

## EC307 - Economic Growth - Winter 2013 - Tentative Syllabus

### Instructor: Ken Jackson

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- Office hours (subject to change): Monday through Thursday, 10:00-11:00am, P3104.

### Course Description

This course examines the factors influencing long-term economic growth. The first half of the course will primarily focus on theoretical analysis, while the second half will take a more empirical approach.

### Text and Readings

The primary text for this course is **Economic Growth**, by David N. Weil. There have been three editions of the text - any edition will be a good resource for the course. The latest edition is available as an electronic resource, and on reserve at the library. In addition the Companion website is a valuable resource, available to anyone, regardless of whether you own the textbook. Additional required readings are listed in the course schedule.

### Evaluation

#### 1. Country Study - 40%

- Each student will complete a country study, consisting of 6 short assignments and one longer policy brief.
- Students will choose countries during the first week of term.
- The six short written assignments (250-350 words) are due January 25th, February 1st, February 8th, March 4th, March 11th and March 18th. The best 4 count for 10% of the course grade. Details are on MyLS.
- A longer policy brief (2000-3000 words) on a key policy issue related to **future** economic growth in the country is due April 5th. Detailed instructions on the expected structure of the policy brief can be found on MyLS.
- [March 19th](#) - Draft; [March 25th](#) - Peer-editing (5%)
- [April 5th](#) - Final Paper (25%)
- All work must be submitted through DropBox in MyLS (no hard copies).

## 2. Exams - 60%

- In-class midterm scheduled for Tuesday, February 12th (25%).
- **Cumulative** final exam during exam period (35%).
- If your final has a higher grade than the midterm, weight shifts to 10/50.
- If you don't write the midterm, the final is worth 60% (no excuses required).
- Exam questions require algebraic, graphical and written answers - no multiple choice.
- 6 multiple choice quizzes (of 5 questions each) will be posted to MyLS. Grades from those will contribute to your midterm and final exam scores.

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### **Late Penalties and Regrading Requests**

Late submission of any element will be penalized at the rate of 25% per day. Late submission of the draft means missing out on the peer-editing exercise, and the associated grades. Regrade requests will only be considered if submitted within one week of my posting of your mark, and accompanied by a written statement of the substantive grounds for the request. The entire assignment/exam will be regraded and your mark could increase or decrease.

### **Accessible Learning Statement**

Students with disabilities or other special needs are advised to contact Laurier's Accessible Learning Centre for information regarding its services and resources. Students are encouraged to review the Calendar for information regarding all services available on campus.

### **Academic and Research Misconduct**

You are reminded that the University will levy sanctions on students who are found to have committed, or have attempted to commit, acts of academic or research misconduct. You are expected to know what constitutes an academic offense, to avoid committing such offenses, and to take responsibility for your academic actions. For information on categories of offenses and types of penalty, please consult the relevant section of the Undergraduate Academic Calendar. If you need clarification of aspects of University policy on Academic and Research Misconduct, please consult your instructor. Wilfrid Laurier University uses software that can check for plagiarism. Students may be required to submit their written work in electronic form and have it checked for plagiarism.

## Readings and Tentative Calendar

Additional readings will be announced through the term. Expect one longer article, or two shorter articles, each week.

### Introduction - Week 1

- Introduction - Chapter 1
- Framework for Analysis - Chapter 2
- **Economic Growth's Many Recipes - Dani Rodrik**

### Week 2 - Modeling Economic Growth

- Population Growth and the Malthusian Model - Chapter 4,5
- The Solow Model - Physical Capital and Population Growth - Chapter 3, 4.2
- **The End of Population Growth - Project Syndicate**

### Week 3 - Applications of the Solow Model

- Health and Human Capital - Chapter 6
- Measuring Productivity - Chapter 7
- **A Contribution to the Empirics of Economic Growth - Mankiw, Romer and Weil**

### Week 4 - Technology

- Technology - Chapter 8
- Cutting Edge of Technology - Chapter 9

### Week 5 - Efficiency

- Efficiency - Chapter 10
- **The Allocation of Talent: Implications for Growth**
- Review for Exam

### Week 6 - Review and Exam

- Midterm Exam
- Writing a Policy Brief

**Week 7 - International Trade and the Open Economy**

- International Trade and Economic Growth - Chapter 11
- **How Far Will International Economic Integration Go - Dani Rodrik**

**Week 8 - Government**

- Government and Economic Growth -Chapter 12
- **The Riddle of Growth - Mancur Olson**

**Week 9 - Inequality**

- Inequality/Income Mobility - Chapter 13

**Week 10 - Culture and Geography**

- Culture - Chapter 14
- Geography - Chapter 15

**Week 11 - Resources, Environment and Climate**

- Environment - Chapter 16
- Climate Change
- **The Economic Effects of Climate Change - Richard S.J. Tol**

**Week 12 - Foreign Aid and Review**

- Foreign Aid and Economic Growth
- Review
- **Can Foreign Aid Buy Growth? - William Easterly**
- **Poor Countries or Poor People?**