



B.E. International Program

Faculty of Economics, Thammasat University



Course Outline

EE 469 Seminar in Development Economics

Semester: 2/2011(January 9 to April 29, 2012)
Instructor: Dr. William A. McCleary (Room 448; acharnbill@econ.tu.ac.th)
Time: Tuesday and Thursday, 12:30-14:00 hrs.
Venue: Room 205, Faculty of Economics

Prerequisites:

(Curriculum 2004) EE461 and completion of at least one 400-level field-3 to field-9 subjects

(Curriculum 2009) Completion of at least two 400-level courses in Development Economics.

A. Course Description

This is a seminar course in which students, working either individually or in small groups, are encouraged to explore more deeply into the experience of developing countries, especially the reasons for differential performance. During this semester, students will participate in two papers/presentations. For their first paper/project, students will form groups of two persons and investigate several key issues in globalization: (1) why do some countries grow while other countries stagnate; what can countries do to accelerate growth?; (2) how effective is economic growth in reducing poverty and can countries adopt development strategies that are more pro-poor?; and (3) from a more micro perspective what are the difficulties encountered in attempts to assist people in rising from poverty and what difficulties to governments and other agencies face in trying to provide assistance. The second paper/project will be done individually and students will be asked to investigate subjects of their own choosing.

B. Course Evaluation

- First Paper/Project 40 %
- Second Paper/Project 30 %
- Presentations and Class Participation 30 %

C. Background Books and Textbooks on Economic Development

- Cypher, J.M. and Dietz, J.L. The Process of Economic Development (Routledge; 2nd Edition; 2004)
- Perkins, Radelet, Snodgrass, Gillis and Roemer The Economics of Development (Sixth Edition; W.W. Norton; 2006).
- Secondi, G.(ed.) The Development Economics Reader (Routledge; 2008)
- Szirmai, E. The Dynamics of Socio-Economic Development (Cambridge; 2005)
- Todaro, M. and Smith, S. Economic Development (Tenth Edition; Addison-Wesley; 2008).

D. Key Books on Economic Growth and Anti-Poverty Policies

- Collier, Paul The Bottom Billion- Why the Poorest Countries Are Failing and What Can Be Done About It(Oxford University Press;2007)
- Dadush, Uri and Shaw , William Juggernaut – How Emerging Markets Are Reshaping Globalization (Carnegie Endowment for International Peace;2011)
- Dowling, John M. and Yap, Chin-Fang Chronic Poverty in Asia: Causes ,Consequences , and Policies (World Scientific Publishing Co.; 2009)
- Easterly, W. The White Man’s Burden- Why the West’s Efforts to Aid the Rest Have Done So Much Ill and So Little Good(The Penguin Press; 2006)
- Easterly, W. The Elusive Quest for Growth: Economists’ Adventures and Misadventures in the Tropics (MIT Press,; 2001)
- Rodrik, Dani In Search of Prosperity: Analytic Narratives on Economic Growth (Princeton University Press;2003)
- Rodrik, Dani One Economics, Many Recipes (Princeton University Press, 2007)
- Sachs, Jeffrey The End of Poverty- How We Can Make It Happen in Our Lifetime (Penguin, 2005)

- Sachs, Jeffrey Common Wealth-Economics for a Crowded Planet (Allen Lane, Penguin Books; 2008)
- Spence, Michael The Next Convergence- The Future of Economic Growth in a Multispeed World (Farrar, Strauss, and Giroux; 2011)
- World Bank Economic Growth in the 1990s: Learning from a Decade of Reform (Washington, DC; 2005)
- World Bank The Growth Report: Strategies for Sustained Growth and Inclusive Development (Washington,DC;2008)
- World Development Report 2000/2001 Attacking Poverty (World Bank;2001)
- World Development Report 2004 Making Services Work for Poor People (World Bank;2003)
- World Development Report 2006 Equity and Development (World Bank; 2005)

E. Sources of Data/Information

- World Bank World Development Report(annual)
- World Bank World Development Indicators(annual; for data online see <http://www.data.worldbank.org>)
- 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>
- Central Intelligence Agency(CIA),World Factbook
<http://www.odci.gov/cia/publications/factbook/index/html>
- Institute for International Economics <http://www.iie.com>
- Institute for International Finance <http://www.iif.com>
- International Development Research Center(IDRC, Canada)
<http://www.idrc.ca/library/world>
- Institute for Development Studies(Sussex University, UK)
<http://www.ids.ac.uk/ids/>
- Asian Crisis <http://www.stern.nyu.edu/globalmacro>
- Asian Development Bank <http://www.aric.adb.org>
- World Trade Organization <http://www.wto.org>
- National Bureau of Economic Research <http://www.nber.org>

- Penn World Tables <http://pwt.econ.upenn.edu/>

Further Suggestions on Data and Information

1. **World Bank:** on its home page click the “countries and regions” button and then choose whatever country you wish. On the Country’s page you will usually find reference to things like Country Briefs, or Poverty Reduction Strategies, or Millenium Development Goals, any or all of which could be useful to a your papers or projects. Clicking on the “Data and Statistics” button on the country page will get you summary statistics, country profiles and data for country-at-a-glance(which is usually for years like 2004, 2005, 2006, 2007 and sometimes for a more recent year and sometimes going all the way back to 1980 for some indicators). If you click Publications and Reports” button on the country page you will get reports on the country which includes formal World Bank reports and also research; note that there are often sub-categories here and so you may have to choose whatever is useful to your subject.
2. **IMF:** on its home page there is a section where you can click on the first letter for any country and thereby get access to a number of IMF reports, research papers, news releases, etc. on that country. Look for things like Standby Arrangements, Article IV Consultations, and Poverty Reduction and Growth Facility (e.g. by practice a Poverty Reduction Strategy Paper must accompany any country’s request for borrowing from the Facility); all such papers are likely to contain useful data and analysis for your papers/projects. Also look for papers called for example “Country X: Selected Topics” which often contain special papers of interest.
3. **Other Sources:** the above will get you started but , with some exceptions, its pretty much a World Bank/IMF view of the world. To get alternative views or different slants on things, you need to search around for academics and research organizations. Dani Rodrik and Joseph Stiglitz and William Easterly all tend at times to produce contrarian views. The Institute for International Economics and the Center for Economic Policy Research(see above for their websites) both tend to produce quite good research and have been quite critical of the IMF, especially in Latin America. Similarly the Center for Global Development at times is quite critical of the Washington Consensus, the World Bank and foreign aid. Also the regional development banks – such as the Asian or African Development Banks are possible sources of data and analysis. If you get really stuck you can always go to Google: put in the name of any country that interests you as “country + economic development” and see what happens; its amazing but more often than not you will get something useful out of this.