

Economics 4784: Economic Development

Spring 2020

M/W/F 10:00-10:50 AM

Room: ECON 119

Class Website through Canvas: <https://canvas.colorado.edu/>

No Class: Jan 20 (MLK Day), Mar 23-27 (Spring Break)

Professor Francisca Antman

Office: Economics 222

Office Hours: Thursday 9:00AM-12:00PM and by appointment

Phone: (303) 492-8872

Email: francisca.antman@colorado.edu (preferred method of contact)

Course Description

In this course we will explore empirical, theoretical, and policy issues surrounding economic development. These topics will include theories of economic growth, inequality, poverty, demographic change, and migration, as well as characteristics of land, labor, and credit markets in developing countries. Note that the field of development economics is very broad and so an introductory course will naturally vary from instructor to instructor. The approach taken in this course is to touch on many areas of interest to development economists to provide a broad introduction to the field.

Prerequisites: Economics 3070 (Intermediate Microeconomic Theory) or Econ 3080 (Intermediate Macroeconomic Theory), passed with a grade of C- or better.

Optional Textbook: Debraj Ray, *Development Economics*, Princeton University Press, 1998.

Grading

Midterm 1: 25%

Midterm 2: 25%

Final Exam (cumulative): 40%

Homework, In-class Exercises, Attendance & Participation: 10%

Class Policies

While there is no required textbook for this course, a significant portion of lectures are based on the textbook listed above. Thus, if you are having difficulty understanding a concept we have covered in class, you may find it useful to consult the textbook. The text covers far more material than will be discussed

responses to the discussion questions and exercises at random points throughout the course. While these assignments may not be formally graded, I will count your level of effort on these exercises along with your attendance and potentially also your participation (e.g. answering questions posed to the class) throughout the course. Two lost participation points will be forgiven at the end of the semester. I may also present exam questions drawn from our class discussions, so it is important to take careful notes.

There will be two midterm exams during class time (see below for dates). Please review these dates carefully at the beginning of the semester. If you foresee any legitimate conflict with these dates, please see me as soon as possible. Otherwise, there is no excuse for missing an exam unless there is a medical or family emergency. In all other cases, failure to take an exam will result in a zero for that exam. If a legitimate emergency arises on the day of a midterm, the remaining exam(s) will be re-weighted; no make-up exams will be given.

If you miss a class, you are responsible for obtaining notes on the material we covered from another classmate. You are welcome to visit my office hours to discuss the material you missed, but not before you have gone over the material yourself through notes and the textbook if necessary.

University Policies

Accommodation for Disabilities

If you qualify for accommodations because of a disability, please submit your accommodation letter from Disability Services to your faculty member in a timely manner so that your needs can be addressed. Disability Services determines accommodations based on documented disabilities in the academic environment. Information on requesting accommodations is located on the Disability Services website. Contact Disability Services at 303-492-8671 or dsinfo@colorado.edu

fabrication, lying, bribery, threat, unauthorized access to academic materials, clicker fraud, submitting the same or similar work in more than one course without permission from all course instructors involved, and aiding academic dishonesty. All incidents of academic misconduct will be reported to the Honor Code (honor@colorado.edu); 303-492-5550). Students found responsible for violating the academic integrity policy will be subject to nonacademic sanctions from the Honor Code as well as academic sanctions from the faculty member. Additional information regarding the Honor Code academic integrity policy can be found at the Honor Code Office website.

Sexual Misconduct, Discrimination, Harassment and/or Related Retaliation

The University of Colorado Boulder (CU Boulder) is committed to fostering a positive and welcoming learning, working, and living environment. CU Boulder will not tolerate acts of sexual misconduct, intimate partner abuse (including dating or domestic violence), stalking, or protected-class discrimination or harassment by members of our community. Individuals who believe they have been subject to misconduct or retaliatory actions for reporting a concern should contact the Office of Institutional Equity and Compliance (OIEC) at 303-492-2127 or cureport@colorado.edu. Information about the OIEC, university policies, anonymous reporting, and the campus resources can be found on the OIEC website.

Please know that faculty and instructors have a responsibility to inform OIEC when made aware of incidents of sexual misconduct, discrimination, harassment and/or related retaliation, to ensure that individuals impacted receive information about options for reporting and support resources.

Religious Holidays

Campus policy regarding religious observances requires that

Economics 4784 Tentative Course Outline Spring 2020

Note: The journals listed below can be accessed online

2. Article(s) from popular press, consult website

3.

Journal of Economic Perspectives

5. Ray, ch. 10 (optional)

VIII. Land & Labor Interactions (Week 9: Mar 9 -13)

A. Topics

1. Sharecropping, fixed rent, and fixed wage contracts
2. Land titling

B. Readings

1. Lecture Notes
2. Article(s) from popular press, consult website
3. _____ to Work: Urban Property Rights and Labor Supply
in Peru. *The Quarterly Journal of Economics*. 122(4): 1561-1602. (Optional.)
4. Ray, ch. 12, sections 1-3 (optional)

Midterm 2 Prep and Exam (Week 10)

MIDTERM 2: Wednesday, March 18 in class

Midterm 2 Solutions in class following midterm

NO CLASS Mar 23-27 (Week 11): SPRING BREAK

IX. Human Capital (Week 12: Mar 30 - Apr 3)

A. Topics

1. Returns to Schooling

XI. Credit Markets (Week 15: Apr 20 - 24)

A. Topics

1. Moral hazard and adverse selection
2. Formal and informal credit markets
3. Microfinance

B. Readings

1. Lecture Notes
2. Article(s) from popular press
3. Cull, Robert, Asli Demirguc-
Journal of Economic Perspectives, 23(1): 167-192.
4. Banerjee, Abhijit V. Giving Credit Where It Is Due
Journal of Economic Perspectives, 24(3): 61-80.
5. Ray, ch 11, 14.1 14.2, 14.5 (optional)

XII. Review (Week 16: Apr 27- 29)

FINAL EXAM (CUMULATIVE): SATURDAY MAY 2, 4:30PM-7PM