

Syllabus

Course Description

Course Title	Growth and Development Economics
Course Code	27220
Course Title Additional	
Scientific-Disciplinary Sector	ECON-01/A
Language	Italian
Degree Course	Bachelor in Economics, Politics and Ethics
Other Degree Courses (Loaned)	
Lecturers	Dott. Giovanni Maria Mazzanti, GiovanniMaria.Mazzanti@unibz.it https://www.unibz.it/en/faculties/economics-management/academic-staff/person/51225
Teaching Assistant	
Semester	First semester
Course Year/s	2
CP	7
Teaching Hours	42
Lab Hours	-
Individual Study Hours	-
Planned Office Hours	21
Contents Summary	The course introduces students to key issues, theories and empirical approaches in the study of economic development, with a focus on low- and middle-income countries: Explores the main challenges and constraints to development, including poverty, inequality, corruption, unfavourable geography and access to finance; Examines theoretical models of economic growth and development, such as the Solow model, dual-sector models and institutional approaches; Analyses the causes and consequences of civil wars and political instability and their impact on long-term development and the quality of institutions; Encourages critical thinking and debate in the analysis of contemporary challenges to

	economic development.
Course Topics	1) What is development? GDP, human development, development indicators, and international differences. 2) Why do economies grow? Theories of economic growth. 3) Growth for whom? Poverty, inequality, capabilities, education, and health. 4) Why do some countries develop while others do not? Institutions, geography, history, and cooperative strategies. 5) What kind of Growth is desirable? Sustainability, climate change, future generations, markets, and values.
Keywords	Economic development, growth determinants, institutions, values, sustainability
Recommended Prerequisites	
Propaedeutic Courses	There are no prerequisite courses, but attendance of the course(s) Economics 1/Microeconomics and 2/Macroeconomics, and Econometrics is suggested in order to adequately follow the lectures.
Teaching Format	Frontal lectures, case studies, seminar activities.
Mandatory Attendance	Recommended but not compulsory.
Specific Educational Objectives and Learning Outcomes	ILO (Intended Learning Outcomes) ILO 1 Knowledge and understanding ILO 1.1 ability to understand complex economic texts in the three teaching languages; ILO 1.2 understanding of the reasons for economic growth and development of countries; ILO 1.3 estimation and interpretation of econometric models for the empirical analysis of previous problems. ILO 2 Ability to apply knowledge and understanding

	ILO 2.1 ability to interact with native speakers fluently and spontaneously on economic topics; ILO 2.2 ability to produce texts on topics of scientific interest; ILO 2.3 ability to evaluate the effects of trade in a globalised world; ILO 2.4 ability to apply models of political economy, development and economic growth to analyse problems related to poverty, income inequality, education and health pertaining to developed and developing countries; ILO 2.5 ability to develop recommendations for growth and development oriented policy measures; ILO 2.6 ability to independently analyse data and to detect and explain relationships between real phenomena ILO 3 Making judgements ILO 3.1 Acquisition of the capacity for judgement and the methodological tools useful for the critical analysis of data, sources, assumptions and implications of scientific practice, the political, ethical and legal context within which economic phenomena are embedded and with which they interact. ILO 4 Communication skills ILO 4.1 Proficiency (oral and written) in Italian, German and English, including translation between these languages. Intercultural competence. Conceptual awareness, ability to summarise and express oneself in writing, particularly in the drafting of scientific or science-based documents. ILO 5 Learning skills ILO 5.1 Promotion of critical thinking and analytical skills that enable one to focus on complex problems in their long-term dynamics and the variety of their implications, including ethical ones.
Specific Educational Objectives and Learning Outcomes (additional info.)	

Assessment	Written exam and group work: written exam with review questions and project work done in groups. For Attending Students: • Team Project and Presentation (50%): Students will collaborate on a comprehensive project report that is relevant to the course's subject matter. Each team work will be shared in a presentation, where the team will articulate main findings and recommendations - (ILOs 1, 2.2, 3, 4.1, 5.1). • Written Exam (50%): The exam will consist of review questions designed to test students' understanding of the course material. Questions will range from theoretical knowledge to application based scenarios that require critical thinking and synthesis of learned concepts - (ILOs 1.2, 2, 3, 5). For Non-Attending Students: • Written Exam (100%): Non-attending students will take a more extensive written exam. (ILOs 1-5)
Evaluation Criteria	The final exam is 50% of the final grade, while the group work is 50% of the final grade. For non-attending students the final exam is 100% of the final grade. Evaluation criteria relevant for both: clarity of answers, mastery of specific terminology, ability to summarize, evaluate and establish relationships between topics, ability to apply concepts to real-world examples. • Team Presentation: Effectiveness of communication and ability to engage the audience. Visual and analytical clarity of presentation materials. Responsiveness to questions and ability to discuss the project in depth • Written Exam: Comprehension of course material and key concepts. Ability to apply theoretical knowledge to practical scenarios. Critical thinking and analytical skills in responding to

	review questions. Quality of written communication, including structure and articulation of arguments.
Required Readings	<i>Required readings:</i> Todaro, M. P. and Smith, S. C. (2024), <i>Economic Development</i>, 13th ed., Harlow: Pearson Education Limited. <i>Suggested readings:</i> Sen, A. (1999), <i>Development as Freedom</i>, New York: Alfred A. Knopf. Acemoglu, D. and Robinson, J. A. (2012), <i>Why Nations Fail: The Origins of Power, Prosperity, and Poverty</i>, New York: Crown Business. Banerjee, A. V. and Duflo, E. (2011), <i>Poor Economics: A Radical Rethinking of the Way to Fight Global Poverty</i>, New York: PublicAffairs. Carney, M. (2021), <i>Value(s): Building a Better World for All</i>, London: William Collins. <i>Reports and data sources:</i> United Nations Development Programme (UNDP), <i>Human Development Report</i>, New York: United Nations Development Programme, various editions. World Bank, <i>World Development Report</i>, Washington, DC: World Bank, various editions.
Supplementary Readings	The complete reading list (required and suggested readings from the textbooks and other sources such as journal articles, books, etc.) will be made available on OLE at the beginning of the course.
Further Information	AI can be a useful tool to support individual study through further exploration, summaries, and self-assessment activities. However, the use of AI is prohibited during examinations. Any such use constitutes a violation of academic integrity.
Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs)	No poverty, Zero hunger, Peace, justice and strong institutions, Industry, innovation and infrastructure, Good health and well-being