



East China Normal University
GEC International Summer School

ECO313: Economic Development

Term: June 16th to July 18th, 2025

Class Hours: Monday through Friday, 110 minutes each day (2,750 minutes in total)

Instructor: TBD

Home Institution: TBD

Office Hours: TBD

Email: TBD

Course Description

This course explores topics that are relevant to understand the causes and implications of economic development. We will start by analyzing the concepts of poverty, inequality, well-being, and economic growth. Then, we will study how individuals make decisions, considering the institutional and economic features present in developing countries. The course will discuss topics such as health, education, credit, social programs and policies targeted at the poor. The main topics of the courses will be covered by the required textbook listed below, as well as journal articles, and additional materials discussed in class.

Prerequisite: None

Learning Objective

A student who satisfactorily completes this course should:

1. Articulate a clear understanding of the main tenets of economics and their application to a wide range of issues in development.

2. Articulate a clear understanding of the main theories of development economics and how they have shaped policy and debates in the last six decades.



3. Articulate a clear understanding of the history of the praxis of the nongovernmental sector in development over the last six decades and the theories and insights on which they have drawn.

4. Identify the key variables and strategies for creating and sustaining effective policies and programs in the development of low-income countries.

5. Articulate the way that Christians and Christian organizations can engage in an effective and holistic ministry in international development.

Required Text

Development Economics: Theory, Empirical Research and Policy Analysis, by Julie Schaffne, 2014.

Poor Economics: A Radical Rethinking of the Way to Fight Global Poverty, by Abhijit Banerjee and Esther Duflo, 2011.

Course Hours

The course has 25 class sessions in total. Each class session is 110 minutes in length, for a total of 2750 minutes of in-class time. The course meets from Monday to Friday. ECNU awards 3 credits for this course. Different universities may count course credits differently. Consult officials at your own home institution.

Attendance

Summer school is very intense and to be successful, students need to attend every class. Occasionally, due to illness or other unavoidable circumstance, a student may need to miss a class. ECNU policy requires a medical certificate to be excused. Any absence may impact on the student's grade. Moreover, ECNU policy is that a student who has more than 3 absences will fail the course. Arriving late or leaving early will count as a partial absence.

Grading Policy

ECNU awards grades of A, A-, B+, B, B-, C+, C, D, and F. Most colleges and universities do not award transfer credit for grades of D or F.



In this course, grading will be based on the following:

Attendance & Participation	10%
Term Paper	20%
Midterm Exam*2	20%*2=40%
Final Exam	30%

General Expectations

Students are expected to:

- Attend all classes and be responsible for all material covered in class and otherwise assigned. Any unexcused absence may impact a student's grade.
- Arrive to class on-time: Late arrivals are disruptive to your fellow students and to the conduct of the class.
- Complete the day's required reading and assignments before class
- Review the previous day's notes before class; make notes about questions you have about the previous class or the day's reading
- Refrain from texting, phoning or engaging in computer activities unrelated to class during class (不要用手机) It is highly disrespectful to the professor and to the class.
- Participate in class discussions and complete required written work on time.

Course Schedule

The planned schedule sketched out below may be modified to suit the interests or abilities of the enrolled students or to take advantage of special opportunities or events that may arise during the term.

Week 1

- *Day 1*
 - *Course Outline*
 - *Introduction to Economic Development*
- *Day 2*
 - *Economic Development and Well Being*



- *Day 3*
 - o *Poverty, Inequality and Vulnerability*
- *Day 4*
 - o *Economic Growth*
- *Day 5*
 - o *Discussion/Tutorial*
 - o *Read Chapter 1&2*

Week 2

- *Day 1*
 - o *Economic Decisions, Policy and Development*
- *Day 2*
 - o *Economic Decisions, Policy and Development -continued*
 - o *Read Chapters 4 and 5*
- *Day 3*
 - o *Consumption*
- *Day 4*
 - o *Labor Supply and Child Labor*
 - o *Midterm Review Session*
- *Day 5*
 - o *Midterm 1*
 - o *Read Chapters 4, 5&6*

Week 3

- *Day 1*
 - o *Domestic Markets and Transfers*
- *Day 2*
 - o *Targeted Transfers*
- *Day 3*
 - o *Domestic Markets and Transaction Costs*



- *Day 4*
 - o *Cash vs Food Transfers*
 - o *Read Chapters 7, 8 and 9*
- *Day 5*
 - o *Term Paper Due*

Week 4

- *Day 1*
 - o *Household and Gender*
- *Day 2*
 - o *Gender Household Resource Allocation*
- *Day 3*
 - o *Missing Women, Gender, and Development*
- *Day 4*
 - o *Financial Models, Risk and applications to Development Countries*
 - o *Midterm Review Session*
- *Day 5*
 - o *Midterm 2*
 - o *Read Chapter 11, 10&12*

Week 5

- *Day 1*
 - o *Intertemporal Models and Investment Financing*
 - o *Present Bias and Other Constraints*
- *Day 2*
 - o *Risk and Insurance*
 - o *Read Chapter 13*
- *Day 3*
 - o *Asymmetric Information and Market Failures*
 - o *Microfinance*



- *Day 4*
 - o *Final Exam Review Session*
 - o *Discussion/Tutorial*
- *Day 5*
 - o *Final Examination*

Academic Honesty

Students are expected to maintain high standards of academic honesty. Specifically, unless otherwise directed by the professor, students may not consult other students, books, notes, electronic devices or any other source, on examinations. Failure to abide by this may result in a zero on the examination, or even failure in the course.