

ECON2900 / ECON2901 / ECON4409 / ECON8901

Development, Poverty and Famine / Advanced Topics in Poverty, Public Policy and Development

Why are some countries richer than others? Why have some countries experienced growth miracles while others have experienced stagnation or even growth disasters? Within developing countries, what does it mean to be poor? How to combat poverty? What are the challenges that the poor in developing countries face and what can be done to improve their living standards? This course intends to teach students what we know and what we do not know about these important questions and will focus on teaching students tools in understanding them. The topics covered will include explanations on why countries develop differentially, the effect of geography, institutions, foreign aid, corruption and differential, saving rates on the large disparities across countries. Within countries, we will examine the role of education, health migration and credit markets in the alleviation of poverty. The course will cover both theory and empirical evidence but focusing mainly on how to conduct empirical analysis in understanding these important economic development issues.

Mode of Delivery	On campus
Prerequisites	<p>ECON 2900: To enrol in this course you must have completed ECON1101 Microeconomics 1, and ECON1102 Macroeconomics 1 or ECON1100 Economics 1 (H).</p> <p>ECON 2901: To enrol in this course you must have completed ECON1101 Microeconomics 1 and ECON1102 Macroeconomics 1, or ECON1100 Economics 1 (H).</p> <p>ECON 4409: You will need to contact the Research School of Economics to request a permission code to enrol in this course.</p> <p>ECON 8901: To enrol in this course you must have completed the equivalent of, or have concurrent enrolment in either EMET2007 or EMET6007, or both EMET8005 and ECON8025.</p>
Incompatible Courses	<p>ECON 2900: You are not able to enrol in this course if you have completed ECHI 2013 Development, Poverty and Famine (H) or ECON4409.</p> <p>ECON 2901: Incompatible with ECHI 2003 Development, Poverty and Famine (P).</p> <p>ECON 4409: Incompatible with ECON2900.</p>

	ECON 8901: [None.]
Co-taught Courses	ECON 2900/2901/4409/8901 Graduate students attend joint classes with undergraduates but are assessed separately.
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Research Interests	Development economics, applied econometrics, policy
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RSE Students Webpage	https://www.rse.anu.edu.au/students/
Tutor:	[TBD]

SEMESTER 1

2018

COURSE OVERVIEW

Assessment Summary

Assessment Task		Value	Due Date	Date for Return of Assessment
ECON 2900	1. Mid-semester examination	30%	19/03/18	02/04/18
	2. Assignment	25%	16/04/18	30/04/18
	3. Final examination	45%	TBA	TBA
ECON 2901/4409/8901	1. Mid-semester examination	25%	19/03/18	02/04/18
	2. Research presentations	10%	See study schedule	25/05/18
	3. Research paper	25%	21/05/18 (12 noon)	TBA
	4. Final examination	40%	TBA	TBA

Research-Led Teaching

This course will discuss some of the latest research in development economics. In addition, participants in ECON 2901/4409/8901 will participate in additional close analysis of current development research and produce a serious research paper.

Feedback

Staff Feedback

Students will be given feedback in the following forms in this course:

- Verbal comments in class
- Written comments on submitted writing
- Individual comments in office hours

Student Feedback

ANU is committed to the demonstration of educational excellence and regularly seeks feedback from students. One of the key formal ways students have to provide feedback is through Student Experience of Learning Support (SELS) surveys. The feedback given in these surveys is anonymous and provides the Colleges, University Education Committee and Academic Board with opportunities to recognise excellent teaching, and opportunities for improvement.

For more information on student surveys at ANU and reports on the feedback provided on ANU courses, go to

<http://unistats.anu.edu.au/surveys/selt/students/> and
<http://unistats.anu.edu.au/surveys/selt/results/learning/>

Policies

ANU has educational policies, procedures and guidelines, which are designed to ensure that staff and students are aware of the University's academic standards, and implement them. You can find the University's education policies and an explanatory glossary at: <http://policies.anu.edu.au/>

Students are expected to have read the [Academic Misconduct Rule](#) before the commencement of their course.

Other key policies include:

- Student Assessment (Coursework)
- Student Surveys and Evaluations

Required Resources

Additional course costs

None.

Examination material or equipment

Students should familiarize themselves with the general requirements here: <http://www.anu.edu.au/students/program-administration/assessments-exams/examination-conduct>.

Any additional announcements will be posted on Wattle.

Recommended Resources

There will be no major textbook for the course. However, the lectures may draw upon the following texts:

Acemoglu, D. and Robinson, J., 2012, *Why Nations Fail: The Origins of Power, Prosperity and Poverty*, Random House.

Banerjee, A. and Duflo, E., 2011, *Poor Economics: A Radical Rethinking of the way to Fight Global Poverty*, Public Affairs.

Collier, P., 2007, *The Bottom Billion: Why the Poorest Countries are Failing and What Can Be Done About It*, Oxford University Press.

Easterly, W., 2006, *The White Man's Burden: Why the West's Efforts to Aid the Rest have done so Much Ill and so Little Good*, Penguin Press.

Ray, D., 1997, *Development Economics*, Princeton University Press. (Introduction)

In addition, the lecturer will provide other reading material (journal articles or book chapters) for each week before hand on Wattle.

COURSE SCHEDULE

Week	Summary of Activities	Assessment
1	General introduction	No assessment this week; optional introduction to Stata
2	Poverty and inequality	2901/4409/8901: Research presentation
3	Correlation and causality	2901/4409/8901: Lecture
4	Impact evaluation	2901/4409/8901: Research presentation
5	Mid-semester examination - no lecture	No tutorials this week
6	Big picture vs. small steps	2901/4409/8901: Research presentation

Mid-semester break

7	Foreign aid debate	2901/4409/8901: Research presentation 2900: Assignment 1 due in lecture
8	Famine	2901/4409/8901: Lecture
9	Migration	2901/4409/8901: Research presentation
10	Education	2901/4409/8901: Lecture
11	Health	2901/4409/8901: Research presentation
12	Corruption	2901/4409/8901: Lecture Research paper due at 12 noon on 21/05/18.
	Examination period	

ASSESSMENT REQUIREMENTS

The ANU is using Turnitin to enhance student citation and referencing techniques, and to assess assignment submissions as a component of the University's approach to managing

Academic Integrity. For additional information regarding Turnitin please visit the [ANU Online](#) website.

Students may choose not to submit assessment items through Turnitin. In this instance you will be required to submit, alongside the assessment item itself, copies of all references included in the assessment item.

Assessment Tasks

Participation

Participation is required in the 2901/4409/8901 Lectorials and in the Q&A following presentations. Participation will be judged by ability to ask thoughtful and useful questions.

Assessment Task 1 (ECON 2900): Stata Replication

Details of task: Students will be asked to download some data and walk through several exercises in Stata to replicate the results of a paper. Code and output should be handed in, along with answers to questions.

Assessment Rubrics

Word limit (where applicable): N/A

Value: 25%

Presentation requirements: N/A

Estimated return date: assignment due 16/04/18, to be returned by 30/04/18

Hurdle Assessment requirements (where applicable): N/A

Individual Assessment in Group Tasks (where applicable): N/A

Assessment Task 1 (ECON 2901/4409/8901): Presentation

Details of task: ECON 2901/4409/8901 students are required to present an assigned journal article. Presentations will take place during the additional lecture hour for ECON 2901/4409/8901 students. There will be up to 6 articles and students may be grouped (depending on the enrolment number) so that each group will present one paper. Presentations will take 40 minutes and the rest of the time will be used for Q&A. Students will be marked for their understanding of the paper, presentation skill, as well as their participation during the Q&A time. Presentations will begin in week 2 and proceed throughout the semester. More information will be made available during the first week of the course.

Assessment Rubrics

Word limit (where applicable): N/A

Value: 10%

Presentation requirements: 40 minute presentation

Estimated return date: see schedule

Hurdle Assessment requirements (where applicable): N/A

Individual Assessment in Group Tasks (where applicable): individuals will be judged on their own component of the presentation

Assessment Task 2 (ECON 2901/4409/8901): Research Paper

Details of task: ECON2901/4409/8901 students are required to write a research paper (3500 words or 10 pages). Students are required to choose their own topic among the topics discussed during the lectures. Detailed requirements will be given in the first lecture. Examples include malnutrition, schooling, foreign aid, etc. Students are encouraged to discuss their proposed topics with the lecturer early in the semester.

Assessment Rubrics

Word limit (where applicable): 3,500

Value: 25%

Presentation requirements: N/A

Estimated return date: paper due 12 noon on 21/05/18, returned during examination period

Hurdle Assessment requirements (where applicable): N/A

Individual Assessment in Group Tasks (where applicable): N/A

Examination(s)

The examination material of the mid-semester examination will be all that is covered in the lectures up to and inclusive of the week before the examination.

The mid-semester exam is compulsory. There will be no special examinations for the mid-semester exam. Instead for students who would normally meet the requirements for a deferred exam (e.g. medical certificate), the weighting will be moved to the final exam. Students who do not sit the mid-semester exam and do not meet the necessary requirements for a special exam will receive a zero.

The final examination will be held according to the published university schedule posted at <http://timetable.anu.edu.au/>. It is the student's responsibility to be informed about changes to the examination timetable. The examination material of the final examination will be everything covered in the lectures, including material already covered in the mid-semester examination.

Should you have a university-approved reason for missing the mid-semester examination or for not writing or presenting a research paper, your final examination will be weighted up to account for the missed work.

Assignment submission

Online Submission: Assignments are submitted using Turnitin in the course Wattle site. You will be required to electronically sign a declaration as part of the submission of your assignment. Please keep a copy of the assignment for your records.

Extensions and penalties

Extensions and late submission of assessment pieces are covered by the Student Assessment (Coursework) Policy and Procedure.

The Course Convener may grant extensions for assessment pieces that are not examinations or take-home examinations. If you need an extension, you must request it in writing on or before the due date. If you have documented and appropriate medical evidence that demonstrates you were not able to request an extension on or before the due date, you may be able to request it after the due date.

No submission of assessment tasks without an extension after the due date will be permitted. If an assessment task is not submitted by the due date, a mark of 0 will be awarded.

Returning assignments

Student work will be returned electronically, in lecture, or in the lecturer's mailbox.

Resubmission of assignments

Students may not resubmit assignments.

Referencing requirements

Students are expected to use standard referencing conventions (Harvard or APA), as detailed in the following guide: <http://www.anu.edu.au/students/learning-development/academic-integrity/referencing>

Scaling

Your final mark for the course will be based on the **raw** marks allocated for each of your assessment items. However, your final mark may not be the same number as produced by that formula, as marks may be **scaled**. Any scaling applied will preserve the rank order of raw marks (i.e. if your raw mark exceeds that of another student, then your scaled mark will exceed the scaled mark of that student), and may be either up or down.

Privacy Notice

The ANU has made a number of third party, online, databases available for students to use. Use of each online database is conditional on student end users first agreeing to the database licensor's terms of service and/or privacy policy. Students should read these carefully.

In some cases student end users will be required to register an account with the database licensor and submit personal information, including their: first name; last name; ANU email address; and other information.

In cases where student end users are asked to submit 'content' to a database, such as an assignment or short answers, the database licensor may only use the student's 'content' in accordance with the terms of service – including any (copyright) licence the student grants to the database licensor.

Any personal information or content a student submits may be stored by the licensor, potentially offshore, and will be used to process the database service in accordance with the licensors terms of service and/or privacy policy.

If any student chooses not to agree to the database licensor's terms of service or privacy policy, the student will not be able to access and use the database. In these circumstances students should contact their lecturer to enquire about alternative arrangements that are available.

SUPPORT FOR STUDENTS

The University offers a number of support services for students. Information on these is available online from <http://students.anu.edu.au/studentlife/>

Other Information

Building Access Hours

Both CBE and HW ARNDT are:

TEACHING PERIOD = Mon – Fri 07.45 to 21.15 and SAT, SUN and Public Holidays is not accessible by students.

Both CBE and HW ARNDT are:

NON TEACHING PERIOD = Mon – Fri 08.00 to 18.00 and SAT, SUN and Public Holidays is not accessible by students.

RSE has a Frequently Asked Questions page where you can find relevant policies and information on a broad range of topics, the onus is on the student to familiarise themselves with this page and the information available.

<https://www.rse.anu.edu.au/students/students/frequently-asked-questions/>