

COURSE SPECIFICATION DOCUMENT

Academic School / Department:	Richmond Business School
Programme:	BA Economics with Combined Studies
FHEQ Level:	4
Course Title:	Introduction to Economics of Development
Course Code:	ECN 4100
Course Leader:	Dr Sabine Spangenberg
Student Engagement Hours:	120 (standard 3- credit BA course)
Lectures:	45
Seminar / Tutorials:	75
Independent / Guided Learning:	120
Semester:	Fall, Spring
Credits:	12 UK CATS credits 6 ECTS credits 3 US credits

Course Description:

Both global in its emphasis and multicultural in its outlook, the course addresses issues of developing countries from the perspective of elementary economics. The course introduces you to reasons for a lack of economic development. This could for example be the type of product that low income countries export, the climate or geography of the nation or its political situation. We will investigate indicators for economic development and look at the distribution of wealth across the globe. The course intends to teach students to critically appraise means by which the less well-off countries could improve their living standards. We draw heavily on country cases to exemplify situations; the material used is current and draws on an interactive study approach for its dissemination to students.

Prerequisites:

None.

Aims and Objectives:

The course introduces students to the economics of development. It is global in perspective but narrows the study down to low-income and low middle-income countries. The course makes heavy use of case studies and practical examples which makes this course an exciting introduction to the value of economic theory and analysis in the context of global economic

development problems. The course allows students to evaluate the reasons for delayed economic development and offers approaches to select solutions to the identified development problems. It provides an understanding of the international institutional framework and its relevance to development economics. Global economic problems will be addressed so that students can understand current situations of individual countries as well as the economic reasons behind them.

Programme Outcomes:

A1, A4, A5

B1, B2

C2, C4, C8

A detailed list of the programme outcomes are found in the Programme Specification.

This is located at the archive maintained by the Registry and found at: <https://www.richmond.ac.uk/programme-and-course-specifications/>

Learning Outcomes:

By the end of this course, successful students should be able to:

Knowledge and Understanding

1. Explain the basics of development economics, such as the typology of developing countries, their economic, political and regional grouping.
2. Demonstrate knowledge of the common characteristics of developing countries and how these characteristics are usually identified by indicators.
3. Make use of the main concepts and theories explaining the reasons for slow or delayed economic development.
4. Demonstrate an understanding of the international economic framework and the decision making structures.

Subject-Specific Skills:

1. Explain economic principles and models that abstract the economic occurrences in developing countries.
2. Apply economic concepts to individual country cases and assess respective development policies.
3. Demonstrate the skill of data observation and logical reasoning.

Other Skills:

1. Demonstrate insight into the concept of development costs within a temporal frame.
2. Show familiarity with the alternative development policies and able to distinguish between them in terms of their cost implications and efficiency.
3. Identify development opportunities and strategise this information into policy recommendations.
4. Demonstrate insight into the interrelationship of economics, politics and history as well as having understood the dynamic nature of economic phenomena.

Indicative Content:

1. Grouping of Developing Economies
2. Development as Objective for International Community
3. Non-Economic Development Theories
4. Economic Development Theories
5. Economic-Demographic Theories
6. Education and Development
7. The Role of International Organisations: Past, Present and Future
8. Development Traps
9. Developing Economies and International Trade
10. Developing Countries and Sustainable Development
11. Economic Development and Economic Justice
12. Seminars: Case Studies

Assessment:

This course conforms to the Richmond University Standard Assessment Norms approved at Academic Board and located at: <https://www.richmond.ac.uk/policies/>

Teaching Methodology:

The course is lectured twice weekly. Student participation is essential and group discussions are a vital part of learning. Students are expected to undertake independent study and research to compose a written assignment the findings of which have to be presented in class. Students are also expected to read the assigned reading for each week.

Indicative Text(s):

Deaton, A. (2015) *The Great Escape, Health, Wealth and the Origins of Inequality*, New Jersey: Princeton University Press.

Sen, A. (2001) *Development as Freedom*, Oxford: OUP.

Thirlwall, A.P., Pacheco-Lopez, P. (2017) *Economics of Development*, 10th edition, London: Macmillan.

UNDP, various years, *Human Development Report*, Oxford: OUP.

Journals

Bhorat, H., Tarp, F. (2016) *Africa's Lions. Growth Traps and Opportunities for Six African Economies*, Washington: Brookings Institution Press.

Chowdhury, A., G. Mavrotas (2006) “FDI and Growth: What Causes What? in World Economy, Vol. 29, January 2006, p. 9.

Freytag, A., Voll, S. (2013) Institutions and savings in developing and emerging economies, in: Public Choice, 157(3/4): 475-509

Hanna, R., Olken, B. A. (2018) Universal Basic Income versus Targeted Transfers: Anti-Poverty Programmes in developing Countries, in: The Journal of Economic Perspectives, 32(4):201-226.

Harvey, D.I., Kellard, N.M., Madsen, J.N., Wohar, M.E. (2010) The Prebisch-Singer Hypothesis: For centuries of evidence, in: The Review of Economics and Statistics, 92(2):367-377.

Waage, J., Yap, C., Bell, S., Levy, C., Mace, G., Pegram, T., Unterhalter, E., Dasandi, N., Hudson, D., Kock, R., Mayhew, S. H., Marx, C., and Poole, N. (2015) Governing Sustainable Development Goals: interactions, infrastructures, and institutions. In: Waage, J and Yap, C. (eds.) Thinking Beyond Sectors for Sustainable Development. Pp. 79–88, London: Ubiquity.

Web Sites

See syllabus for complete reading list

Change Log for this CSD:

Nature of Change	Date Approved & Approval Body (School or AB)	Change Actioned by Registry Services
Updated reading List	September 2019	