

**San José State University
Economics Department
ECON 112, Development Economics, Fall 2024**

Course and Contact Information

Instructor:	Dr. Triya Seshadri
Office Location:	Online through Zoom meetings.
Email:	Email from Canvas Inbox
Office Hours:	Monday 9am-10am by appointment
Class Days/Time:	Online, Asynchronous
Prerequisites:	Upper division standing or instructor consent

Messaging through Canvas:

Since this is an online course, please feel free to contact me through email (**through Canvas**) if you have any questions or concerns about the content or the course. While I do respond to all student questions as soon as I am able, before you send me a message, please read the Syllabus. Most of your questions will have answers in this Syllabus.

Please contact me only through Canvas. My college id Inbox has no way of filtering student emails. Therefore, your important question may get lost in the sea of other emails I receive. If you email me through Canvas, I can see it as soon as I open Canvas, which I do multiple times a day.

Announcements:

Sometimes if multiple students have the same question, I will make an Announcement on Canvas rather than send individual replies to emails. So, please check the Course Announcements periodically, especially if you have sent me an email and did not receive a response.

Time to Respond:

Please give me at least 24 hours to respond to your emails (48 during the weekend). If you waited a day for my response (2 days if it is the weekend) and I did not reply, please resend the email.

How Often?:

I normally send students two Canvas messages during the week. One on Monday introducing the topics and assignments for the week and another on Friday with a list of assignments due that week. During the first two weeks of classes, I will email more often to help you get into the rhythm of our Online Canvas course.

Things to Note:

1. After the first day of class (August 21st 2024), I will communicate exclusively through Canvas messages or Announcements.
2. Please read the syllabus carefully and completely. If you have a question, it is most likely answered in the syllabus!! If not, email me through Canvas and I will answer your question.

- Please make sure you check your Canvas Inbox and Announcements often. Once the course begins, that is where you will find all communication from me.

Course Description (from the catalog):

Theories of development and underdevelopment. Problems of initiating and sustaining growth. Relations between developed and underdeveloped regions. Economic reform and change in the underdeveloped world.

Course Learning Outcomes (CLO)

Upon successful completion of this course, students will be able to :

- List several economic development indicators (like GDP, GINI coefficient, etc.), describe trends in one or more developing economies, and evaluate their pros and cons in terms of measuring the human condition.
- List, describe (graphically, mathematically, and verbally) and critique several growth models, including the Solow Growth Model, and the evolution of their development within the economic discipline.
- Articulate and evaluate those factors that contribute to or inhibit economic growth (population, culture, capital, technology, human capital, and institutions);
- Analyze and assess the behavior of governments and the impact of policy viz-a-viz development using economic models;
- Determine and anticipate the impact of incentives on development.

Required Materials

- [EDE] Essentials of Development Economics, Third Edition
- Articles, handouts and videos posted on Canvas.

Course Requirements and Assignments

Success in this course is based on the expectation that students will spend, for each unit of credit, a minimum of 45 hours over the length of the course (normally three hours per unit per week)* for instruction, preparation/studying, or course related activities, including but not limited to internships, labs, and clinical practical. Other course structures will have equivalent workload expectations as described in the syllabus.

***This translates to about 20-25 hours each week for this seven-week course.**

Important Dates for the course:

We will do our best to follow this schedule. However, due dates may change based on lesson progress or due to unforeseen circumstances. Any changes will be communicated through Canvas emails.

Category	Date
Syllabus Quiz	August 26 th 2024
Weekly Quizzes	August 26 th , September 2 nd , 9 th , 16 th , 23 rd , 30 th , October 7 th
Podcast Analysis	August 26 th , September 2 nd , 16 th , 23 rd , 30 th , October 7 th
Mid Term Exam	September 9 th 2024
Final Exam	October 14 th 2024
Term Papers	September 16 th , October 7 th

Most assignments are due by 9am on Mondays, and will remain open until 9am on Wednesdays.

Exams do not have a late submission option.

Course Components:

Syllabus Quiz and Canvas Introduction: (5% of Final grade)

As the names suggest, you need to complete a Syllabus Quiz and a Video Introduction on Canvas. This is to ensure that you understand the course requirements. You need to complete these by 9am August 26th 2024.

Weekly Quizzes: (25% of Final grade)

Each week, you will complete between one and two quizzes based on the topics covered during that week. You will have a total of 11 quizzes, and the lowest scoring of these will be dropped. Each week, one quiz question will be a video question. So, please ensure that the Audio/Video is working properly on your device.

Podcast Analysis: (20% of Final Grade)

Each week, you will listen to a podcast and complete an analysis of the podcast. The podcasts will be based on the weekly topics and will focus on real world applications of the topics. You will have a total of 6 podcasts. The first one will be a practice podcast and will not count towards your grade.

Mid Term Exam: (20% of Final Grade)

At the end of Week 3 you will complete a Mid Term exam on Canvas. It will be a timed 60 minute exam. The Mid Term will cover Chapters 1, 2, 3, 4, and 5. Mid Term will be available for 24 hours from 9am on Sunday, 8th September to 9am Monday, 9th September. You will see specific instructions on Canvas before the Mid Term.

Final Exam: (20% of Final Grade)

At the end of the course you will complete a Final exam on Canvas. It will be a timed 60 minute exam. The Final Exam is comprehensive and will cover all Chapters covered in the course. Final Exam will be available for 24 hours from 9am on Sunday, 13th October to 9am Monday, 14th October. You will see specific instructions on Canvas before the Final Exam.

Data Analysis Term Papers: (10% of grade)

You will complete two short data analysis papers to demonstrate your knowledge and application of the ideas you learned in this course. For the Mid Term paper, you will identify a developing country and collect time series data for the country on some economic variables. For the Final Term paper you will continue to collect data on the country you selected and present an analysis of the state of economic development of the country between 1990 and 2020. You will have specific information on these on Canvas. The Mid Term Paper is due on Monday, September 16th. The Final Paper is due on Monday, October 7th.

Late Submissions:

Please plan for these due dates early and submit assignments on time. I know several of you have jobs and families to support. There are significant demands on your time and my time outside of class. I have scheduled grading time when I am not disturbed by my family. However, I understand that sometimes life events get in the way. Many assignments will remain open until 9am Wednesday morning. Late submissions will be assessed a 5% penalty.

Assignments that are submitted late past the grace period can only earn up to a maximum of 70%.

Mid Term and Final Exams do not have a late submission option.

Participation and Lecture Videos:

This is a completely Online course. There are no on-campus meeting dates. Any other meetings will be through online sessions via Zoom.

Successful students usually follow the weekly course schedule and complete all or most assignments on time. They also engage with the professor during office hours and other scheduled interactive sessions and through emails.

In my experience 100% of students who submit assignments on time get at least a B- in this course.

All weekly lessons become available on Mondays in the form of recorded lectures on the Canvas Course page.

Extra Credit or Bonus Assignments

Each week you will have the opportunity to participate in a discussion topic on Canvas and respond to your peers. These will count towards Bonus or Extra Credit Points. This will be available to all students. Individual Extra Credit Assignments are unfair to shy students who do not ask for them. Therefore, any extra credit option will be available to all students in the course.

Some Examples of Valid Reasons to request due date extensions:

1. If you are sick and unable to complete an assignment, you need to email me immediately, please do not wait till the day the assignment is due.
2. If you have been sick for more than two weeks, please email me so we can draw up a plan to help you complete the course on an alternate schedule or Withdraw.
3. Caring for a family member. If your family member (children, parents, grandparents, in-laws) need medical attention (doctor's appointments, etc.) and you are caring for them.
4. You were in an accident.
5. Jury Summons.
6. Other court mandated presence (for example: incarceration) that requires you missing school for several days in a row.

Grading Information

Determination of Grades

These weights are fixed - improvement in other categories will not raise your grades elsewhere. Late work is subject to Late Policy as detailed above. I do not offer individual extra credit. The final grade in the course will be based on the following weights:

Category	Percentage of Course Grade
Syllabus Quiz and Introduction	5%
Weekly Quizzes	25%
Podcast Analysis	20%
Mid Term Exam	20%
Final Exam	20%
Data Analysis Papers (5% each)	10%
Extra Credit	1.5%

Grading Scale:

Grade	Percentage
A plus	97 to 100%
A	94 to 96%
A minus	90 to 93%
B plus	87 to 89 %
B	84 to 86%
B minus	80 to 83%
C plus	77 to 79%
C	74 to 76%
C minus	70 to 73%
D	60 to 69%
F	Less than 60%

Academic Honesty

The Department of Economics takes academic honesty very seriously and follows the policies posted online at <https://www.sjsu.edu/senate/docs/S07-2.pdf>. It is the responsibility of all students to read and understand what constitutes a violation of academic honesty. **Claims of ignorance cannot be used to justify dishonest behaviors.** Any student caught engaging in activities which violate the University academic honesty policy will receive zero credit for the assignment which violates the academic honesty policy, and up to a semester grade of "F" for this course. Faculty are required to report cheating, plagiarism and all instances of academic misconduct (including self-plagiarism) to the Office of Student Conduct and Ethical Development and to the Chair of the Department of Economics who tracks violations. All students must also complete or retake the SJSU Plagiarism Tutorial & Quiz at <https://libguides.sjsu.edu/plagiarism> by the second week of the semester.

All Written work for the course has to be students' original work. If you use a paper writing service and/or purchase papers written by someone else it is a violation of Academic Integrity. If you cut and paste from online sources, and/or use sources without appropriate references it is a violation of Academic Integrity. Using ChatGPT and/or AI generative programs to write is considered cheating. I will report all instances of suspected cheating to the Office of Student Conduct and Ethical Development. No exceptions!

Disability Notice

Please contact me as soon as possible if you need course adaptations or accommodations because of a disability, or if you need to make special arrangements.

The 1997 SJSU policy document, [Presidential Directive 97-03](#), states that "students shall be given academic adjustments and auxiliary aids as necessary to ensure access to all SJSU services, programs and activities." SJSU students with disabilities requesting accommodations should register with the [Accessible Education Center](#) to establish a record of their disability.

I am not qualified to evaluate and determine special learning requirements. Therefore, all academic accommodation requests (for example if you are unable to present your paper due to social anxiety etc.) need to be officially processed by Accessible Education Center (AEC).

Attendance and Online Class Etiquette:

While attendance is not mandatory, in my experience, successful students are present (physically and mentally) and participate in all class activities. Multi-tasking when you are listening to recorded lectures will not help you learn from this course. If you are organized and complete weekly tasks on schedule you will be successful.

Email me (through Canvas) anytime you have a question or concern. I welcome student emails and respond to them as soon as I see them.

1. All course communication **has to be through Canvas Inbox**.
2. I will usually reply within 24 hours except during weekends and holidays.
3. I will use Canvas messages and announcements frequently.
4. I will report all disruptive behavior, and students will be removed from the classroom if they are not respectful.

University Policies

Per University Policy S16-9, university-wide policy information relevant to all courses, such as academic integrity, accommodations, etc. will be available on Office of Graduate and Undergraduate Programs' [Syllabus Information web page](http://www.sjsu.edu/gup/syllabusinfo/) at <http://www.sjsu.edu/gup/syllabusinfo/> Make sure to review these policies and resources.

ECON 112: Development Economics, Fall 2024 Course Schedule

Please Click on Syllabus or Calendar on Canvas to see due dates for all assignments.

Any changes to this schedule will be communicated through Canvas.