

THE UNIVERSITY OF THE WEST INDIES, MONA
ECON6016: Development Economics II

Semester II, 2020-21

Pre-requisites: ECON6032 or approval of lecturer

Lecturer: Christine Clarke

Office: Rm 16 Econ Administrative Block

Office Hours: Tuesdays and Wednesdays 10am – noon

Email: Clarke.christine.a@gmail.com; Christine.clarke03@uwimona.edu.jm

Description

This is a research, reading and writing course. In this course you will use the content you were exposed to in ECON6032 to assess the implications of threats to traditional and even neo-liberal developmental thought that have the power to fundamentally alter the long-term development and economic strength of a nation. Emphasis will be placed on small island states due to the absence of such analysis for these countries. You will need to develop original thoughts and draw appropriate and reasonable conclusions in relation to the topic you will focus on during the semester.

Although all assessments are intended to be completed individually, students are encouraged to work largely in groups to conceptualise options/strategies/policy adjustments that developing countries ought to consider as they develop their paper. Group discussions can also help as a sounding board to ensure that each paper responds to the questions listed below and any other relevant considerations. This is therefore a course that focuses on reading, writing, critiquing and critical thinking. As a result, **all** students in this course are **required to read ahead** of class and tutorials as this will enable you to develop complex thoughts in relation to the various issues.

Learning Outcomes.

Upon successful completion of the course, the student should be able to:

- Describe a series of economic models
- Identify and apply economic principles to development issues
- Explain how development issues affecting SIDS ought to be addressed
- Articulate the effectiveness of particular economic models in addressing development issues
- Deconstruct the impact that political economy realities had on the viability of these models
- Demonstrate understanding of the current economic models being pursued in SIDS
- Contend with the current development issues facing SIDS in the context of Agenda 2030 and the SDGs vis debt and fiscal sustainability

Modes of Delivery

One two-hour brainstorming/idea-mapping session per week and one one-hour seminar discussion beginning week 3 of teaching. Students will be assigned to present papers and contribute to discussions during and where time tutorials will be used as consultation periods to facilitate progress on written assignments. The seminar period will be used periodically to facilitate special lectures.

Assessment

| Item | Aggressive Deadline  | Relaxed Deadline X | Proportion (%) |
|-----------------------------------|---|---------------------------|----------------|
| Concept Note (3 – 5 pages) | February 2, 2021 | February 9, 2021 | 10 |
| Presentation (10 – 15 min/slides) | February 16, 2021 | March 2, 2021 | 10 |
| Proposal (10 – 15 pages) | March 16, 2021 | March 30, 2021 | 20 |
| First Draft (20 – 30 pages) | April 6, 2021 | April 27, 2021 | 30 |
| Final Draft (40 – 50 pages) | April 27, 2021 | May 14, 2021 | 30 |
| TOTAL | | | 100 |

NB. No late assignments will be accepted unless consistent with UWI guidelines.

All forms of plagiarism will be dealt with according to the UWI policy regarding same. Of note is the following:

- ✓ Coursework that has been plagiarized will be awarded a grade of 0.
- ✓ Final Papers that are plagiarized will be sent to the Exam Irregularity Committee for the relevant student to present their case.

Research Topics

Whilst students are free to identify and develop their own paper topics, the following topics are current in the development arena and are adjudged doable over the course of a semester. Students who choose to develop their own topic will be required to adhere to the timelines as presented and they therefore must do so within the space of a week at most.

1. Economics of the Digital Divide in developing countries
2. Considerations in developing a Digital Society in developing countries
3. Institutions as a form of capital to support resilience (to COVID) in SIDS
4. Global Fiscal Policy for 2021/22
5. Fiscal Policy in SIDS for 2021/22
6. COVID-19 and Education: Revisiting Human Capital in developing countries
7. COVID-19: What will development look like in its wake?
8. Beyond Economics: Redefining broad-based resilience
9. Will Agenda 2030 have to be pushed back?
10. COVID-19 and Productivity

Important Questions to be considered

The following questions should be among – **not the only** – the considerations addressed in all assessments for this course.

1. Economic Principles underpinning the topic
 - a. Definition
 - b. Explanation
 - c. Graphs and other Illustrations (do not copy and paste them)
2. Are there market failures?

- a. Identify them
 - b. What are the sources?
 - c. To what extent is the market operating?
 - d. What are the implications/impacts of the market failure
 - e. What should government intervention look like
3. Current debt profile of SIDS/LDCs and how this impinges on the state/capacity of the government to implement the desired interventions indicated

This list will be developed as we have our discussions and deliberations as the semester goes on.

Readings

Material for this course will be circulated via email, ourvle and dropbox. Please ensure that I have your most current email address. In setting up your course whatsapp, please set up a duplicate group and add me to it so that we can communicate easily.