



Syllabus

Development Economics I: Macro Issues in Economic Development

(Entwicklungsökonomik I: Makrofragen wirtschaftlicher Entwicklung)

Winter semester 2020/21

(as of October 15, 2020)

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1. General information

1.1 Course content

This course provides an overview of development economics, with particular emphasis on macro issues in economic development. The most important topics to be covered are the measurement and meaning of economic development, theoretical and empirical growth research, trade and development,

poverty, inequality, development cooperation, environmental problems, capital flows, and foreign debt. More specifically, the course covers the following topics:

1.	What is development? An introduction	November 4
2.	Income measures of development	November 11
3.	Alternative measures of development	November 18
4.	History of underdevelopment	November 25
5.	Growth theory	December 2
6.	Growth empirics	December 9
7.	The role of the state in economic development	December 16
8.	Development and inequality	January 13
9.	Sustainable development	January 20
10.	Globalization and development	January 27
11.	Debt and financial crises	February 3
12.	Development aid	February 10

1.2 Course goals

The course will provide participants with the theoretical foundations of various approaches to economic development; equip participants with the basic techniques and concepts to analyze growth with empirical methods and to test alternative theories; allow participants to grasp the core implications of one theory versus another and to derive from that the contrasting policy implications; and provide students with an overview over some of the main debates in development economics.

1.3 Prerequisites

No formal requirements, but knowledge in the following areas is highly recommended: microeconomics, macroeconomics, and econometrics at the Bachelor level.

1.4 Credit points

6 ECTS-LP (lecture: 2 SWS; exercise session: 2 SWS).

1.5 Registration

Please register via FlexNow.

2. Course overview

2.1 Description of the teaching and learning methods

The lecture is supplemented by self-study based on provided materials and literature. The accompanying exercise session deepens the analytical concepts, applies them to practical examples, and discusses the experiences of individual countries. **The course language is English.**

This course is part of a three-course cycle on development economics (Development Economics I-III). For students in the MSc Development Economics, the first two are required and the third is optional. For students in the MSc International Economics, it is recommended to take at least I or II if they would like to follow a specialization in development economics.

2.2 Meetings

This course is planned to take place **on campus (ZHG008)** under the University's regulations and measures for protection against infection. We plan to **livestream** this class on Stud.IP (tab "Meetings") via Big Blue Button so that you can also participate from home if you cannot make it to the classroom. We will also provide the recordings of each lecture (but not of the guest lecture and tutorials). Please register on Stud.IP for both the lecture and for the exercise session as soon as possible so that you will receive all information on digital meetings and on possible changes due to the current situation (coronavirus).

Lecture (*Vorlesung*):

- Each Wednesday, 8:30-10:00 (s.t.), ZHG008
- First lecture: Wednesday, November 4, 2020
- Last lecture: Wednesday, February 10, 2021
- There will be no lecture on Wednesday, December 23

Guest lecture (*Gastvortrag*):

- Digital Development Dialogue (3D seminar) by Martin Kores (KfW) and Michael Cooke (GiveDirectly): "Coordination and Implementation of the COVID Programs," November 26, 15:00-16:00 s.t.

Weekly exercise session (*Übung*):

- Option 1 (on campus): each Thursday, 16:30-18:00 (s.t.), ZHG008
- Option 2 (on campus): each Thursday, 18:30-20:00 (s.t.), ZHG008
- Option 3 (online on Stud.IP via Big Blue Button): each Friday, 14:00-16:00
- First exercise session: Thursday, November 12, 2020
- Last exercise session: Friday, February 11, 2021

Q&A session prior to second exam:

- - Wednesday, March 24, 8:30-10:00 (s.t.), on Stud.IP via Big Blue Button

Communication:

- Instead of emails, we will use the two communication fora on Stud.IP (one for content-related and one for organizational questions)

2.3 Examination and grading of the module

Due to the current situation, please register on Stud.IP as soon as possible so that you will receive all information.

Final exam (duration: 90 minutes) [6C]

- First exam date: February 17, 2021, 8:00-10:00 (online)
- Second exam date: April 7, 2021, 10:00-12:00 (online)

IMPORTANT: In order to be admitted to the exam, the following prerequisites must be completed: Submission of six task sheets (of sufficient quality) out of nine. Please note that no submission is possible in the first and last exercise session.

2.4 Course materials

- Todaro, Michael P., and Stephen C. Smith (2015). *Economic Development*, 12th Edition. Harlow: Person Education.
- Perkins, Dwight H., Steven Radelet, David D. Lindauer, and Steven A. Block (2012) *Economics of Development*, 7th Edition. New York & London: W.W. Norton.
- The required and recommended readings on each topic will be announced in the reading list.
- All lecture slides and exercise questions will be published on Stud.IP.

Note: Dates and contents subject to change!