1. General Information

Course Subject	ECON
Course Number	2262
Course Title	Economic Development
Academic Years	2023-2024
Grading Method	Letter

2. Instructors

Professor CAO,Yiming
Office: Room 810 8/F K.K. Leung Building
Email: ymcao@hku.hk
Office: 39175845
Subclasses: 2A

4. Course Description

Course Description	This course introduces the leading theories in development economics and their empirical applications. Our aim is to understand why some countries remain underdeveloped and the extent to which policies can shape growth and development. After an overview of the classic models of economic growth, the course will discuss the importance of institutions, politics, factor accumulation and inequality, among others, in economic development. As a result of taking the course students are expected to understand both classic and frontier theories of economic development, and to be able to conduct preliminary research in an empirical fashion.
Prerequisites	ECON1210 Introductory Microeconomics and ECON1220 Introductory Macroeconomics. For students of the BASc (GHD) programme, the pre-requisite is GHAD1002 Introductory Economics and Finance. (Note: students with knowledge of econometrics or statistics will benefit more from this course).
Free Elective	Yes

6. Faculty Learning Goals

Goal 1: Acquisition and internalization of knowledge of the programme discipline
Goal 2: Application and integration of knowledge
Goal 3: Inculcating professionalism
Goal 4: Developing global outlook
Goal 5: Mastering communication skills
Goal 6: Cultivating leadership

7. Course Learning Outcomes

Course Teaching and Learning Activities	Aligned Faculty Learning Goals					
	1	2	3	4	5	6
CLO1. Acquaintance of the main theories and topics of development economics	✔	✔	✔			✔
CLO2. Application of economic theory and empirical methods to examine various development issues	✔	✔	✔			✔
CLO3. Developing a global outlook in the perspective of comparative development	✔	✔	✔	✔		✔
CLO4. Communication and presentation skills	✔	✔	✔		✔	✔

8. Course Teaching and Learning Activities

Course Teaching and Learning Activities #	Expected Study Hours	Study Load (% of study)
T&L1. Lecture with class discussion	36	30
T&L2. Pre-class reading and self-study	36	30
T&L3. Assignments and presentation	36	30
T&L4. Consultation	12	10
	Total: 120	Total: 100

9. Assessment Methods

Assessment Methods	Description	Weight %	Aligned Course Learning Outcomes
A1. Class participation	Class attendance/discussion	10%	1,2,3,4
A2. Assignments	Individual assignments	20%	1,2,3
A3. Term Paper	Group work on a short essay	20%	1,2,3,4
A4. Presentation	Group work; present your term paper in class	10%	1,2,3,4
A5. Final Exam	Closed-book exam	40%	1,2,3

Assessment Rubrics

A1. Class participation	Class participation: 1) the attendance, and 2) the quality of discussions at class.
A+,A,A-	
B+,B,B-	
C+,C,C-	
D+,D	
F	

Assessment Rubrics	
A2. Assignments	Assignments: 1) pertinence, clarity, and reasoning, 2) the depth of analysis, 3) originality/novelty of your own comments/critiques/extension (for review work), and 4) writing and layout.
A+,A,A-	
B+,B,B-	
C+,C,C-	
D+,D	
F	
A3. Term Paper	Term paper: 1) the originality, pertinence, and clarity of the topic, 2) the clarity of framework and reasoning, 3) the suitability/reliability of data/materials and research methods, 4) the depth of analysis, and 5) writing and layout.
A+,A,A-	
B+,B,B-	
C+,C,C-	
D+,D	
F	
A4. Presentation	Presentation: all rubrics of the term paper apply to the presentation. In addition, the grading of presentation is based on 1) the performance in the lecture and Q&A, and 2) the quality/layout of the PPT.
A+,A,A-	
B+,B,B-	
C+,C,C-	
D+,D	
F	

10. Course Grade Descriptors	
A+,A,A-	Excellent. Strong evidence of superb ability to fulfill the intended learning outcomes of the course at all levels of learning: describe, apply, evaluate, and synthesis
B+,B,B-	Good. Strong evidence of the ability to fulfill the intended learning outcomes of the course at all levels of learning: describe, apply, evaluate, and synthesis
C+,C,C-	Pass. Evidence of adequate ability to fulfill the intended learning outcomes of the course at low levels of learning such as describe and apply but not at high levels of learning such as evaluate and synthesis
D+,D	Poorly Pass. Evidence of basic familiarity with the subject
F	Fail. Little evidence of basic familiarity with the subject

11. Course Content and Tentative Teaching Schedule

Topic/ Session	Date	Content
1		Overview
2		Growth and Trade
3		Geography and Institutions
4		Political Economy: Leaders and Institutions
5		Factor Accumulation: Health and Education
6		Factor Accumulation: Land and Capital (Credit, savings and insurance)
7		Inequalities and (Mis-)Allocation: Family and Gender
8		Inequalities and (Mis-)Allocation: Conflict
9		Productivity: Firms, Labor Markets and Poverty Traps
10		Environment
11		Student presentations

12. Required/Recommended Readings & Online Materials

Reading	TBA

13. Means / Processes for Student feedback on Course

✔	Conducting mid-term survey in additional to SETL around the end of the semester
	Online response via Moodle site
	Others