



# B.E. International Program

## Faculty of Economics, Thammasat University



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### Course Outline

#### EE 469 Seminar in Development Economics

Semester 2/2016 (January 18 – May 14, 2016)

**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 15 (60th anniversary annex),  
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*.
- Belcher, W. L. 2009. *Writing Your Journal Article in Twelve Weeks: A Guide to Academic Publishing Success*.

### **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/Blogs**

- World Bank <http://www.worldbank.org/>
- World Bank Blog <http://blogs.worldbank.org/> ; <http://blogs.worldbank.org/impactevaluations/>
- 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> (Jan 19, 21)	- Course overview - Introduction to research in development economics
<b>2</b> (Jan 26, 28)	- Research methodology - Literature review and references
<b>3</b> (Feb 2, 4)	- Data sources - Library sources and reference style - STATA workshop
<b>4</b> (Feb 9, 11)	- Overview of topics in development economics - Discuss and comment on assigned journal articles
<b>5</b> (Feb 16, 18)	- Submit research topic and main reference paper - Students present main reference papers (referee reports) and exchange ideas
<b>6</b> (Feb 23, 25)	- Writing a research proposal - Data analysis and data presentation
<b>7</b> (Mar 1, 3)	- Submit and present research proposal (Feb 28) - Critique each other's work and exchange ideas
<b>8</b>	<b>MIDTERM WEEK</b>
<b>9</b> (Mar 15, 17)	- Conceptual framework - Case study
<b>10</b> (Mar 22, 24)	- Submit and present progress report I (March 20) - Critique and exchange ideas
<b>11</b> (Mar 29, 31)	- Selected empirical strategies - Case study
<b>12</b> (Apr 5, 7)	- Follow up with research progress - Individual discussion with instructor
<b>13</b> (Apr 19, 21)	- Submit and present progress report II (April 17) - Critique and exchange ideas
<b>14</b>	- Follow up with research progress

(Apr 26, 28)	- Individual discussion with instructor
<b>15</b> (May 3, 10)	- Students submit and present draft final report (May 1) - Critique and exchange ideas
<b>16</b> (May 12)	- 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)

For each component of the research paper, students are required to submit their draft to the instructor and their assigned discussant 2 days prior to their presentations in class. Failing to do so may result in some partial score deductions.

### **Important Dates:**

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|------------------------------------|-------------------------------|
| ◆ Second semester begins           | January 18, 2016              |
| ◆ Period of withdrawal without “W” | January 18 – February 1, 2016 |
| ◆ Period of withdrawal with “W”    | March 23-28, 2016             |
| ◆ Last day of class                | May 14, 2016                  |

*Last updated – January 4, 2016.*