

AGEC 340 – International Economic Development

Course Syllabus and Assignments

Spring Semester, 2016

Dr. Jacob Ricker-Gilbert

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2:00 – 3:00pm, or by appointment

Course Information

Spring Semester, 2015
Tuesday and Thursday, 12:00 to 1:15PM
WTHR 172

TA: Albert Alwang

Office: Krannert 634
Email: aalwang@purdue.edu
Office Hours: Monday & Wednesday
3:30-4:30pm, or by appointment

Course Description

This course provides an overview of economic development around the world. We use the general principles of economics to analyze how societies change over time and differ across regions, from the poorest countries in Africa, South Asia and Central America to the wealthiest in Europe, North America, East Asia and the Pacific. The key objective of this class is to prepare students for careers in business or the public sector, through greater familiarity with the causes and consequences of economic growth, globalization and development. As the world becomes more interconnected, what happens in other parts of the world will greatly impact you throughout your professional lives.

Pre-requisites

We use standard English, high-school geometry and common-sense logic. The only prerequisite is a first course in the principles of economics, such as AGECE 217, or ECON 210 or 251 or 252, to gain familiarity with the terminology, but what you need to do well in this course is to take notes in class, read the text, do assignments carefully and review these thoughtfully before the midterm and final exams.

Recommended Text

Our textbook is *The Economics of Agricultural Development 3rd Edition*, by George W. Norton, Jeffrey Alwang and William A. Masters (Routledge, 2015). Students may also use the 2nd edition. The text focuses on agriculture in economic development, but class discussion will cover both agricultural and non-agricultural topics. This text is recommended but not required.

I have placed two copies of the text book on two hour reserve at the Krannert Library on the second floor of the building.

Required Book

The book *Hunger and Hope* by George Norton a required book for the class. The book is a compliment to the text and other information in class. It provides insights and real word examples of challenges and opportunities in the developing world. I think that you will find this an enjoyable and easy read. We will reference the book throughout the semester and there will be questions related to the book on quizzes and the exams.

I-Clickers

Everyone is required to have an I-Clicker to take this course. You may use the old or new version clicker. **You should bring your clicker with you to every class and you are responsible for making sure it works properly.** The main purpose of the clicker is for you to participate in the in-class exercises that will occur in almost every class. These exercises are intended to reinforce concepts and engage all students in the class. The second purpose of the clickers is that starting in the second week, they will be used to take attendance during the clicker exercises we do in class.

Having a clicker that does not work on a given day or forgetting your clicker means that you will not get attendance credit for that day. You can miss up to three classes after which absences will have a negative effect on your attendance grade.

You will need to register your clicker on Blackboard using the link provided in the AGEC 340 folder in order to get attendance points for the class.

If you cannot register your clicker because the identification number is not visible you need to go to the i-clicker support center (Stewart Center G-65). They can look up your registration number.

BoilerCast

Lectures will be recorded and afterwards will be available as video via Boilercast. The videos will be in i-tunes format and can be accessed through Blackboard.

Lecture Slides

I will post modified lecture slides the night before class on Blackboard. You may print these slides out and bring them to class if you choose. Theses slides are missing details that will need to fill in during class. If you miss some information you can ask a classmate or listen to the Boilercast after class.

I will post the full slides one week before the midterm and two weeks before the final.

Course Requirements

Almost every week we will have either an in-class quiz or a homework exercise. There will be also be two exams. Cumulative scores during the semester will be posted on Blackboard/Learn. The general principles include mastery of the material and relative performance, with each type of work counting for the following number of points:

Quizzes (best 4 out of 6)	200
Exercises (best 4 out of 5)	200
Midterm exam	250
Final exam	250
Attendance	100
Total	1000

There is no extra credit given for this class.

Final grades will be assigned according to the following +/- scale:

Grade	GPA Value	Percentage
A+	4.0	97.0-100
A	4.0	93.0-96.9
A-	3.7	90.0-92.9
B+	3.3	87.0-89.9
B	3.0	83.0-86.9
B-	2.7	80.0-82.9
C+	2.3	77.0-79.9
C	2.0 NOTE: 73.0=lowest passing score for the Pass/No Pass grade option	73.0-76.9
C-	1.7	70.0-72.9
D+	1.3	67.0-69.9
D	1.0	63.0-66.9
D-	0.7	60.0-62.9
F	0.0	< 60.0

Quizzes: There will be six quizzes in class on Thursdays, covering basic concepts and facts from the class discussion, textbook, and book. For the course grade, your two lowest quiz score (perhaps a zero, in the case of an absence) will be dropped from the average, so we will count only four quizzes at 50 points each. **There are no makeup quizzes.**

Homework: There will be five homework exercises due in class (usually on Thursdays), giving practical examples of the most important concepts from the course. The exercises are based on specific examples to solve real-world problems, so there will be numerical calculations. You may work together, but each person is responsible for turning in his or her own answers. Each of these exercises counts as 50 points, and the best 4 out of 5 exercises will be counted. You will have one week to complete the homework assignments. Homework is due during class and must be turned in at that time. **Late homework is not accepted.**

Exams: Midterm exam will be given in class. It covers the first half of the course and counts for 250 points. The Final will cover the entire course, and also counts for 250 points. **There are no makeup dates for exams except in extreme circumstances.**

Policies

Academic Integrity

University policy on academic dishonesty is clear: academic dishonesty in any form is strictly prohibited. Anyone found to be cheating or helping someone else cheat will be referred directly to the Dean of Students for disciplinary action. Penalties are severe and may include failing the course and/or dismissal from the University. The risks associated with cheating far outweigh the perceived benefits. Academic dishonesty includes using "cheat sheets", sharing your answers with someone else, or using someone else's clicker to gain attendance points for them. If you are unsure whether your planned action constitutes academic dishonesty, seek clarification from your instructor. Other information regarding your rights and responsibilities as a student is contained in the Purdue University Code of Conduct.

Cell phones

You are expected to power down or put your cell phone on silent at the beginning of every class. I do not want to compete with your cell phone for your attention. Please put them away during class lectures. **Cell phones must be put away during quizzes and exams.** Anyone visibly holding a cell phone during an examination will be in violation of academic integrity.

Attendance

Attending class is required and central to your success. Starting the second week of class I will take attendance through the exercises we do using clickers. If you miss up to three classes your grade will not be affected and you will get full attendance credit. Attendance counts for 100 points toward your grade, so each class you miss starting after the third absence will cause you to lose 4 points from the 100 total points. If you miss class regularly your grade will be severely affected, and you will likely miss quizzes and the opportunity to hand in homework which cannot be made up. On the other hand, coming to class is an easy way to get full credit for 10% of your grade. **Think of your attendance grade as your extra credit.**

See also <http://www.purdue.edu/odos/services/classabsence.php>

Missed or Late Work

Exam and quizzes must be taken at the time specified in the syllabus. **I do not give make up quizzes or accept late homework.** Students who do not show up for quizzes, exams or come to class to hand in homework will receive a grade of zero for the quiz, exam or assignment. Exams can only be made up in cases of illness with a medical excuse, or other severe circumstances. I will do my best to accommodate these situations.

Communication

Please note that my primary out-of-class method of communication will be via email to your Purdue email address (not through Blackboard). I will not generally attempt to contact you at email addresses other than your Purdue email address. It is your responsibility to check for mail on a regular basis. I recommend checking your Purdue email account at least once every 24 hours. If you email me, I will do my best to respond to you within 24 hours. **When you email me please put AGEC 340 as part of the subject, so I do not miss it.**

Students with Disabilities

I am happy to accommodate students with disabilities. If you have a disability that requires academic adjustments, please make an appointment to meet with me during the first week of classes to discuss your needs. Please note that university policy requires all students with disabilities to be registered with [Adaptive Programs](#) in the [Office of the Dean of Students](#) before classroom accommodations can be provided. It is your responsibility to register with Adaptive programs.

Emergencies

In the event of a major campus emergency, course requirements, deadlines and grading percentages are subject to changes that may be necessitated by a revised semester calendar or other circumstances beyond the instructor's control. Relevant changes to this course will be posted onto the course website or can be obtained by contacting the instructors or TA via email or phone. You are expected to read your @purdue.edu email on a frequent basis.

To report an emergency, call 911. To obtain updates regarding an ongoing emergency, sign up for Purdue Alert text messages, view www.purdue.edu/ea. There are nearly 300 Emergency Telephones outdoors across campus and in parking garages that connect directly to the PUPD. If you feel threatened or need help, push the button and you will be connected immediately.

If we hear a fire alarm during class we will immediately suspend class, evacuate the building, and proceed outdoors. Do not use the elevator. If we are notified during class of a Shelter in Place requirement for a tornado warning, we will suspend class and shelter in the basement. If we are notified during class of a Shelter in Place requirement for a hazardous materials release, or a civil disturbance, including a shooting or other use of weapons, we will suspend class and shelter in the classroom, shutting the door and turning off the lights.

Please review the Emergency Preparedness website for additional information. http://www.purdue.edu/ehps/emergency_preparedness/index.html

Class Schedule (Note: schedule is tentative and subject to change)

PART 1. WHAT IS INTERNATIONAL ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT?

Week 1: Overview

1/12

1/14

*Read chapter 1 text**Read Prologue pgs. 2-6 H&H*

Week 2: Poverty, malnutrition, and Income Growth

1/19

1/21

*Read ch. 2 text; ch. 1, 3 & 4 H&H***Quiz #1**

Week 3: Economics of Food Demand & Consumption

1/26

1/28

*Read ch. 3 text;***Hw. #1 due**

Week 4: Population Growth & Demographic transition

2/02

2/04

*Read ch. 4 text; ch. 2 & 7 H&H***Quiz #2**

PART 2. AGRICULTURE & ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

Week 5: Structural transformation & Economic Growth

2/09

2/11

*Read ch. 5 text; Prologue pgs. 6-11**H&H*

Week 6: Agriculture in Developing Countries

2/16

2/18

*Read ch. 7 & 10 text; ch. 6 & 10 H&H***Hw. #2 due**

Week 7: What drives growth?

2/23

2/25

*Read ch. 11 & 12; ch. 13 & 14 H&H***Quiz #3**

Week 8: Is growth sustainable?

3/01

3/03

*Read ch. 9, 13 & 14; ch. 5 H&H***Hw. #3 due**

Week 9: Review and Exam 1

3/08 Midterm exam in class; review for exam in class on 3/03 or outside of classroom hours

---Spring Break---

3/15 & 3/17

PART 3. MARKETS AND GOVERNMENT POLICIES**Week 11. Markets and trade**

3/22

3/24

*Read chapter 15; ch. 8 & 11 H&H***Quiz #4****Week 12: Globalization and comparative advantage**

3/29

4/31

*Read chapter 16; ch. 12 H&H***Hw. #4 due****Week 13: Trade policy**

4/05

4/07

*Read chapter 17***Quiz #5****Week 14: Macroeconomic policy**

4/12

4/14

*Read chapter 18; ch. 15 H&H***HW #5 due****Week 15: Foreign Assistance/Aid**

4/19

4/21

*Read chapter 19***Quiz #6****Week 16: Guest Speaker & Review**

4/26 Guest speaker

4/28 Review for final exam

Final Exam TBD.