



# **B.E. International Program**

## Faculty of Economics, Thammasat University



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### **Course Outline**

#### **EE 469 Seminar in Development Economics**

Semester 2/2014 (January 12 – May 10, 2015)

**Number of credits:** 3 credits

**Lecture Time:** Tuesdays and Thursdays, 12.30 – 14.00 hrs

**Lecture Venue:** Room 204, Faculty of Economics

**Instructor:** Phatta Kirdruang, PhD

Office: Room 428, Faculty of Economics

E-mail: [phatta@econ.tu.ac.th](mailto:phatta@econ.tu.ac.th)

Office hours: Tuesdays and Thursdays, 14.00 – 15.00 hrs  
and by appointment

#### **Course Description:**

Seminar and research on specific topics in development economics under supervision and guidance of the lecturer.

#### **Course Objectives:**

1. Students develop skills in conducting an independent research in the field of development economics.
2. Students should be able to write and present research results, and to critique others' works in a constructive way.

**Prerequisites:** Completing at least two 400 level courses in development economics; except EE460 and EE468.

#### **Recommended Books on Writing:**

There is no required text for this class, but the following books are highly recommended.

- McClosky, D.N. 2000. *Economical Writing*.

- Thomson, W. 2001. *A Guide for the Young Economist: Writing and Speaking Effectively about Economics*.

### **Suggested Textbooks on Development Economics:**

- Perkin, D. H., Radelet, S., Lindauer, D. L., & Block, S. A. (2013). *Economics of Development*. Seventh Edition. W.W. Norton & Company.
- Todaro, M., & Smith, S. (2011). *Economic Development*. Eleventh Edition. Prentice Hall.
- Ray, Debraj. (1998). *Development Economics*. Princeton University Press.
- Handbook of Development Economics. (There are 5 volumes.)

### **Data/Information Sources:**

#### **Websites**

- World Bank <http://www.worldbank.org/>
- International Monetary Fund <http://www.imf.org/>
- Center for Global Development <http://www.cgdev.org/>
- Center for Economic Policy Research <http://www.cepr.net/>
- Peterson Institute for International Economics <http://www.iie.com/>
- Asian Development Bank [www.adb.org](http://www.adb.org)
- World Trade Organization [www.wto.org](http://www.wto.org)
- National Bureau of Economic Research <http://www.nber.org/>

#### **Data and Reports**

- World Development Indicators <http://data.worldbank.org/data-catalog/world-development-indicators>
- [World Development Reports](#)
- World Factbook <https://www.cia.gov/library/publications/the-world-factbook/>
- International Financial Statistics <http://elibrary-data.imf.org/finddatareports.aspx?d=33061&e=169393>
- Penn World Tables <http://www.ggdgc.net/pwt>

**Schedule:**

| <b>Week</b>                  | <b>Topic and Activity</b>                                                                                      |
|------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <b>1</b><br>(Jan 13, 15)     | - Course overview<br>- Introduction to research in development economics                                       |
| <b>2</b><br>(Jan 20, 22)     | - Research methodology<br>- Literature review and references                                                   |
| <b>3</b><br>(Jan 27, 29)     | - Data sources<br>- Library sources and reference style<br>- STATA workshop                                    |
| <b>4</b><br>(Feb 3, 5)       | - Overview of topics in development economics<br>- Discuss and comment on assigned journal articles            |
| <b>5</b><br>(Feb 10, 12)     | - Submit research topic and main reference paper<br>- Students present main reference paper and exchange ideas |
| <b>6</b><br>(Feb 17, 19)     | - Writing a research proposal<br>- Data analysis and data presentation                                         |
| <b>7</b><br>(Feb 24, 26)     | - Submit and present research proposal<br>- Critique each other's work and exchange ideas                      |
| <b>8</b>                     | <b>MIDTERM WEEK</b>                                                                                            |
| <b>9</b><br>(Mar 10, 12)     | - Conceptual framework<br>- Case study                                                                         |
| <b>10</b><br>(Mar 17, 19)    | - Submit and present progress report I<br>- Critique and exchange ideas                                        |
| <b>11</b><br>(Mar 24, 26)    | - Selected empirical strategies<br>- Case study                                                                |
| <b>12</b><br>(Mar 31, Apr 2) | - Follow up with research progress<br>- Individual discussion with instructor                                  |
| <b>13</b><br>(Apr 7, 9)      | - Submit and present progress report II<br>- Critique and exchange ideas                                       |
| <b>14</b><br>(Apr 16, 21)    | - Follow up with research progress<br>- Individual discussion with instructor                                  |

|                              |                                                                                    |
|------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <b>15</b><br>(Apr 23, 28)    | - Students submit and present draft final report.<br>- Critique and exchange ideas |
| <b>16</b><br>(Apr 30, May 7) | - Submit final report after revision                                               |

Note: The class schedule shown above may be adjusted during the semester as needed.

### **Assessment:**

|                                              |             |
|----------------------------------------------|-------------|
| <b>Referee Report</b>                        | <b>20 %</b> |
| <b>Presentations and Class Participation</b> | <b>20 %</b> |
| <b>Research Paper</b>                        | <b>60 %</b> |
| Research Proposal                            | 10%         |
| Progress Report I                            | 10%         |
| Progress Report II                           | 10%         |
| Draft Final Report                           | 10%         |
| Final Report                                 | 20%         |

### **Referee Report**

Students are asked to write a referee report, which is a summary and critique of a journal article of their own choosing (under the instructor's guidance). This article should be used as the main reference for the research paper. The referee report should be 1.5-space with 12 font size, and it should not exceed 2 pages (excluding reference page).

### **Presentations and Class Participation**

Students will present their referee reports, research proposals, progress reports, and draft final reports to class. Other students are encouraged to ask questions and provide constructive comments to the presenter.

For selected topics or case studies, students are required to read the assigned readings before coming to class, discuss the readings, and contribute useful comments.

### **Research Paper**

Research paper will be assessed based on five components.

1. Research Proposal: Topic, statement of problem, objective, literature review, data, and methodology
2. Progress Report I = Research Proposal (revised) + Descriptive Statistics
3. Progress Report II = Progress Report I (revised) + Preliminary Results
4. Draft Final Report = Progress Report II (revised) + Conclusion & Discussion
5. Final Report = Draft Final Report (revised)

## **Important Dates:**

- |                                    |                     |
|------------------------------------|---------------------|
| ◆ Second semester begins           | January 12, 2015    |
| ◆ Period of withdrawal without “W” | January 12-26, 2015 |
| ◆ Period of withdrawal with “W”    | March 18-23, 2015   |
| ◆ Last day of class                | May 10, 2015        |

*Last updated – January 7, 2015.*