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 University of Florida
 Food and Resource Economics Department

AEB 4283 International Development Policy Fall 2021

Class number: 26525 (3 Credit Hours)
 Tuesday, periods 5 – 6 (11:45 am–1:40 pm) in [CSE E119](#)
 Thursday, period 6 (12:50 pm–1:40 pm) in [CSE E119](#)

Instructor and Contact Information

Instructor:	Dr. Conner Mullally Email: connerm@ufl.edu Phone: 352-294-7680 Office: 1107 McCarty B Zoom: https://ufl.zoom.us/my/connermullally Office hours: Tuesday and Thursday 9:00 am – 10:00 am or by appointment, in 1107 MCCB or via Zoom
Teaching assistant:	Ms. Yajuan Gao Email: yajuan.gao@ufl.edu Zoom: https://ufl.zoom.us/my/yujuangao Office hours: Friday 9:40 am – 11:40 am

Undergraduate Academic Advisor:	Ms. Danielle Shu Email: dshu@ufl.edu Phone: 352-294-7640 Office: 1170B McCarty Hall A
Undergraduate Program Coordinator:	Dr. Misti Sharp Email: mistisharp@ufl.edu Phone: 352-294-7631 Office: 1193 McCarty Hall A Office hours: Tuesday and Thursday 10:30 am – 12:00 pm

E-Learning

There is a Canvas webpage for this course. To access Canvas you need your Gatorlink username and password. The site can be accessed [here](#). If you have difficulty accessing the page, contact UF computing Help Desk at (352) 392-HELP. Grades will be posted under the ‘Grades’ tab and assignments will be posted under ‘Assignments’ on the home screen. **ALL COURSE ANNOUNCEMENTS WILL BE COMMUNICATED THROUGH CANVAS. IT IS YOUR RESPONSIBILITY TO READ COURSE ANNOUNCEMENTS. IF YOU LOSE ACCESS TO CANVAS, YOU MUST TELL THE INSTRUCTOR OR THE TA AS SOON AS POSSIBLE.**

Required texts and materials

Both required texts are on reserve at Library West. You may use any edition of either book. Other readings will be provided on Canvas.

Taylor, J. Edward and T. Lybbert. *Essentials of Development Economics*, third edition. Oakland, California: University of California Press. ISBN: 978-0520343573

Banerjee, A. and E. Duflo. *Poor Economics*. New York: Public Affairs, 2011. ISBN: 978-1610390934

Course Description

This course is intended to help you apply economic reasoning to the lives of poor people in developing countries. We will discuss what exactly we mean by “developing” versus “developed”, but roughly speaking developed and developing nations are differentiated by per capita income levels and indicators of human development (literacy, expected lifespan, child mortality, etc.). Poor people in developing countries face many obstacles that can prevent them from rising out of poverty. In this course we will study those obstacles and explore policies and interventions to help them. We will cover a wide variety of topics and discuss case studies from Africa, Asia, and Latin America.

Course Objectives

By the end of this course, you will be able to:

- Define key concepts related to poverty and international development policy.
- Describe how key concepts affect poverty and economic growth.
- Use key concepts to solve example problems in international development policy.
- Judge the appropriateness of different anti-poverty policies when given information about the context in which they are to be applied.

Prerequisites

To enroll in the course you must have taken one of these courses:

- AEB 3103 Principles of Food and Resource Economics
- AEB 2014 Economic Issues, Food and You
- ECO 2013 Principles of Macroeconomics
- ECO 2023 Principles of Microeconomics

Course Structure

I will communicate with the class through Canvas announcements. Please change your Canvas settings so that you receive announcements from this class as they are made.

Lecture will be given in-person but I will post recordings to Canvas. This course begins with a brief introductory overview of what will be covered in class and what it means to be poor in a developing country. The remainder of the course is then split into four modules, each of which will focus on an issue or collection of issues. Each module will have an associated homework assignment and exam. There is no final exam. Readings, slides, assignments, and exams associated with each module will be posted to the “Modules” page of the course Canvas site as soon as they become available.

There will be approximately two lectures per topic covered in the course. Each topic will have assigned readings and a set of slides. Slides will be posted to Canvas, as will any readings that are not included in either of the course’s two required texts. Each topic in the class will have a corresponding “lecture quiz” posted to Canvas consisting of one or two questions. Lecture quizzes will be found under the Assignments tab

of the Canvas site. I will let everyone know through a Canvas announcement when a new quiz is posted. In general, you will have 24 hours to complete each lecture quiz once it is posted, although there will be instances when you have more time.

Course calendar and topics

The calendar below will be adjusted as needed and updates will be posted to the course web site. **Exam dates and assignment due dates are subject to change.** A change in an exam date is not an excuse to miss an exam and a change in an assignment due date is not an excuse for late assignments.

<u>Module/topic</u>	<u>Readings</u>	<u>Dates</u>	<u>Notes</u>
<u>Module 0: Introduction</u>			
Syllabus	Syllabus	8/24	
Economic Lives of the Poor	“Economic Lives of the Poor”, BD chapter 1 (through page 9)	8/24	Reading available on Canvas
<u>Module 1: Measurement and policy evaluation</u>			
Income	TL chapter 3	8/26 – 8/31	
Poverty and inequality	TL chapters 4 and 5	9/2 – 9/7	
Program evaluation	TL chapter 2, This American Life "Money for Nothing"	9/9 – 9/14	Follow link to podcast.
Homework 1 due		9/16, 11:59pm	No class
Exam 1		Posted at 12:01am on 9/21, due at 11:59pm the same day	No class on 9/21. All exams are administered through Canvas.
<u>Module 2: Institutions, markets, and finance</u>			
Institutions	TL chapter 8 through page 179, BD chapter 10	9/23 – 9/28	
Information and markets	TL chapter 11	9/30 – 10/7	
Credit, insurance, and savings	TL chapter 12, BD chapters 6 - 8	10/12 – 10/19	
Homework 2 due		10/21, 11:59pm	No class
Exam 2		Posted at 12:01am on 10/26, due at 11:59pm the same day	No class on 10/26. All exams are administered through Canvas.
<u>Module 3: Agriculture, structural transformation, and the environment</u>			
Agriculture	TL chapter 8 pgs. 180-1, chapter 9	10/26 – 10/28	
Structural transformation	TL chapter 10, BD chapter 9	11/2 – 11/9	No class 11/11 (holiday)
Development and the environment part 1	Dasgupta et al., “Confronting the Environmental Kuznets Curve”; “Why Natural Resources Are a Curse” from <i>The Atlantic</i> ; “Food Doesn’t Grow Here Anymore”, <i>The New York Times</i> ; “If You Can’t Stand the Heat”, <i>The Economist</i> ; “When It Rains”, <i>The Economist</i> .	11/16 – 11/18	All articles are on canvas.

Development and the environment part 2	Wunder et al., “Payments for Environmental Services: Past Performance and Pending Potentials”	11/23 – 11/30	No class 11/25 (holiday)
Homework 3 due		12/2, 11:59pm	No class
Exam 3 (not cumulative, only covers module 3)		Posted at 12:01 am on 12/7, due at 11:59 pm the same day	No class on 12/7. All exams are administered through Canvas.

Note: TL = Taylor and Lybbert, *Essentials of Development Economics*; BD = Banerjee and Duflo, *Poor Economics*. All other readings will be posted to Canvas and found under “Modules”.

Exams and exam policy

There will be three exams offered in AEB4283. Each exam will cover a different module of the course. All exams are mandatory. **However, I will drop your lowest exam grade. If you were to miss an exam for any reason other than an acceptable absence, the resulting zero score would be dropped from your final score.**

All exams will take place through Canvas. I will post each exam at midnight on the day shown in the above calendar, and the exam will be due at midnight the following day. In other words, you will have 24 hours to complete the exam. Once you start an exam, you will have 50 minutes to finish unless you have made other arrangements with me ahead of time. You are welcome to use whatever materials you want during the exams: class notes, slides, the internet, etc. But you must take the exam on your own. That is, you may not assist each other with the exam. Each exam will have 30 multiple-choice, true-false, fill-in-the-blank, matching, and short answer questions. The 30 questions will count for 50 points, but your exams are weighted to count for a maximum of 30 points each.

You may schedule a make-up exam if you are unable to take an exam during the scheduled 24-hour window because of an **acceptable absence**. I use the University’s definition of “acceptable absence,” which includes the following:

Acceptable absences include:

- Illness
- Serious family emergencies (weddings do not count)
- Special curricular requirements (e.g., judging trips, field trips, and professional conferences), accompanied by a note from an instructor
- Military obligations
- Severe weather conditions
- Religious holidays
- Participation in official university activities such as music performances
- Athletic competition or debate
- Court-imposed legal obligations (e.g., jury duty or subpoena).

If you are unable to take an exam in the required 24-hour window for any reason other than what is listed above, you will earn a zero. But remember, I will drop your lowest exam score.

Assignments

There will three assignments posted on Canvas during the semester. Each is worth 15 points, but your lowest score will be dropped from your grade. **Assignments will usually make heavy use of Excel and require you do perform basic data analysis.** I will post recorded lectures walking you through the Excel skills needed to complete your assignments. **Assignments must be submitted via Canvas.** Late assignments will not be accepted unless approved by the instructor in advance.

Lecture quizzes

As mentioned above, each topic covered in the class will have a lecture quiz. Lecture quizzes will be worth ten points in total. There will be more than ten lecture quizzes, but I will weight them so that they are worth ten points. All lecture quizzes will be posted on the first day of class. Each lecture quiz will be due at 11:59 pm the day after the last lecture in a module is completed. For example, if the last lecture for “Poverty and Inequality” is given on September 7, then the lecture quiz would be due on September 8 at 11:59 pm.

IMPORTANT: After any grade is posted, should you believe that your exam/assignment is incorrectly graded or that your grade was posted incorrectly, please contact me as soon as possible. After seven days have passed, your posted grade will be assumed to be correct and accurate.

Attendance

There are no attendance requirements. You are expected to keep up with readings and lectures. Follow the course calendar to determine by which date you should have completed a specific reading and watched the relevant recorded lectures.

Grading

Your grade will be based on your performance on four class exams (one of which will be dropped) and four homework assignments. The total number of points available from each component is as follows:

Exam 1	30	Your top two exam scores will be used to compute your exam points.
Exam 2	30	
Exam 3	-	
<i>Total exam points</i>	60	
Assignment 1	15	Your three assignment scores will be used to compute your assignment points.
Assignment 2	15	
Assignment 3	-	
<i>Total assignment points</i>	30	
<i>Lecture quizzes</i>	10	Lecture quiz questions will be shared through pre-recorded lectures. You will then submit responses through Canvas.
<i>Maximum total points</i>	100	

The grading scale is as follows:

Letter grade	Points	Notes
A	93-100	For general information about grading and grading policy at the University of Florida, please refer to: https://catalog.ufl.edu/ugrad/current/regulations/info/grades.aspx#grades
A-	90-92	
B+	86-89	
B	83-85	

B-	80-82	
C+	76-79	
C	73-75	
C-	70-72	
D+	66-69	
D	63-65	
D-	60-62	
E	0-59	

Your score will be rounded up the nearest whole point. I reserve the right to revise the grading scale during the semester. Grading scale revisions can only increase your grade.

Professional Etiquette

- Please do not talk while someone else in class is talking, whether that person is me or another student asking a question.
- Please be on time.
- Please silence your phones and other devices.
- Do not hesitate to ask questions or come to me for help. I will do my best to respond to emails the same day that you send them, and if my door is open, please come talk to me. If my door is closed, I am unavailable.

I reserve the right to penalize any student continuously violating these rules by deducting points from your final course grade at my discretion.

Other Important Information

Students are responsible for all deadlines/critical dates and policies set forth by the University of Florida. Deadlines/critical dates are published on the University of Florida Office of the University Registrar's website, <http://www.registrar.ufl.edu/>. Current academic policies are presented in the University of Florida Undergraduate Catalog, <https://catalog.ufl.edu/ugrad/current/Pages/home.aspx>.

Privacy in online classes: Our class sessions will be audio-visually recorded. Students who participate with their camera engaged or utilize a profile image are agreeing to have their video or image recorded. If you are unwilling to consent to have your profile or video image recorded, be sure to keep your camera off and do not use a profile image. Likewise, students who un-mute during class and participate orally are agreeing to have their voices recorded. If you are not willing to consent to have your voice recorded during class, you will need to keep your mute button activated and communicate exclusively using the "chat" feature, which allows students to type questions and comments live. The chat will not be recorded or shared. As in all courses, unauthorized recording and unauthorized sharing of recorded materials is prohibited.

Absences: Acceptable absences include: Illness, serious family emergencies, special curricular requirements (e.g., judging trips, field trips, professional conferences), military obligation, severe weather conditions, religious holidays and participation in official university activities such as music performances, athletic competition or debate, and court-imposed legal obligations (e.g., jury duty or subpoena). You must provide some sort of documentation in support of an acceptable absence.

Students Requesting Accommodation: The Disability Resource Center coordinates the needed accommodations of students with disabilities. This includes registering disabilities, recommending academic accommodations within the classroom, accessing special adaptive computer equipment, providing interpretation services and mediating faculty-student disability related issues. Please contact this office at 0020 Reid Hall, (352) 392-8565, www.dso.ufl.edu/drc/. Any student requesting accommodation will have to provide documentation from the Disability Resource Center.

UF Counseling Services: The life of a college student can sometimes be overwhelming. Resources are available on-campus to help students manage personal issues or gain insight into career and academic goals. Students experiencing crises or personal problems that interfere with their general well-being are encouraged to utilize the university's various counseling resources. The following resources are available for all UF students:

- For general student affairs, Dean of Students Office, 392-1261 (after hours, call 392-1111)
- For mental health consultations, Counseling & Wellness Center, 392-1575 (24/7 phone access)
- For physical health consultations, Student Health Care Center, 392-1161
- For victims of sexual assault, Office of Victim Services, 392-5648 (after hours, call 392-1111)
- For career guidance, Career Resource Center, 392-1602, www.crc.ufl.edu

Software Use: All faculty, staff, and students of the University of Florida are required and expected to obey the laws and legal agreements governing software use. Failure to do so can lead to monetary damages and/or criminal penalties for the individual violator. Because such violations are also against University policies and rules, disciplinary action will be taken as appropriate.

Statement Regarding Academic Honesty

Academic Honesty: In 1995 the UF student body enacted an honor code and voluntarily committed itself to the highest standards of honesty and integrity. When students enroll at the university, they commit themselves to the standard drafted and enacted by students. In their words, **the Honor Code Preamble:** In adopting this honor code, the students of the University of Florida recognize that academic honesty and integrity are fundamental values of the university community. Students who enroll at the university commit to holding themselves and their peers to the high standard of honor required by the honor code. Any individual who becomes aware of a violation of the honor code is bound by honor to take corrective action. The quality of a University of Florida education is dependent upon community acceptance and enforcement of the honor code.

The Honor Pledge: We, the members of the University of Florida community, pledge to hold ourselves and our peers to the highest standards of honesty and integrity.

On all work submitted for credit by students at the university, the following pledge is either required or implied:

“On my honor, I have neither given nor received unauthorized aid in doing this assignment.” The university requires all members of its community to be honest in all endeavors. A fundamental principle is that the whole process of learning and pursuit of knowledge is diminished by cheating, plagiarism and other acts of academic dishonesty. In addition, every dishonest act in the academic environment affects other students adversely, from the skewing of the grading curve to giving unfair advantage for honors or for professional or graduate school admission. Therefore, the university will take severe action against dishonest students.

Similarly, measures will be taken against faculty, staff and administrators who practice dishonest or demeaning behavior.

Student Responsibility: Students should report any condition that facilitates dishonesty to the instructor, department chair, college dean or Student Honor Court.

Faculty Responsibility: Faculty members have a duty to promote honest behavior and to avoid practices and environments that foster cheating in their classes. Teachers should encourage students to bring negative conditions or incidents of dishonesty to their attention. In their own work, teachers should practice the same high standards they expect from their students.

Administration Responsibility: As highly visible members of our academic community, administrators should be ever vigilant to promote academic honesty and conduct their lives in an ethically exemplary manner (*Source: 2010-2011 UF Undergraduate Catalog*). This policy will be vigorously upheld at all times in this course.

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Any instances of academic dishonesty will be reported to Student Judicial Affairs.

Policy on In-Class Recording: Students are allowed to record video or audio of class lectures. However, the purposes for which these recordings may be used are strictly controlled. The only allowable purposes are (1) for personal educational use, (2) in connection with a complaint to the university, or (3) as evidence in, or in preparation for, a criminal or civil proceeding. All other purposes are prohibited. Specifically, students may not publish recorded lectures without the written consent of the instructor.

A “class lecture” is an educational presentation intended to inform or teach enrolled students about a particular subject, including any instructor-led discussions that form part of the presentation, and delivered by any instructor hired or appointed by the University, or by a guest instructor, as part of a University of Florida course. A class lecture does not include lab sessions, student presentations, clinical presentations such as patient history, academic exercises involving solely student participation, assessments (quizzes, tests, exams), field trips, private conversations between students in the class or between a student and the faculty or lecturer during a class session.

Publication without permission of the instructor is prohibited. To “publish” means to share, transmit, circulate, distribute, or provide access to a recording, regardless of format or medium, to another person (or persons), including but not limited to another student within the same class section. Additionally, a recording, or transcript of a recording, is considered published if it is posted on or uploaded to, in whole or in part, any media platform, including but not limited to social media, book, magazine, newspaper, leaflet, or third party note/tutoring services. A student who publishes a recording without written consent may be subject to a civil cause of action instituted by a person injured by the publication and/or discipline under UF Regulation 4.040 Student Honor Code and Student Conduct Code.

Lauren’s Promise: I will listen and believe you if someone is threatening you.

Lauren McCluskey, a 21-year old honors student athlete, was murdered on October 22, 2018, by a man she briefly dated on the University of Utah Campus. We must all take actions to ensure this never happens again. Any form of sexual harassment or violence will not be excused or tolerated at the University of Florida.

If you are experiencing sexual assault, relationship violence, or stalking, you can take the following actions:

- If you are in immediate danger, call 911.
- Report it to me, and I will connect you to resources.
- Seek confidential sources of support and help:
 - [UFPD Office of Victim Services](#): 51 Museum Road, 352-392-5648
 - [Sexual Assault Recovery Services \(SARS\)](#): Infirmary Building, 352-392-1161
 - Alachua County Rape Crisis Center (confidential): 352-264-6760

Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion: The University of Florida's College of Agricultural and Life Sciences (CALs) supports the University of Florida's commitment to diversity, equity, and inclusion. By fostering a sense of belonging for students, staff, and faculty, while leveraging the uniqueness of the people who study and work at the university, we believe our campus community is enriched and enhanced by diversity, including but not limited to, race, ethnicity, national origin, gender, gender identity, sexuality, class, and religion. This course will support an understanding of the diversity of our distance and campus communities as well as our agricultural and natural resource communities, locally and globally.

This course will strive to create a learning environment for students that supports a diversity of thoughts, perspectives, and experiences while honoring your identities. In this class we will take the following approaches to help achieve this:

- All course participants will use the names and pronouns provided by students for use in class. If these differ from those that appear in official university records, you can change your Display Name at One.UF.
- If your performance in this course is being impacted by your experiences inside and/or outside the classroom, do not hesitate to contact the instructor and/or teaching assistant (TA). Instructors in CALs are a great resource for you and you may provide feedback anonymously. Feedback may result in general announcements to the class, if necessary, or reporting to appropriate UF personnel to address your concerns.
- CALs instructors and TAs like many people, are still in the process of learning about diverse perspectives and identities. If something was said in class (by anyone) that makes you feel uncomfortable, please discuss with your instructor or TA or contact the CALs Dean's Office (cals-dean@ufl.edu).

By enrolling in this course, you are agreeing to the terms outlined in this syllabus. Good luck!