preparation lecture and tutorial</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>October 8</td>
<td>Migration</td>
<td>Lecture + Tutorial</td>
<td>Preparation lecture and tutorial</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>October 15</td>
<td>Education</td>
<td>Lecture + Tutorial</td>
<td>Preparation lecture and tutorial</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>October 22</td>
<td>Health and population</td>
<td>Lecture + Tutorial</td>
<td>Preparation lecture and tutorial</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>October 29</td>
<td>Corruption</td>
<td>Lecture + Tutorial</td>
<td>Preparation lecture and tutorial</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Assessment

Academic Honesty and Integrity

It is the responsibility of each individual student to ensure that:

a. you are familiar with ANU policy for academic integrity
b. work submitted for assessment is original
c. appropriate acknowledgement and citation is given to the work of others
d. you declare your understanding of, and compliance with, the principle of academic integrity by completing the appropriate cover sheet when submitting assessment items

For information on academic honesty and integrity please refer to http://academichonesty.anu.edu.au/

Proposed Assessment Schedule

Details about assessment may change during the first two weeks of semester. Please ensure that you check with your lecturer or tutor about any changes. Changes to the assessment schedule will be posted to the Wattle site.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Assessment item</th>
<th>Description and detail of assignment</th>
<th>Specific requirements</th>
<th>Due Date</th>
<th>Weighting</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Mid-semester examination</td>
<td>The mid-semester examination will cover the entire course content up to and inclusive of the week of the examination</td>
<td>Details will be provided during lecture</td>
<td>In the week starting Sept. 1st</td>
<td>30%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Assignment</td>
<td>The assignment contains questions</td>
<td>TBA</td>
<td>See study schedule</td>
<td>25%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Final examination</td>
<td>The final exam will cover the entire course content</td>
<td>Details will be provided during lecture</td>
<td>TBA</td>
<td>45%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ECON2901/ 8901</td>
<td>Research presentation Students are required to present assigned journal articles</td>
<td>TBA</td>
<td>See study schedule</td>
<td>10%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mid-semester examination</td>
<td>The mid-semester examination will cover the entire course content up to and inclusive of the week of the examination</td>
<td>Details will be provided during lecture</td>
<td>In the week starting Sept. 1st</td>
<td>25%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Research paper</td>
<td>Students are required to choose a topic. The length of the paper should be no more than 10 pages or 3500 words</td>
<td>TBA</td>
<td>See study schedule</td>
<td>20%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Final Examination</td>
<td>The final exam will cover the entire course content</td>
<td>Details will be provided during lecture</td>
<td>TBA</td>
<td>45%</td>
</tr>
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</table>

The examination material of the mid-semester examination will be all that is covered in the lectures up to and inclusive of the week before the examination. The final examination will be held according to the published university schedule posted at http://timetable.anu.edu.au/. It is the student’s responsibility to be informed about changes to the examination timetable. The examination material of the final examination will be everything covered in the lectures, including material already covered in the mid-semester examination.

No make-up mid-semester examination will be offered under any circumstances. Should you have a university-approved reason for missing the mid-semester examination or for not writing or presenting a research paper, your final examination will be weighted up to account for the missed work.

ECON2900 students are required to complete 1 assignment.
ECON2901/8901 students are required to present an assigned journal article and to write a research paper. Presentations will take place during the additional lecture hour for ECON2901/8901 students. There will be 6 articles and students will be grouped (depending on the enrolment number) so that each group will present one paper. Presentations will take 40 minutes and the rest of the time will be used for Q&A. Students will be marked for their understanding of the paper, presentation skill, as well as their participation during the Q&A time. Presentations will begin in week 3 and proceed throughout the semester. More information will be made available during the first two weeks of the course.

ECON2901/8901 students are further required to write a research paper (3500 words or 10 pages). Students are required to choose their own topic among the topics discussed during the lectures. Detailed requirements will be given in the first lecture. Examples include malnutrition, schooling, foreign aid, etc.

Scaling
Your final mark for the course will be based on the raw marks allocated for each assignment or examination. However, your final mark may not be the same number as produced by that formula, as marks may be scaled. Any scaling applied will preserve the rank order of raw marks (i.e. if your raw mark exceeds that of another student, then your scaled mark will exceed the scaled mark of that student), and may be either up or down.

Penalties
Late submission of an assignment is not acceptable.

Texts and Other Reading

Recommended Reading
There will be no major textbook for the course. However, the lectures may draw upon the following texts:
Easterly, W., 2006, The White Man’s Burden: Why the West’s Efforts to Aid the Rest have done so Much Ill and so Little Good, Penguin Press.

In addition, the lecturer will provide other reading material (journal articles or book chapters) for each week before hand on wattle.

Course-related Matters

Requisites
ECON1101 Microeconomics, and ECON1102 Macroeconomics 1 or ECON1100 Economics 1 (H)

General Information for all Students
For more information on relevant polices, procedures and rules, go to your course Wattle site. The relevant information is posted in two versions at the top of the central panel in Wattle. Version 1 is a link to Key issues explained: Policies, Programs, Courses and Assessments. In this section, you will find important information about a range of educational and administrative matters. If you can’t find the link on your Wattle site, go to http://cbe.anu.edu.au/Current_Students/general_info/student_info.asp. Version 2 is called Online social interaction, Netiquette and more.