

**University of California, San Diego**

**Econ 116: Economic Development (Winter 2014)**

Class time: Mon/Wed 3:30 – 4:50pm, Center Hall Room 101

Instructor: Prof. Karthik Muralidharan

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Office: Economics 315

Office hours: Tue/Thu: 11:00 – 12:00 (+ lunches to be scheduled)

**Course description:** This course is intended to provide an introduction to the problems of economic development in low-income countries and their interaction with developed economies. The first half of the course will focus on 'macro' topics in development (growth, history, geography, institutions, trade, and political economy), while the second half will focus on 'micro' topics in development (health, education, agriculture, migration, microfinance, and market imperfections). There is no text for this course. Readings will be posted on TED.

**Lectures:** The main form of instruction in this course is the lectures and you are expected to attend all lectures. Lectures will be posted online the previous evening. You can print these in advance for easier note taking. I will leave some questions unanswered in the 'pre lecture' slides, which will be answered in class. The 'final' versions of the slides will be uploaded after the class. Lectures will also be podcast to help you review materials and catch up on missed lectures. You are responsible for *all the material and announcements* in the lectures.

**Sections:** There will be 8 sections during the course of the quarter (in weeks 2-4 and 6-10) where TA's will review the class materials and work through solved examples. There will be 3 section times each week, and you can attend any one section a week (all sections will cover the same material and will be taught by the same TA in a given week). You will need an Iclicker for the sections because section attendance will be part of your course grade. The total grade for section attendance is 20% and you will need to attend a minimum of 6 sections to obtain full grades for section participation (you can drop up to 2 sections and still get full grades – but some extra credit will be given for full section attendance, especially for students who score poorly on the tests).

Week 5 will be for midterm review sections (not graded). The section schedule will be announced soon. If you absolutely cannot make the section time, you can also get the section grades by turning in problem sets (see below). You can pick either the section option OR the problem set option for grading, but NOT both. Administratively, the TA's need to know by the start of Week 3 if you will be using the problem set option for grading. If we don't hear from you, the default assumption is that you will be using the section option for grading.

**Problem Sets:** There will be four problem sets. We will put up problems based on each week's materials by the end of the week. For those who are not using these for grading purposes, these will serve as self-study and review questions. For those using the problem sets for grading, they will be

due in 4 sets as indicated below. Answers will be posted on the course website soon after the due dates and **late problem sets will not be accepted.**

	Date problems put up on course website	Due on
Problem Set 1 (Wk 1-2)	12, 17 Jan	21 Jan (by 5pm)
Problem Set 2 (Wk 3-4)	24, 30 Jan	3 Feb (by 5pm) - Monday
Problem Set 3 (Wk 5-7)	14, 21 Feb	27 Feb (by 5pm)
Problem Set 4 (Wk 8-10)	28 Feb, 7 March	13 March (by 5pm)

Problem sets are normally due in lectures, except for Problem Set 2 that is due in section.

If you will miss a lecture when a problem set is due, you can scan your problem set and e-mail it to the TA’s before the time when it is due. Problem sets will have 4-5 questions each and are only graded on completion (1 point for each fully attempted question). You can work in groups, but each student must turn in their own problem set written up individually. Problem sets will not be corrected, but detailed answers will be posted shortly after they are due. Note again that you only need to turn in the problem sets if you are not using the sections for grading. It is highly recommended that you attend sections for grades, and do the problem sets for practice.

**Grading:** Your grade will be determined on the basis of sections/problem set completion (20%), one midterm exam (30%) and a final exam (50%). The midterm will cover material based on the first four weeks (first 2 problem sets), and the final will be cumulative but put more weight on the materials covered in the last six weeks (last 2 problem sets).

Exam	Date	Venue
Midterm (Week 1-4)	4 Feb	In class (75 minutes)
Final (Cumulative, but will put more weight on week 5-10)	18 March	TBA (150 minutes)

**Review Sessions and TAs:** The TAs for this course are Vincent Leah-Martin ([vleahmar@ucsd.edu](mailto:vleahmar@ucsd.edu)), and Kevin Ray ([kdray@ucsd.edu](mailto:kdray@ucsd.edu)). The TA’s are here to help you learn and attending sections and office hours with questions is one of the best ways to reinforce the materials that you may be seeing for the first time in class.

TA office hours will be announced in class and posted on the course website.

**Website:** Please check the course web site regularly. The web site will have problem sets and answers, the slides for each class, and all relevant information about the class. The website will also have any additional readings that are not on the list below that will be designated as required, recommended, or optional. You will be responsible for all readings designated as “required”.

## **COURSE OUTLINE (By Week)**

Week 1: Course overview and measurement of well being

Week 2: Growth models and Convergence, Foreign Aid

Week 3: Geography, Resources, Institutions, and Political Economy

Week 4: Trade and Technology Transfer

## **MIDTERM (in class on 4 February 2014)**

Week 5: Education (one lecture only)

Week 6: Education

Week 7: Health

Week 8: Finance, Savings, Financial inclusion, Microfinance

Week 9: Agriculture, Cities, Rural-Urban Migration

Week 10: Technology, Corruption, and Modeling Government

## **FINAL EXAMINATION (18 March 2014)**