



# B.E. International Program

## Faculty of Economics, Thammasat University



### *Course Syllabus*

#### **EE468 Development Economics: Selected Topics / EE 468 Integrated Public Economics, Development and Political Economics**

<b>Semester:</b>	2/2011 (January 9 – May 20, 2012)
<b>Instructors:</b>	Assist. Prof. Dr. Duangmanee Laovakul Room 459, 4 <sup>th</sup> fl, Faculty of Economics Office Hours: By appointment E-mail: <a href="mailto:duangmanee@econ.tu.ac.th">duangmanee@econ.tu.ac.th</a>  Dr. Supruet Thavornyutikarn Room 5, 4 <sup>th</sup> fl, 60 <sup>th</sup> year Building Office Hours: Wed 10.00 – 12.00 hrs or by appointment E-mail: <a href="mailto:supruet@econ.tu.ac.th">supruet@econ.tu.ac.th</a>
<b>Time &amp; Venue:</b>	Wednesday, 14.00 – 17.00 hrs, Room 303, Faculty of Economics

*EE468 Development Economics: Selected Topics (Curriculum 2004)*

*Prerequisite: By lecturer's consent*

*EE468 Integrated Public Economics, Development and Political Economics (Curriculum 2009)*

*Prerequisite: EE311 and having completed at least 60 credits*

#### **Course Descriptions:**

The integration of public economics development and political economics concepts, through case studies or current situations; Enhancing student ability to link and apply the economic theories in this subject area to analyze the situations and problems arising in Thailand or in the world economy; Encouraging student learning through current situations, with the emphases on causes, nature, and effects of the problems using economic theories as tools to explain as well as analyze the roles of the market, public sector and community in problems solving with consideration of institutional factors underlying the economic and political structure, culture, and history.

#### **Class Arrangement:**

Due to the nature of the course, it would be arranged based on discussions of raised issues. The participation of students is crucial in order to achieve a fruitful discussion. The class arrangement is as follows:

i) Both lecturers do teach together and one of them is responsible for a particular topic/issue of the corresponding week.

ii) A main responsibility of lecturers is not lecturing but facilitating the discussion. Principally, a student who is responsible for that topic/issue shall present the summary of the topic. Lecturers and non-presenting students shall participate by asking, adding, arguing, exchanging facts and information, and summarising relevant and important matters resulting from the discussion.

iii) A student who is responsible for a particular topic/issue is the host of the discussion. Prior to the presentation, a student shall extensively study, research, and analyse that topic before presenting it to the class. The presentation shall include (a) the background of that topic, (b) important details on the topic, (c) relevant arguments on the topic, and (d) policy recommendation. The written summary shall be submitted by the presenter. Non-presenting students are obliged to submit reflection on the discussion.

iv) An expert in particular topics/issues may be invited as a guest lecturer and to participate in the discussion.

### Assessments:

Hosting the discussion	20	percent
Participation (during discussion and writing reflections)	20	percent
Book Review*	20	percent
Term Paper on Self-selected Topic	20	percent
<i>(This requires students to make the actual field observation and the topic shall not be the same as in classes. The paper shall not exceed 15 pages A4.)</i>		
Final Examination (May 19, 2012, 09.00-12.00 hrs.)	20	percent

### Remarks:

◆ Second semester begins	Jan. 9, 2012
◆ Period of withdrawal without “W”	Jan. 9-23, 2012
◆ Mid-Term Examination	Feb. 27 – March 3, 2012
◆ Last day of withdrawal with “W”	March 21, 2012
◆ Last day of class	Apr. 29, 2012
◆ Final Examination	May 4 - 20, 2012

### Topics:

<u>Week 1</u>	11 Jan	Introduction
<u>Week 2</u>	18 Jan	Hayek & Keynes <a href="http://www.npr.org/2011/11/15/142307737/austrian-school-economist-hayek-finds-new-fans">http://www.npr.org/2011/11/15/142307737/austrian-school-economist-hayek-finds-new-fans</a> <a href="http://www.npr.org/2011/11/16/142348310/keynes-consuming-ideas-on-economic-intervention">http://www.npr.org/2011/11/16/142348310/keynes-consuming-ideas-on-economic-intervention</a> <a href="http://youtu.be/d0nERTFo-Sk">http://youtu.be/d0nERTFo-Sk</a>
<u>Week 3</u>	25 Jan	Poverty and Income Distribution
<u>Week 4</u>	1 Feb	Micro Finance and Community
<u>Week 5</u>	8 Feb	Military Spending, Budgetary Process, and Political Intervention
<u>Week 6</u>	15 Feb	Fiscal Reform
<u>Week 7</u>	22 Feb	Corruption
Midterm Week		
<u>Week 8</u>	14 Mar	Book Review: Presentations and Discussions
<u>Week 9</u>	21 Mar	Decentralization

<u>Week 10</u>	28 Mar	Regulatory Quality of Water Sector
<u>Week 11</u>	4 Apr	Labour Standards and Qualification towards AEC
<u>Week 12</u>	11 Apr	Social Welfare
<u>Week 13</u>	18 Apr	Evaluation and Analysis of Current Government Economic Policies towards Social Justice
<u>Week 14</u>	25 Apr	Presentation of Term Papers and Discussions

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## Book Review

### Justice: What's the Right Thing to Do?

Michael J. Sandel

#### Book Description

“For Michael Sandel, justice is not a spectator sport,” *The Nation’s* reviewer of *Justice* remarked. In his acclaimed book—based on his legendary Harvard course—Sandel offers a rare education in thinking through the complicated issues and controversies we face in public life today. It has emerged as a most lucid and engaging guide for those who yearn for a more robust and thoughtful public discourse. “In terms we can all understand,” wrote Jonathan Rauch in *The New York Times*, *Justice* “confronts us with the concepts that lurk . . . beneath our conflicts.”

Affirmative action, same-sex marriage, physician-assisted suicide, abortion, national service, the moral limits of markets—Sandel relates the big questions of political philosophy to the most vexing issues of the day, and shows how a surer grasp of philosophy can help us make sense of politics, morality, and our own convictions as well.

*Justice* is lively, thought-provoking, and wise—an essential new addition to the small shelf of books that speak convincingly to the hard questions of our civic life.

#### Review

“This book is absolutely indispensable for anyone who wants to be a good citizen. It shows how to balance competing values, a talent our nation desperately needs nowadays.” —Walter Isaacson, author of *Benjamin Franklin: An American Life*

“More than exhilarating; exciting in its ability to persuade this student/reader, time and again, that the principle now being invoked—on this page, in this chapter—is the one to deliver the sufficiently inclusive guide to the making of a decent life.”— Vivian Gornick, *Boston Review*

“Sandel explains theories of justice...with clarity and immediacy; the ideas of Aristotle, Jeremy Bentham, Immanuel Kant, John Stuart Mill, Robert Nozick and John Rawls have rarely, if ever, been set out as accessibly... In terms we can all understand, ‘Justice’ confronts us with the concepts that lurk, so often unacknowledged, beneath our conflicts.”— Jonathan Rauch, *New York Times*

“Sandel dazzles in this sweeping survey of hot topics.... Erudite, conversational and deeply humane, this is truly transformative reading.”— Publishers Weekly, starred review

“A spellbinding philosopher.... For Michael Sandel, justice is not a spectator sport.... He is calling for nothing less than a reinvigoration of citizenship.”— Samuel Moyn, *The Nation*

“Michael Sandel, perhaps the most prominent college professor in America,...practices the best kind of academic populism, managing to simplify John Stuart Mill and John Rawls without being simplistic. But Sandel is best at what he calls bringing ‘moral clarity to the alternatives we confront as democratic citizens’.... He ends up clarifying a basic political divide — not between left and right, but between those who recognize nothing greater than individual rights and choices, and those who affirm a ‘politics of the common good,’ rooted in moral beliefs that can’t be ignored.”— Michael Gerson, *Washington Post*

“*Justice*, the new volume from superstar Harvard political philosopher Michael Sandel, showcases the thinking on public morality that has made him one of the most sought-after lecturers in the world.”— Richard Reeves, *Democracy*

“Hard cases may make bad laws, but in Michael Sandel’s hands they produce some cool philosophy.... *Justice* is a timely plea for us to desist from political bickering and see if we can have a sensible discussion about what sort of society we really want to live in.”— Jonathan Ree, *The Observer* (London)

“Every once in a while, a book comes along of such grace, power, and wit that it entralls us with a yearning to know what justice is. This is such a book.”— Jeffrey Abramson, *Texas Law Review*

“Using a compelling, entertaining mix of hypotheticals, news stories, episodes from history, pop-culture tidbits, literary examples, legal cases and teachings from the great philosophers—principally, Aristotle, Kant, Bentham, Mill and Rawls—Sandel takes on a variety of controversial issues—abortion, same-sex marriage, affirmative action—and forces us to confront our own

assumptions, biases and lazy thought.... Sparkling commentary from the professor we all wish we had.”— Kirkus Reviews, starred review

“Michael Sandel is...one of the world’s most interesting political philosophers. Politicians and commentators tend to ask two questions of policy: will it make voters better off, and will it affect their liberty? Sandel rightly points out the shallowness of that debate and adds a third criterion: how will it affect the common good?”— Guardian

“Michael Sandel transforms moral philosophy by putting it at the heart of civic debate.... Sandel’s insistence on the inescapably ethical character of political debate is enormously refreshing.”— Edward Skidelsky, *New Statesman*

“A remarkable educational achievement.... Generations of students and educated citizens will be very well served by Sandel’s introductory overviews.”— Amitai Etzioni, *Hedgehog Review*

“Reading ‘Justice’ by Michael Sandel is an intoxicating invitation to take apart and examine how we arrive at our notions of right and wrong....This is enlivening stuff. Sandel is not looking to win an argument; he’s looking at how a citizen might best engage the public realm.”— Karen R. Long, *Cleveland Plain Dealer*

“A road map for negotiating modern moral dilemmas... For those seeking a short course through moral philosophy from a witty writer, fast on his feet, and nimble with his pen, this thin volume is difficult to beat.”— Kevin J. Hamilton, *Seattle Times*

“Michael Sandel, political philosopher and public intellectual, is a liberal, but not the annoying sort. His aim is not to boss people around but to bring them around to the pleasures of thinking clearly about large questions of social policy. Reading this lucid book is like taking his famous undergraduate course ‘Justice’ without the tiresome parts, such as term papers and exams.”— George F. Will, syndicated columnist

“Justice is Sandel at his finest: no matter what your views are, his delightful style will draw you in, and he’ll then force you to rethink your assumptions and challenge you to question accepted ways of thinking. He calls us to a better way of doing politics, and a more enriching way of living our lives.”— E. J. Dionne, syndicated columnist

"There have been various attempts over the decades to bury moral philosophy -- to dismiss convictions about right and wrong as cultural prejudices, or secretions of the brain, or matters so personal they shouldn't even affect our private lives. But moral questions always return, as puzzles and as tragedies. Would we push a hefty man onto a railroad track to save the lives of five others? Should Petty Officer 1st Class Marcus Luttrell, in June of 2005, have executed a group of Afghan goatherds who, having stumbled on his position, might inform the enemy about his unit? (Luttrell let them go, the Taliban attacked, and three of his comrades died.) These examples and others -- price-gouging after Hurricane Katrina, affirmative action, gay marriage -- are all grist for the teaching of Michael Sandel, perhaps the most prominent college professor in America. His popular class at Harvard -- Moral Reasoning 22: Justice -- attracts about a sixth of all undergraduates. For those lacking \$49,000 a year in tuition and board, he has written "Justice: What's the Right Thing to Do?" which has been further translated into a PBS series and a Web site, [JusticeHarvard.org](http://JusticeHarvard.org)."--Michael Gerson, *The Wall Street Journal*

### **About the Author**

Michael J. Sandel is the Anne T. and Robert M. Bass Professor of Government at Harvard University, where he has taught since 1980. He has taught his undergraduate course “Justice” to more than 15,000 Harvard students over the years, and video footage of the course was adapted into a PBS television series. Sandel graduated summa cum laude from Brandeis University and received his doctorate from Oxford University, where he was a Rhodes Scholar. He served on the George W. Bush administration's President's Council on Bioethics. He lives in Brookline, Massachusetts.