Economic Development
ECON 4830

0.5 Credits

General Course Information

Instructor: Louise Grogan

Email lgrogan@uoguelph.ca
Office Location MacKinnon 706
Office Hours Fridays 9-10am on TEAMS and before and after each class, also by appt.
Department/School DEF

Class Schedule:

**M/W 12:30-
13:50pm. MACS
121**

Course Description

In this course we will introduce the major theories of economic development, policy debates, and recent empirical work done by development economists. We will learn to use the software program Python to do basic analysis of economic data at the country, industry and household level. We will work on lab problems in class using this software. We will use the latest edition of the Todaro and Smith (2021) Economic Development textbook, the 12th Edition, supplemented with assigned readings from news articles or recent non-technical academic papers in economics.

Course Learning Outcomes

Upon successfully completing this course, you will:

Knowledge and Understanding:

1) Gain experience in testing economic development concepts using data. Students will learn to apply standard microeconomic analysis to labour supply and other public policy questions.

2) Gain understanding of coding for data science, and how different software packages are integrated.

3) Gain knowledge of the historical and global context. All written assessments will require students to understand the context in which their data was collected. This will be very important to the interpretation of results.

4) Gain an understanding of economic policy and regulation, and of how to measure causal impacts.

Discipline/Professional and Transferable Skills:

5.) Written communication: The audio-video and empirical projects will give the students the opportunity to practise the skill of developing arguments, employing citations and ordering bibliographic references. Students will be expected to learn how to format a simple empirical paper in economics.

6.) Numerical problem solving: All assignments and assessments will give students the opportunity to demonstrate basic software and computation skills.

7.) Problem solving in a real-world context: Students will apply the content of the course to current policy questions in when they write their assignments. The marking of this work will reward normative arguments with empirical substantiation from hypothesis testing.

8.) Students will develop their comprehension and discussion skills through the audio video assessment.

Attitudes and Values

9.) Students will complete the assignments themselves. Students will submit their code and data sets for the individual research project. Students will practise using proper citation of works and incorporation of bibliographical references into their own work.

Summary of Course Content and Materials

Students will need to obtain access to Anaconda Python Spyder IDE for the full semester. A link to the software is available on Courselink. This will be discussed on the first day of classes.

Course Assessment

			Associated Learning Outcomes	**Due Date/ location**
Assessment 1:	30%	Midterm	LO 1 – 9	*October 9th (in class)*

Assessment 2:	10%	Aural Video Discussion	LO 1 – 9	*November 4th (online, Courselink)*
Assessment 3:	30%	Individual Research Project	LO 1-9	*November 20th (Courselink)*
Assessment 4:	30%	Final Exam	LO 1-9	*TBA*

Teaching and Learning Practices

Lectures and readings: Students will be expected to read the text (MH) and to obtain and read approximately one article per week. Articles to accompany the textbook will be posted on Courselink. These will be academic journal articles, which are also discussed in the text.

Course Resources

Required Text: Economic Development Todaro and Smith (2022), latest addition. This text will be supplemented with the published papers referenced in the text, and new contributions to applied econometrics techniques.

Recommended Text: **Readings will be posted regularly on Courselink.**

Other Resources: Python help, GITHUB, Our World in Data (OWID).

Course Policies

Grading Policies

Unless you have discussed an extension well ahead of the due date with the instructor, late penalties of 5% of the total grade earned per day (including weekends) will be assigned to any assessment (i.e. deducted from the total mark). Extensions will only be granted on the basis of valid medical or personal reasons, and need to be requested via email to the instructor as soon as possible. Late assignments will not be accepted once graded assignments have been returned officially to the class at large, unless circumstances permit and alternative arrangements have been made.

Students who find themselves unable to meet course requirements by the deadlines or the criteria expected because of medical or personal reasons, should review the regulations on academic consideration in the Academic Calendar and discuss their situation with the instructor, program counselor or other academic counselor as appropriate.

http://www.uoguelph.ca/registrar/calendars/undergraduate/current/c08/c08-grds.shtml

Missed Assignments:

A grade of zero will be assigned if you fail to submit an assignment, unless you are ill or have other compassionate reasons. Please read your Undergraduate Calendar for the regulations regarding illness and compassionate grounds. Please note, vacation travel, moving house, or outside work commitments will not be accepted as valid reasons for missing deadlines.

If you have religious observances which conflict with the course schedule or if you are registered with Student Accessibility Services, please contact the course instructor in order to make arrangements for your assessment if appropriate.

University Policies

Academic Consideration

When you find yourself unable to meet an in-course requirement because of illness or compassionate reasons, please advise the course instructor in writing, with your name, id#, and e-mail contact. See the academic calendar for information on regulations and procedures for Academic Consideration:
http://www.uoguelph.ca/registrar/calendars/undergraduate/current/c08/c08-ac.shtml

Academic Misconduct

The University of Guelph is committed to upholding the highest standards of academic integrity and it is the responsibility of all members of the University community, faculty, staff, and students to be aware of what constitutes academic misconduct and to do as much as possible to prevent academic offences from occurring.

University of Guelph students have the responsibility of abiding by the University's policy on academic misconduct regardless of their location of study; faculty, staff and students have the responsibility of supporting an environment that discourages misconduct. Students need to remain aware that instructors have access to and the right to use electronic and other means of detection. Please note: Whether or not a student intended to commit academic misconduct is not relevant for a finding of guilt. Hurried or careless submission of assignments does not excuse students from responsibility for verifying the academic integrity of their work before submitting it. Students who are in any doubt as to whether an action on their part could be construed as an academic offence should consult with a faculty member or faculty advisor.

The Academic Misconduct Policy is detailed in the Undergraduate Calendar:

https://www.uoguelph.ca/registrar/calendars/undergraduate/current/c08/c08-amisconduct.shtml

Accessibility

The University of Guelph is committed to creating a barrier-free environment. Providing services for students is a shared responsibility among students, faculty and administrators. This

relationship is based on respect of individual rights, the dignity of the individual and the University community's shared commitment to an open and supportive learning environment. Students requiring service or accommodation, whether due to an identified, ongoing disability or a short-term disability should contact Student Accessibility Services as soon as possible.

For more information, contact SAS at 519-824-4120 ext. 56208 or email sas@uoguelph.ca or see the website: https://wellness.uoguelph.ca/accessibility/

Course Evaluation Information

Please refer to the Course and Instructor Evaluation Website

Recording of Materials

Presentations which are made in relation to course work—including lectures—cannot be recorded or copied without the permission of the presenter, whether the instructor, a classmate or guest lecturer. Material recorded with permission is restricted to use for that course unless further permission is granted.

Drop date

The last date to drop one-semester courses, without academic penalty, is Friday November 29, 2024. For regulations and procedures for Dropping Courses, see the Academic Calendar:

https://www.uoguelph.ca/registrar/calendars/undergraduate/current/c08/c08-drop.shtml