

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT: SURVEY OF COURSE OUTLINES IN NORTH AMERICAN UNIVERSITIES

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The survey is undertaken in response to feedback received from readers on earlier surveys conducted by the author in different areas of economics. The present survey of economic development intends to enhance the quality of teaching and will enable instructors to update their reading lists. Students might find the information valuable in completing term projects and assignments. Publishers might utilize the data, especially Arabic numerals in parentheses to arrive at decisions with regard to reprinting of edited volumes, journal articles and monographs. Librarians might use the information from the survey to develop a balanced collection, which is important in the light of budget cuts and rapid inflation in books, journals, and microform prices. To fulfill these objectives, a questionnaire is designed and directed at heads of economics departments requesting information pertaining to course objectives and/or content, readings assigned, prerequisites before enrolling in given courses, methods of grading and recent shifts of emphasis to new areas of teaching in the past ten years. The questionnaire asking for information was sent to a sample of 97 *American universities* and to all *Canadian universities*.

The reference works at libraries in selecting the sample of North American universities where the programs in economic development at undergraduate and graduate levels is considered to be strong, consist of:

1. The World of learning, by Europa Publications, 49th ed., 1999.
2. Guide to graduate study in economics, agricultural economics and related fields: United States of America and Canada, 5th ed., edited by W.F. Owen, 1979.

3. American Universities and Colleges, edited by American Council on Education, 15th ed., 1997.
4. Peterson's guide to graduate programs in the humanities and social sciences, 32nd ed., 1999.

Forty-six (46) universities responded by providing information which shed light on books and journal articles assigned to students, objectives and scope of the courses, prerequisites, grading and some comments on recent trends in teaching. The information on new areas of emphasis in the past ten years has been supplemented by literature search and interviews with senior faculty members teaching the economics of development. The information collected from reading lists is analyzed, compared and tabulated in the form of a bibliography. Incomplete details and typographical errors of assigned readings have been corrected by checking and comparing them with original sources at academic libraries.

A total of (91) books and (372) journal articles were selected from course outlines. Books which were assigned as texts (51) were separated and listed alphabetically by last name of the author under the heading titled "Core Texts." Additional references and/or supplementary monographs were merged with journal articles and arranged alphabetically by last name of the author or by corporate body when there is no author under broad subject headings. Space constraints prompted to condense the survey results without distorting its quality.¹ Monographs and journal articles used by two or more universities were indexed under the classified subject headings listed below:

1. Core texts.
2. Definitions, concepts and measurement
3. Economic growth and models.

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Thanks are due to universities which supplied course reading lists.

4. Income distribution and poverty
5. International trade.
6. Fiscal policy, public debt and foreign aid.
7. Markets and financial policies
8. Human resources.
9. Role of the government.

To identify highly used titles by both American and Canadian universities and to prevent duplication from indexing of entries, the symbols listed below are used in parentheses:

(au) American universities

(cu) Canadian universities

An Arabic numeral preceded by these symbols indicates the number of universities which used the title, e.g., (au2) indicates that two American universities are using the title. If a title does not have a symbol together with a numeral in parentheses, this indicates that it is used by one university only.

There was some uniformity in course outlines examined. The literature search in academic libraries, interviews with senior faculty and analysis of reading lists led to the following overview:

Regarding the objectives and course content, it was offered as two semester course by the institutions responded to the survey. The objectives of the course pertained to expose students to an examination of aggregate topics like economic growth and development theories and their measurement, and a thorough understanding of real world development issues and policies, e.g., why some countries develop faster and others lag behind? why standard of living vary so widely in the world? what variables cause for economies to grow?. Students were expected to be in a position by the end of the course to evaluate the economic policies of developing countries and to offer alternate solutions for faster economic development. To fulfill these objectives, the course was organized to include topics such as, theoretical issues of economic growth and development in the first semester or in the first part of the course, followed by an empirical review of dimensions of the problems of development in developing nations. The major thrust of the course was focused on definition of concepts, examination of policy issues like income distribution and poverty; land, labour and capital in economic development, education, health, and unemployment, fiscal policy and public debt, foreign aid and trade issues, and the role of the public sector.

Regarding new trends, many universities in recent years have been in the process of introducing graduate courses. In the last ten years, faculty members have been emphasizing the following areas in their teaching, deviating from the traditional approach toward public debt of Third World countries. The recent areas of emphasis consisted of the following:

1. Environment and its impact on development
2. Role of trading blocks like NAFTA (North American Free Trade Agreement) and GATT (General Agreement on Trade and Tariff).
3. Topical approach of micro issues in individual countries.
4. Class participation and attendance of students.
5. Questioning or critical review of theories, concepts and definitions of poverty.
6. Role of ethics in measuring economic development.
7. Importance of market forces as opposed to state intervention.
8. Management of resources and human capital.

Regarding grading, there was a close uniformity in arriving at a final grade among most of the universities (90 percent). They emphasized term paper and its presentation to the class as mandatory requirement towards fulfilling course requirements by assigning a little over one-third of the weight (35–40%) to the final grade. The topics of term papers pertained to the contents of the course especially empirical aspects of development in individual countries. The paper should not exceed 10 type written pages, double spaced. Besides, a mid-term test was given by assigning a weight of 20–25 percent, and a final examination with a weight of 35–40 percent to arrive at a final grade.

Regarding prerequisites, students were required to have taken an introductory microeconomics and a first year calculus prior to registering in economic development course. Besides, a few universities (20 percent) expected a prerequisite of an intermediate microeconomics course to enable them to apply their analytical skills to solving problem sets assigned to them during the term. Based on the number of articles assigned to students for reading and the frequency with which those articles appearing in the journals, it is recommended that university libraries should have the core journals listed below to support teaching and research needs of

faculty and students in economic development courses.

Journal of developing areas
World development
Economic development and cultural change
Journal of development economics
Development and change
American economic review

1. Core Texts

- Barro, R. J. *Determinants of Economic Growth*. Cambridge, MA.: MIT Press, 1997. (au2)
- Basu, K. *Analytical Development Economics*. Cambridge, MA., MIT Press, 1997. (au3)
- Behram, J., and Srinivasan, T. *Handbook of Development Economics., Vol III*. Amsterdam, North Holland, 1995. (au5, cu3)
- Chenery, H. B., and Srinivasan, T. N., eds. *Handbook of Development Economics. I and II*. Amsterdam: North Holland, 1989. (au3, au4)
- Fry, M. J. *Interest and Banking in Economic Development*. 2nd ed. Baltimore: Johns Hopkins University Press, 1995. (au2)
- Gillis, M., et al. *Economic Development*. New York: W.W. Norton, 1996. (au7, cu17)
- Harris, J., and Hunter, J., eds. *The New Institutional Economics and Third World Development*. York: Routledge, 1997. (au2)
- Hayami, Y. *Development Economics*. New York: Oxford University Press, 1997. (au1, cu1)
- Hogendoln; J. S. *Economics of Development*. New York: Harper-Collins, 3rd ed., 1996. (au2, cu2)
- Jameson, K. P., and Wilber, C.K. *The Political Economy of Development and Underdevelopment* 6th ed., New York: McGraw Hill, 1996. (au1, cu2)
- Jones, C. I. *Introduction to Economic Growth*. New York: Norton & Company, 1998. (au1, cu2)
- Lal, D., ed. *Development Economics*, 4 Vols. Brookfield: Edward Elgar, 1992. (au1, cu1)
- Lexley, J. *Interdependence, Disequilibrium and Growth: Reflections on the Political Economy of North-South Relations at the Turn of the Century*. London: MacMillan: 1998. (cu2)
- McAllister, I., ed. *Working with the Region*. Halifax: Henson College, Dalhousie University Press, 1997. (cu2)

- Meir, G. M. *Leading Issues in Economic Development*. 6th edition; New York: Oxford University Press, 1995. (au4, cu8)
- Nafziger, E. W. *The Economics of Developing Countries*. 3rd ed., New Jersey: Prentice Hall, 1997. (au1, cu1)
- Rakshit, M., ed. *Studies in Macroeconomics of Developing Countries*. New York: Oxford University Press, 1998. (au2)
- Ray, D. *Development Economics*. Princeton: Princeton University Press, 1998. (au3, cu4)
- Rudebeck, L. *Democratization in the Third World: Concrete Cases in Comparative and Theoretical Perspective*. Sydney: MacMillan of Australia, 1998. (au1, cu1)
- Thirlwall, A. P. *Growth and Development*. 5th ed., Boulder, Colo.: LynneReinner Publishers, 1994. (au4, cu3)
- Todaro, M. *Economic Development*. 6th, ed., New York: Addison Wesley, 1997. (au1, cu12)
- Wilber, C. K., ed. *The Political Economy of Development and Underdevelopment*. 2nd ed., New York: Random House, 1996. (au2, cu1)
- World Bank. *World Development Report*. New York: Oxford University Press, 1998. (au5, cu4)
- . *World Development Report*. New York: Oxford University Press, 1997. (au4, cu3)

2. Definition, Measurement and Overview of Development

- Balassa, B., et al. *Towards Renewed Economic Growth in Latin America: Summary Overview and Recommendations*. Washington, D.C.: Institute for International Economics, 1986. (au2)
- Bardham, P. "Economics of Development and the Development of Economics." *Journal of Economic Perspectives*. 7, Spring 1993. (au2)
- Francois, B., and Chiapori, P. "Collective Models of Household Behaviour: An Introduction." *European Economic Review* 36, May 1992. (au1, cu1)
- Ohano, K., and Ohano, I. *Japanese Views on Economic Development*. New York: Routledge Publishers, 1998. (au1, cu1)
- Sen, A. K. "The Concept of Development" in Chenery and Srinivasan eds., *Handbook of Development Economics* Vol. 1., Ch.1. Amsterdam: North Holland, 1988. (cu4)
- . "Development, Which Way Now?" *Economic Journal* 93, December 1983. (au1, cu1)

Stern, N. "The Economics of Development." *Economic Journal* 99, September 1989. (cu2)

3. Economic Growth and Models

Akerlof, G. "A Theory of Social Custom, of Which Unemployment May be one Consequence." *Quarterly Journal of Economics* 94, June 1980. (au2)

Barro, R. E. "Economic Growth in a Cross Section of Countries." *Quarterly Journal of Economics* 106, May 1991. (au5, cu2)

Benjamin, D. "Household Composition and Labour Demand: Testing for Separation in Agricultural Household Models." *Econometrica* 60, March 1992. (au3)

Binslianger, H. P., and Dlininger, K. "Explaining Agricultural and Agrarian Policies in Developing Countries." *Journal of Economic Literature* 35, December 1997. (au2)

Carter, M. J., and Barham, B. L. "Level Playing Fields and Laissez faire: Post Liberal Development Strategy in Inegalitarian Agrarian Economies." *World Development* 24, May 1996. (au2)

Islam, N. "Growth Empirics: A Panel Data Approach." *Quarterly Journal of Economics* 110, November 1995. (au2)

Johnson, D. G. "Agriculture and the Wealth of Nations." *American Economic Review* 87, May 1997. (au2)

Levine, R., and Renelt, D. "A Sensitivity Analysis of Cross-Country Growth Regressions." *American Economic Review* 82, September 1992. (au2, cu1)

Lewis, W. A. "Economic Development with Unlimited Supplies of Labour." *Manchester School of Economics and Social Science* 22, May 1954. (au2, cu5)

Lucas, R. "On the Mechanics of Economics of Economic Development." *Journal of Monetary Economics* 22, July 1988. (au4, cu1)

Mankiw, N. G., et "A Contribution to the Empirics of Economic Growth." *Quarterly Journal of Economics* 107, May 1992. (au3, cu1)

Matsuyama, K. "Complementarities and Cumulative Processes in Models of Monopolistic Competition." *Journal of Economic Literature* 33, June 1995. (au1, cu1)

RajaPatirana, S. "Macroeconomic Crisis and Adjustment." *Finance and Development* 32, March 1995. (cu2)

Rao, J., and Caballero, J. "Agricultural Performance and Development Strategy: Retrospect and Prospect." *World Development* 13, June 1990. (au2)

Reid, G. C. "Disequilibrium and Increasing Returns in Adam Smith's Analysis of Growth and Accumulation." *History of Political Economy* 19, Spring 1987. (au2)

Romer, P. "Endogenous Technological Change." *Journal of Political Economy* 98, October 1990. (au2)

Schiff, M., and Valdes, A. "The Plundering of Agriculture in Developing Countries." *Finance and Development* 32, March 1995. (au1, cu1)

Solow, R. M. "A Contribution to the Theory of Economic Growth." *Quarterly Journal of Economics* 70, February 1956. (cu2)

———. "Technical Change and Aggregate Production Function." *Review of Economics and Statistics* 39, August 1957. (au1, cu2)

Taylor, L. "Sustainable Development: An Introduction." *World Development* 24, February 1996. (au2)

4. Poverty and Distribution of Income

Ahluwalia, M. S. "Inequality, Poverty and Development." *Journal Of Development Economics* 3, December 1976. (au1, cu2)

Banerjee, A., "Poverty, Incentives and Development." *American Economic Review* 84, May 1994. (au2)

———. "Risk Bearing and the Theory of Income Distribution." *Review of Economic Studies* 58, April 1991. (au1, cu1)

Deininger, K., and Squire, L. "A New Data Set for Measuring Income Inequality" *World Bank Economic Review* 10, June 1996. (au2)

———. "Economic Growth and Income Inequality: Reexamining the Limits." *Financial Development* 32, March 1997. (au2, cu1)

Jones, C. "On the Evolution of the World Income Distribution." *Journal of Economic Perspectives II*, Summer 1997. (au1, cu1)

Lal, D. *The Poverty of Development Economics*. Cambridge: Harvard University Press, 1985. (au1, cu3)

- Lipton, M. *Why Poor People Stay Poor: Urban Bias in World Development*. London: Temple Smith, 1997. (cu3)
- Piketty, T. "The Dynamics of the Wealth Distribution and the Interest Rate with Credit Rationing." *Review of Economic Studies* 64, April 1997. (au2)
- Pritchett, L. "Divergence, Big Time." *Journal of Economic Perspectives* 11, Summer 1997. (cu2)
- Ravallion, M., and Chen, S. "What Can New Survey Data Tell us About Recent Changes in Distribution and Poverty." *World Bank Economic Review* 10, May 1997. (au3)
- Sen, A. K. *Poverty and Fairness: An Essay on Entitlement and Deprivation*. Oxford: Oxford University Press, 1981. (au1, cu1)
- World Bank. *World Development Report 1990: Poverty*. New York: Oxford University Press, 1990. (au1, cu2)

5. Trade and Development

- Buffie, E. "Commercial Policy, Growth and the Distribution of Income in a Dynamic Trade Model." *Journal of Development Economics* 37, December 1991. (au2)
- Corden, W. M. "Exchange Rate Policies for Developing Countries." *Economic Journal* 103, January 1993 (au2)
- Dornbush, R. "The Case for Trade Liberalization in Developing Countries." *Journal of Economic Perspectives* 6, Winter 1992. (au1, cu2)
- Edwards, S. "Trade Policy, Growth and Income Distribution." *American Economic Review* 87, March 1997 (au1, cu1)
- Guitian, M. "The Challenge of Managing Global Capital Flows." *Finance and Development* 35, June 1998. (au2)
- Harrison, A. "Openness and Growth: A Time Series, Cross-Country Analysis for Developing Countries." *Journal of Development Economics* 38, September 1996. (au2, cu1)
- Krueger, A. O. "Trade Policy and Economic Development: How we learn." *American Economic Review* 87, March 1997. (au1, cu2)
- Martinez, G. O. "What Lessons Does the Mexican Crisis Hold for Recovery in Asia?" *Finance and Development* 35, June 1998. (au1, cu1)
- Pritchett, Z. "Measuring Outward Orientation in LDC's: Can it be Done?" *Journal of Development Economics* 38, September 1996. (au1, cu2)

6. Fiscal Policy, External Debt and Foreign Aid

- Afxention, P. C., and Serletics, A. "The Impact of International Indebtedness of the Import-Export Sectors of Developing Countries." *International Economic Journal* 9, Spring 1995. (au1, cu1)
- Burgess, R., and Stern, N. "Taxation and Development." *Journal of Economic Literature* 31, June 1993. (au2)
- Burnside, G., and Dallan, D. "Aid Spurs Growth in a Sound Policy Environment." *Finance and Development*. 32, December 1997 (au2)
- Cassen, R., et al. *Does Aid Work?* 2nd ed. Oxford: Oxford University Press, 1994. (cu2)
- Enger, E., and Skinner, J. "Taxation and Economic Growth." *National Tax Journal* 49, December 1996. (au2, cu2)
- Jackson, P., ed. *Current Issues in Public Sector Economics*. London: MacMillan, 1993. (au1, cu1)
- Pack, H., and Pack, T. R. "Foreign Aid and the Question of Tangibility." *Review of Economics and Statistics* 75, May 1993. (au1, cu2)

7. Markets and Financial Policy

- Alesina, A., and Gratti, R. "Independent Central Banks: Low Inflation At No Cost." *American Economic Review* 85, May 1995. (au2, cu1)
- Aryeetey, E., et al. "Financial Market Fragmentation and Reforms in Ghana, Malawi, Nigeria and Tanzania." *World Bank Economic Review* 2, May 1997. (au2)
- Coate, S., and Ravgilion, M. "Reciprocity without Commitment, Characterization and Performance of Informal Insurance Arrangements." *Journal of Development Economics* 40, February 1993. (au2)
- DeGregoria, J., and Guidotii, P. E. "Financial Development and Economic Growth." *World Development* 23, March 1995. (au2, cu1)
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- . "A Theory of Two Tiered Labour Market in Agrarian Economies." *American Economic Review* 75, March 1985. (au1, cu1)
- Hoff, K., et al., eds. *The Economics of Rural Organization*. Oxford: Oxford University Press, 1993. (cu2)

- Levine, R. "Financial Development and Economic Growth: Views and Agenda." *Journal of Economic Literature* 35, June 1997. (au1, cu1)
- McCallum, B. T. "Two Fallacies Concerning Central Bank Independence." *American Economic Review* 85, May 1995. (au1, cu2)
- Sen, A. K. "Labour Allocation in a Cooperative Enterprise." *Review of Economic Studies* 3, October 1964. (au1, cu1)
- Shaban, R. A. "Testing Between Competing Models of Sharecropping." *Journal of Political Economy* 95, October 1987. (au1, cu2)
- Townsend, R. "Risk and Insurance in Village India." *Econometrica* 62, May 1994. (au1, cu1)

8. Human Resources (Education, Population and Technology)

- Becker, G. S., et al. "Human Capital, Fertility and Economic Growth." *Journal of Political Economy* 98, October 1990. (au2)
- Becker, G. S., and Murphy, K.M. "The Division of Labour, Coordination Costs and Knowledge." *Quarterly Journal of Economics* 107, November 1992. (au3)
- Behrman, J., and Wolfe, B. L. "The Socioeconomic Impact of Schooling in a Developing Country." *Review of Economics and Statistics* 66, May 1984. (au2)
- Besley, T., and Coate, S. "Workfare versus Welfare Incentive Arguments for Work Requirements in Poverty-Alleviation Programs." *American Economic Review* 82, March 1992. (au1, cu2)
- Biswal, B. P. *Optimal Provision of Education in Developing Countries*. New Delhi: Commonwealth Publishers, 1997. (au1, cu1)
- Colclough, C. *Marketing Education and Health in Developing Countries: Miracle or Mirage?* New York: Oxford University Press, 1998. (au2, cu1)
- Cooper, C. "Science, Technology and Production in Underdeveloped Countries: An Introduction." *Journal of Development Studies* 9, October 1972. (au1, cu2)
- Dasgupta, P. "The Population Problem: Theory and Evidence." *Journal of Economic Literature* 33, December 1995. (au1, cu1)
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- Grossman, G. M., and Helpman, E. "Endogenous Innovation and the Theory of Growth." *Journal of Economic Perspectives* 8, Winter 1994. (au2)
- Ingram, G., and Kessides, C. "Infrastructure for Development." *Finance and Development* 30, September 1994. (au1, cu2)
- Kremer, M. "Population Growth and Technological Change: One Million B.C. to 1990." *Quarterly Journal of Economics* 108, August 1993. (au2, cu1)
- . "Technical Change and Human Capital Returns and Investments: Evidence from the Green Revolution." *American Economic Review* 86, September 1996. (au2)
- Parnwell, M. *Population Movements and the Third World*. New York: Routledge, 1993. (au2)
- Rosenzweig, M., and Stark, O., eds. *Handbook of Population and Family Economics*. Amsterdam: North-Holland, 1997. (au2)
- Sen, A. K. "Population: Delusion and Reality." *New York Review of Books* 41, September 22, 1994. (au2).
- Srinivasan, T. N. "Human Development: A New Paradigm or Reinvention of the Wheel." *American Economic Review* 80, May 1990. (au2, cu1)
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- Subramanian, S., and Deaton, A. "The Demand for Food and Calories." *Journal of Political Economy* 104, December 1996. (au2)
- United Nations Development Program. *Human Development Report 1996*. New York: Oxford University Press, 1996. (au2, cu1)
- . *Human Development Report*. New York: Oxford University Press, 1995. (au1, cu2)
- World Bank. *Adjustment in Africa*. Oxford: Oxford University Press, 1994. (au1, cu1)

9. Role of the State and Public Policy

- Amsden, A. "Why isn't the Whole World Experimenting with the East Asian Model to Develop?" *World Development* 17, April 1994. (cu2)
- Angotti, T. *Metropolis 2000: Planning, Poverty and Politics*. New York: Routledge, 1993. (au2, cu1)
- Besley, T., and Coate, S. "The Design of Income Maintenance Programs." *Review of Economic Studies* 62, June 1995. (au2)

- Bruno, M., and Pleskovic, B., eds. *Annual Bank Conference on Development Economics*. Washington, D.C.: World Bank, 1997. (au3)
- Clague, C. K., ed. *Institution and Economic Development: Growth and Government in Less Developed and Post-Socialist Countries*. Baltimore: Johns Hopkins University Press, 1997. (au1, cu1)
- Fisher, J. *The Road from Rio: Sustainable Development and the Non-Governmental Movement in the Third World*. Westport, Conn: Praeger Publishers, 1993. (au2)
- Jones, C., and Kignel, M. A. "Africa's Quest for Prosperity: Has Adjustment Helped?" *Finance and Development* 31, June 1994. (au1, cu1)
- Mauro, P. "Corruption and Growth." *Quarterly Journal of Economics* 110, August 1995. (au2, cu1)
- Sahn, D., and Alderman, H. "The Effect of Food Subsidies on Labor Supply with Sri Lanka." *Economic Development and Cultural Change* 45, October 1996. (cu2)
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- . "Politicians and Firms." *Quarterly Journal of Economics* 109, November 1994., (au2)
- World Bank. *World Development Report 1996 From Market to Plan*. New York: Oxford University Press, 1996. (au1, cu1)
- . *The East Asian Miracle: Economic Growth and Public Policy*. New York: Oxford University Press, 1993. (au1, cu2)

Note

1. Readers interested in obtaining full bibliography of 35 pages may contact the author, c/o University of Windsor, Windsor, Ontario, Canada N9B 3P4.