# Development Economics: Analytical Outlines

## Prof. Fausta Pellizzari

***COURSE AIMS AND INTENDED LEARNING OUTCOMES***

The course aims to introduce students to the analysis of the economic development studying the evolution of the way of understanding and supporting development, assessing the results of different policies on the basis of suitable indicators to detect development in its various dimensions, and looking at the role of different economic, social, political and institutional factors in fostering or hindering the development process. The study of the contributions of some great economists to growth and development will allow to deepen the understanding of the development process and the policies aimed at promoting it. The course is divided into two parts. The first part explores the concept of development and the actions of international institutions aiming at promoting development. This part then studies the problem of measuring development and how the development process can be affected by various factors, in particular the role of savings, investments, international trade, foreign debt, cooperation and development aid, demographic dynamics and quality of human capital.

The second part of the course focuses on the analysis of different development models highlighting the differences of the basic hypotheses, the supported ideas and the consequent policies; the aim is to encourage understanding of the development process also seeking to develop critical and autonomous judgment skills.

*Knowledge and understanding*

At the end of the course, students will be able to read and analyse main development indicators, know and understand theoretical development models, and evaluate the consequences of different policies on the promotion of development.

*Ability to apply knowledge and understanding*

Knowledge of the tools for economic analysis of development enables students to deeply understand what development means, to understand some causes of underdevelopment and face some relevant issues in terms of economic development and international cooperation, with particular reference to the relationship between economic growth, economic development and human development, to the existing differences in development levels and to the policies to promote it.

*Autonomy of judgment, communication skills, learning skills*

Comparing different theories and policies stimulates critical thinking and skills for independent judgment. The acquisition of previous competences enables students to deepen their knowledge of economic development on their own or in more advanced courses and to disseminate their knowledge.

***COURSE CONTENT***

First part

International Development Institutions.

Growth, economic development, human development and sustainable development.

The human development reports, the millennium development goals, the sustainable development goals.

Measuring growth, development, poverty and inequality.

Lorenz curve, Gini index, human development index and multidimensional poverty index.

Foreign aid, debt burden and international cooperation.

Population and development.

Second part

Theories of growth and economic development: Mercantilists, Physiocrats, A. Smith, T. Malthus, D. Ricardo, K. Marx, J. Schumpeter, R. Harrod, E. Domar, N. Kaldor, L. Pasinetti, R. Solow, R. Nelson, W. Rostow, A. Lewis, dependence theory and endogenous growth theory.

***READING LIST***

The reading list will be given during the course and published in blackboard.

Lesson summaries are available in blackboard.

The slides are an important reference for all students and are integrated in class with explanations and insights. They also contain numerous links to material available on the internet.

The reading list is useful for in-depth study and to supplement learning and therefore is intended for all students, but in particular for those who did non attend lectures.

***TEACHING METHOD***

Classroom lessons. Slides in blackboard. Engaging studentsin individual or small groupactivities assigning them a discussion topic to present to the class.

***ASSESSMENT METHOD AND CRITERIA***

The assessment is based on students’ ability to explain the topics discussed during the course and to use the methods and tools presented to analyse different development issues. Assessment of learning takes place through interim tests and final oral exams. Interim tests, scheduled during the lecture break at the end of the first part of the course, are optional, but allows for an ongoing evaluation and, if necessary, for agreeing on a recovery path. Passing the interim test allows students to take the final exam only on the topics covered in the second part of the course.

***NOTES AND PREREQUISITES***

*Notes*

Blackboard is the online platform for communication and interaction between lecturer and students.

*Preconditions*

Having passed the exam of economics.

Further information can be found on the lecturer's webpage at http://docenti.unicatt.it/web/searchByName.do?language=ENG, or on the Faculty notice board.