KIMEP University
College of Social Sciences
Department of Economics
Fall 2026

ECN4169 Development Economics

Class meets:	Mon, Wed, Fri 10:00 till 10:50
Venue:	**VB 124**
Course credits:	3 Credits/5 ECTS Credits

Instructor:	Eldar Madumarov, PhD
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Office Hours:	Mon, Wed, Fri 11:00-12:00 or by appointment

Course description

The module aims to introduce students to the problems and features of developing economies, and it is based on the modern analytical quantitative approach adopted by the main international development institutions, with an emphasis on the most recent advances in the field. The course focuses on a set of issues which comprises, among other topics, theoretical foundations of the process of economic development, income inequality and poverty, agricultural transformation, international trade and development strategy.

Learning objectives

Understanding of the main principles and concepts of the development process
Grasp the essential domestic problems and policies
Comprehension of the essential international problems and policies

Intended learning outcomes

Upon the completion of the course students will be able to:

1. Define the role of institutions in the process of economic development,
2. Characterize and classify the less developed countries in line with different criteria,
3. Get to know the relevant details of the classic and modern theories of growth and development,
4. Acquire the knowledge on the link(s) between poverty, inequality and development,
5. Know the relevant details about the linkage between population growth and economic development,
6. State the rationale for rural-urban migration,
7. Determine the roles of market, state, and civil society in the process of economic transformation,
8. Explain the role of international trade in the development process,
9. Use the balance of payments mechanics in explaining the problems of indebtedness,
10. Characterize the role of foreign finance, investment and aid in the process of economic development,
11. Determine the role of finance and fiscal policy in the development process.

Relationship of course and program

Prerequisites: 90 credit hours.

The given course is deemed as a course building upon and encompassing an array of economic disciplines including ECN3081 Micro- and ECN3082 Macroeconomics, ECN4122 Labor Economics and ECN4112 International Trade, Economic History and History of Economic Thought, etc.

Teaching and learning philosophy and methodology

The instructor's teaching philosophy.
Personal Objectives: The course's instructor will be assisting students, coordinating their learning process and assisting students in mastering the stuff of the course.

Teaching and learning approaches: In order to attain the stated learning objectives, the instructor will use an array of suited teaching and assessment techniques.

Course teaching and learning methodology:

The instructor's teaching objectives will be achieved through a myriad of teaching techniques that include—but are not limited to—introductory and comprehensive lectures, interactive tutorial sessions, learning in-class experiments. Furthermore, the course's assessment will take different forms. The students' performance will be evaluated through home assignments, quizzes, in-class exercises along with tests and examinations.

Course learning activities
In-class lectures will be combined with interactive tutorial sessions. These activities are supposed to be complemented by independent work of students. The course requires that students work independently at least six hours a week. Students are advised to make the most of instructional materials and lecture slides.
Your regular attendance of classes is to be complemented by your independent work equaling roughly to 5-6 hours per week (75-90 hours per semester). Hereby this time budget is to be allocated between pre-reading, post-reading and preparation for assessment activities.

Assessment scheme
During this semester the students taking the course are expected to be tested through five home assignments, two quizzes, one midterm and one final exam. These combined will determine the final grade. The breakdown is as follows:

Attendance & Participation	20%
Midterm Exam 1	20%
Midterm Exam 2	20%
Final Exam	40%
Total	100%

Midterm Exam 1 will be based on the stuff covered primarily during the first half of the semester (weeks 1-5) and focus on the intended learning outcomes 1-4.

Midterm Exam 2 will be based on the stuff covered primarily during the second half of the semester (weeks 6-11) and focus on the intended learning outcomes 5-7.

Final Exam will be based on the stuff covered throughout the semester (weeks 3-5 and 9-15) and focus on the intended learning outcomes 3-11.

Only students who have at least half of the assignable points for the entire course prior to the final exam (i.e. 30 points out of 60 pre-FE points) will be allowed to sit the final exam.

Grading scale

A+	90—100	C+	67—69
A	85—89	C	63—66
A-	80—84	C-	60—62
B+	77—79	D+	57—59
B	73—76	D	53—56
B-	70—72	D-	50—52
		F	<50

Course policies and instructor's expectations of students

- Students are supposed to come to class prepared. This implies that you will have read the text and solved the assigned exercises.
- Regular attendance will be monitored, and consistent attendance will yield positive results. However, inadequate attendance will adversely affect the student's course performance. Moreover, a student who misses over 20 percent of classes is at risk of failing the course.

- There will be no opportunities for rescheduling assessment sessions. It is imperative not to absent yourself on examination and quiz days. Failure to provide valid justification for absences will result in point deductions. Furthermore, seeking unmerited extra points is discouraged and may lead to penalties.
- Plagiarism along with cheating will be penalized appropriately. Please check the Catalog for details. Unless explicitly instructed, the use AI-powered tools is prohibited during assessment sessions.

AI Policy and AI Tools

Generative AI tools (e.g., ChatGPT, Claude, Copilot, and similar) are a normal part of professional and academic work, and this course takes a permissive, transparency-based approach to their use.

- **Where AI use is permitted:** Students may use AI tools to support their learning in all course activities other than in-class written assessments. This includes readings, home assignments, quizzes preparation, in-class exercises, and studying for exams, where AI tools may be used for tasks such as explaining development concepts, checking practice problems, brainstorming, and improving the clarity of written work.
- **Where AI use is prohibited:** AI tools of any kind are strictly prohibited during in-class written assessments, namely Midterm Exam 1, Midterm Exam 2, and the Final Exam. These must be completed independently, using only permitted materials (e.g., pen, paper, calculator, as specified by the instructor). Phones, smart devices, and AI-enabled tools may not be accessed during these assessments.
- **Academic integrity and ownership:** Students remain fully responsible for the accuracy, quality, and originality of any work they submit. Submitting AI-generated content without critical review, verification, and personal engagement is not an acceptable use of these tools and may be treated as a violation of academic integrity.
- **Accuracy and verification:** AI tools can produce inaccurate, outdated, or fabricated information, including incorrect development data, statistics, and citations. Students are responsible for independently verifying any AI-generated content used in their work.
- **Disclosure:** Where AI tools are used in preparing a graded assignment, students should briefly note how the tool was used (e.g., brainstorming, editing, checking calculations) unless the instructor states otherwise for a specific activity.
- **Violations:** Unauthorized or undisclosed use of AI tools during Midterm Exam 1, Midterm Exam 2, or the Final Exam will be treated as a violation of academic integrity and handled in accordance with the University's academic integrity policies, as outlined in the Catalog.

Instructional resources

Required textbook:
Todaro M. and Smith S., Economic Development, tenth edition, 2009, Pearson Addison-Wesley.

Supplementary textbooks:
Weil D.N., Economic Growth, second edition, 2009, Pearson International.
Thirlwall A. P., Growth and development with special reference to developing economies, eighth edition, 2006, Palgrave Macmillan.
Easterly W., The elusive quest for growth: economists' adventures and misadventures in the tropics, 2002, First MIT Press paperback edition.

Certain additional items will be available on the Course Moodle page.

Tentative schedule

This schedule below is tentative and might be slightly modified in the course of the semester.

Week	Dates		Subject/Topic	Reference
1	8/24 8/26 8/28		Economics, Institutions, and Development	Chapter 1
2	8/31 9/2 9/4		Comparative Economic Development	Chapter 2
3	9/7 9/9 9/11		Classic Theories of Economic Growth and Development	Chapter 3
4	9/14 9/16 9/18		Contemporary Models of Development and Underdevelopment	Chapter 4
5	9/21 9/23 9/25		Poverty, Inequality, and Development	Chapter 5
6	9/28 9/30 10/2	**ME1**	Population Growth and Economic Development	Chapter 6
7	10/5 10/6* 10/7 ~~10/9~~		Urbanization and Rural-Urban Migration	Chapter 7
8	10/12 - 10/18		**Midterm Break – Reading Week**	
9	10/19 10/21 10/23		Human Capital: Education and Health in Economic Development	Chapter 8
10	10/26** 10/28 10/30		Agricultural Transformation and Rural Development	Chapter 9
11	11/2 11/4 11/6		Development Policymaking and the Roles of Market, State, and Civil Society	Chapter 11
12	11/9 11/11 11/13	**ME2**	International Trade Theory and Development Strategy	Chapter 12
13	11/16 11/18 11/20		Balance of Payments, Developing-Country Debt, and the Macroeconomic Stabilization Controversy	Chapter 13
14	11/23 11/25 11/27		Foreign Finance, Investment, and Aid: Controversies and Opportunities	Chapter 14
15	11/30 12/2 12/4		Finance and Fiscal Policy for Development	Chapter 15
16	12/7 12/9 12/11		Revision & FE Preparation	
17	12/14			
18		**FE**		**Ch 3,4,7,12-15**

Notes: ME1 and ME2 represent Midterm Exam 1 and Midterm Exam 2, and FE – Final Exam.
* Tuesday, October 6 at 10:00-10:50 in VB 124 a class will be held instead of the class on Friday, October 9 at 10:00-10:50
** Republic Day