



**Econ2124B 570
Economic Development I
Winter 2026**

Instructor: Jason Dean, PhD
Email: jdean26@uwo.ca

Course Information

Mode of Instruction: In Person

Calendar Description:

A review of the economic problems of the third world and the nature of the process of economic development. Topics may include: structure of developing countries' economies; theories of economic growth and development; development and human welfare; planning and markets; human resources in development.

Pre-requisite(s): Economics 1021A/B and Economics 1022A/B.

Anti-requisite(s): Economics 3324F/G, Economics 3343F/G.

Extra Information: 3 lecture hours.

Course Weight: 0.50

Breadth: CATEGORY A

Subject Code: ECONOMIC

Notice: Unless you have either the requisites for this course (fulfilment of pre-requisites, no anti-requisite conflicts), or special permission from your Dean to enrol in it, you may be removed from this course and it will be deleted from your record. This decision may not be appealed. You will receive no adjustment to your fees in the event that you are dropped from a course for failing to have the necessary prerequisites.

Course Syllabus

Economic Development
ECON 2124A (Sec 570)
Winter 2026



Professor: Dr. Jason Dean
Contact: jdean26@uwo.ca
Office Hours: TBA (or by appointment Zoom)

COURSE OVERVIEW:

This course examines economic development by addressing critical issues and processes shaping growth trajectories in developing countries. Students will gain expertise in foundational theories, key analytical models, and essential policy instruments used in the study of economic growth and human development. Emphasis is placed on applying economic reasoning to contemporary challenges such as poverty alleviation, inequality reduction, human capital formation, and population dynamics. Historical contexts and classical economic theories are explored to understand their lasting impact on current economic policies and institutions.

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OWL Brightspace:

Course announcements, materials, and detailed instructions will be posted regularly on OWL Brightspace. Students are responsible for checking OWL frequently.

COURSE LEARNING OUTCOMES:

By completing this course, students will be able to:

- Clearly define and differentiate economic development from related economic concepts, critically engaging with various interpretations in development discourse.
- Critically analyze the structural characteristics of developing economies, including historical, institutional, and governance factors, that influence economic performance.
- Evaluate and contrast major theoretical approaches to economic growth and development, recognizing their applicability and limitations in diverse contexts.
- Apply economic theories and analytical frameworks, such as the Solow Growth Model, to real-world scenarios, assessing equilibrium dynamics and factors driving economic change.
- Examine the interconnected roles of education, health, population growth, and labour markets in shaping human development outcomes, recommending targeted policy interventions.
- Formulate nuanced policy proposals tailored to distinct developmental contexts, effectively integrating lessons from historical legacies and comparative economic experiences.

Tentative Weekly Schedule

Week	Topic
1	Chapter 1: Introduction
2	Chapter 2: Comparative Economic Development
3	Case Study 1: Comparative Economic Development
4	Chapter 5: Inequality and Poverty
5	Case Study 2: Institutions, Colonial Legacies, and Economic Development
6	Chapter 8: Education and Health
7	Midterm (TBA)
8	Case Study 8: Pathways out of Poverty
9	Chapter 3: Economic Growth, Concepts and Models
10	Case Study 3: Classical Schools of Thought
11	Chapter 6: Population Growth
12	Case Study 6: Twins Growing Apart

Note: Schedule is subject to change. Any updates will be communicated in class or via course announcements.

EVALUATION PLAN:

Assessments	Weight
Interactive In-Class Quizzes	10%
Impact London	25%
Midterm Exam	25%
Final Exam	40%
TOTAL	100%

Academic Consideration: Students may request academic consideration without formal documentation once per semester for the Interactive In-Class Quizzes. All other assessments (Op-ed Article, Midterm Exam, and Final Exam) require formal supporting documentation. Approved academic considerations will result in an alternative assessment within the course timeframe.

Interactive In-Class Quizzes

- At the end of each class, we will have a brief activity, either an interactive quiz (online) or a paper-based group problem-solving task.
- These activities are designed to reinforce your understanding of the material covered in class and together contribute 10 percent of your final grade.
- Online quizzes will use Socrative.com. The platform is free for students and requires no registration—just bring your laptop or smartphone to participate.
- If you are absent, you will receive a grade of zero for that day's activity.

ImpactLab London Project

In this experiential learning project, you will work in teams as part of ImpactLab London, a collaboration between the City of London and local post-secondary partners (Fanshawe College, Huron University, King's University College, and Western University). Teams will be assigned an economic development topic for London, Ontario connected to the City's draft Economic Development Strategy. You will research the issue, analyze evidence, and produce practical, policy-relevant recommendations for a City audience.

Deliverables: Teams will complete a mid-semester in-class presentation and a final in-class presentation, alongside a concise written policy report summarizing evidence, analysis, and recommendations.

Team roles and presenting: Each group will designate one or two presenters for the in-class presentations (and any optional City-facing opportunities), while work is delegated across roles such as research, analysis, writing, slide preparation, and Q and A support.

Midterm and Final Exam

- You must attend the midterm and final exams at the scheduled times. If illness or another valid reason prevents attendance, immediately contact the Academic Dean's Office to request academic consideration.
- **Make-up Exams:** If approved, makeup exams will be scheduled approximately 10–12 days after the original exam date. For additional details, see the course policies under Academic Consideration and the University policy on Special Examinations.
- Exams will include multiple-choice and short-answer questions, evenly balanced between conceptual, knowledge-based, and quantitative or graphical material. Further information on exam structure and coverage will be provided closer to the exam dates.
- Only non-programmable calculators are permitted. Study sheets are not allowed; mastery of formulas and course material is expected. Electronic devices, including cell phones, smart watches, or programmable calculators, are strictly prohibited.

REQUIRED TEXTBOOK:

- Todaro, Michael P., and Stephen C. Smith. *Economic Development*. 13th ed., Pearson, 2020.
- Textbook Cost: ~\$93.00 CAD (Paperback, estimated)
- Additional Readings may be provided for certain topics/lectures throughout the term.

Technical Requirements:

- Laptop/tablet/smartphone for interactive in-class quizzes (via Socrative)

KING'S UNIVERSITY COLLEGE

GENERAL COURSE POLICIES

2025-2026

1. Academic Accommodations, Consideration for Absences

Academic Accommodation (Accessibility)

Accessibility Services works to ensure that academic programs are accessible to all students, and supports students who may have a condition related to, but not limited to, vision, hearing, mobility, different ways of learning, mental health, chronic illnesses, chronic pain, autism spectrum disorder, ADD/ADHD, and temporary conditions (beyond short-term academic consideration). Accessibility Services provides recommendations for accommodation based on medical documentation or psychological and cognitive assessment. The accommodation policy can be found here [Academic Accommodation for Students with Disabilities](#). Information on Accessibility Services at King's can be found [here](#).

Academic Consideration for Student Absence

If a student is unable to meet a course requirement due to substantial but temporary extenuating circumstances (medical or compassionate), they should follow the procedures below.

In some cases, where instructors have built flexibility into their assessments, this flexibility will already address consideration needs.

Requests for academic consideration should be directed to the Academic Advising Office of your faculty/college of registration. Requests must be made as soon as possible and no later than 48 hours after the missed assessment.

As a rule, documentation is required for academic consideration. For academic consideration requests on medical grounds, the Student Medical Certificate is available at https://www.kings.uwo.ca/kings/assets/File/currentStudents/courses_enrollment/exams_and_tests/SMC-Feb-2025.pdf.

Students are permitted one academic consideration request without supporting documentation per term per course.

Instructors may designate one assessment per half-course weight as requiring formal supporting documentation. Please refer to the course outline for each course.

For further information, please see:

https://uwo.ca/univsec/pdf/academic_policies/appeals/academic_consideration_Sep24.pdf

Absences from Final Examinations

If you miss the Final Exam, contact the Academic Advising Office of your faculty/college of registration as soon as you are able to do so. They will assess your eligibility to write the Special Examination (the name given by the University to a makeup Final Exam).

You may also be eligible to write the Special Exam if you are in a “Multiple Exam Situation” (e.g., more than 2 exams in 23-hour period, or more than 3 exams in a 47-hour period).

If a student fails to write a scheduled Special Examination, the date of the next Special Examination (if granted) normally will be the scheduled date for the final exam the next time this course is offered. The maximum course load for that term will be reduced by the credit of the course(s) for which the final examination has been deferred. See the Academic Calendar for details (under [Special Examinations](#)).

Religious Accommodation

Students should consult the University's list of recognized religious holidays, and should give notice in writing to the instructor and Academic Advising Office if a course requirement will be affected by a religious holiday/observance. Notice must be given as early as possible, and no later than two weeks prior to an examination, and one week prior to a midterm test date. It is the responsibility of such students to inform themselves concerning the work done in classes from which they are absent and to take appropriate action.

2. Support Services

Accessibility, Counselling and Student Development at King’s University College:

<https://www.kings.uwo.ca/current-students/student-services/>

Students experiencing emotional or mental health distress can access services at King’s University College: <http://www.kings.uwo.ca/current-students/campus-services/student-support-services/personal-counselling/>

Good2talk is a good online and phone 24/7 resource for students and is available in English, Mandarin, and French: <https://good2talk.ca>, 1-866-925-5454

MentalHealth@Western provides a complete list of options about how to obtain help:

https://www.uwo.ca/health/mental_wellbeing/

Academic Support Services at King’s University College:

<https://www.kings.uwo.ca/current-students/academic-resources/>

GBSV Support:

King’s is committed to reducing incidents of gender-based and sexual violence and providing compassionate support to anyone who has gone through these traumatic events. If you have experienced sexual or gender-based violence (either recently or in the past), you will find information about support services for survivors, including emergency contacts at:

<https://www.kings.uwo.ca/about-kings/safe-campus/gender-and-sexual-violence/>

You can reach someone supports at Kings by emailing Care@kings.uwo.ca or calling 519-930-4640 to reach a social worker who can offer help.

You can also reach Western’s Gender-Based Violence & Survivor Support Case Manager by [email](#) or by calling 519-661-3568.

Further supports can be found on this website: <https://www.kings.uwo.ca/about-kings/safe-campus/gender-and-sexual-violence/>

See also https://www.uwo.ca/health/student_support/survivor_support/get-help.html

University Students' Council offers many valuable support services for students, including the health insurance plan: <http://westernusc.ca/services/>

3. Statement on Use of Electronic Devices

Use of Electronic Devices: Unless explicitly stated otherwise, you are not allowed to have a cell phone, or any other electronic device, with you during tests or examinations. Unauthorized possession of such a device during a test or examination constitutes an academic offence.

Use of Laptops, Tablets, and Smartphones in the Classroom: King's University College at Western University acknowledges the integration of new technologies and learning methods into the curriculum. The use of electronic devices such as laptop computers, tablets, or smartphones can contribute to student engagement and effective learning. At the same time, King's recognizes that instructors and students share jointly the responsibility to establish and maintain a respectful classroom environment conducive to learning.

The use of electronic devices by students during lectures, seminars, labs, etc., shall be for matters related to the course at hand only. Students found to be using electronic devices for purposes not directly related to the class may be subject to sanctions under the Student Code of Conduct; see <https://www.kings.uwo.ca/current-students/student-affairs/code-of-student-conduct1/>

Inappropriate use of electronics (e.g., laptops, tablets, smartphones) during lectures, seminars, labs, etc., creates a significant disruption. As a consequence, instructors may choose to limit the use of electronic devices in these settings. In addition, in order to provide a safe classroom environment, students attending in-person class sessions are strongly advised to operate laptops with batteries rather than power cords.

4. Statement on Academic Offences

King's is committed to academic integrity. Scholastic offences are taken seriously and students are directed to read the appropriate policy, specifically, the definition of what constitutes a Scholastic Offence, is posted at

http://www.uwo.ca/univsec/pdf/academic_policies/appeals/scholastic_discipline_undergrad.pdf

It is expected that students will submit work that is truly their own, completed without external assistance (human or artificial) except as explicitly permitted by the course instructor. Check with your instructor on what tools, including generative AI (ChatGPT, translation tools, grammar-checking tools) are permitted in the course. Because a tool is permitted in one course, that does not mean it is permitted in other courses.

All required papers may be subject to submission for textual similarity review to the commercial plagiarism detection software under license to the University for the detection of plagiarism. All papers submitted for such checking will be included as source documents in the reference database for the purpose of detecting plagiarism of papers subsequently submitted to the system; see <https://elearningtoolkit.uwo.ca/tools/Originality Reports - TurnItIn.html>.

Computer-marked multiple-choice tests and/or exams may be subject to submission for similarity review by software that will check for unusual coincidences in answer patterns that may indicate cheating.

5. Copyright of Course Material

Lectures and course materials, including PowerPoint presentations, tests, outlines, and similar materials are protected by copyright. Faculty members are the exclusive owner of copyright in those materials they create. Students may take notes and make copies for their own use. Students may not allow others to reproduce or distribute lecture notes and course materials publicly (whether or not a fee is charged) without the express written consent of a faculty member. Unauthorized sharing of class content is subject to academic discipline.

Similarly, students own copyright in their own original papers and exam essays. If a faculty member wishes to post a student's answers or papers on the course website, they should ask for the student's written permission.

6. Use of Recordings

Participants in this course are not permitted to record the sessions, except where recording is an approved accommodation and/or the participant has the prior written permission of the instructor. Unauthorized recording and/or sharing of class content is subject to academic discipline.

7. Policy on Attendance

Any student who, in the opinion of the instructor, is absent too frequently from class or laboratory periods in any course, will be reported to the Dean of the Faculty offering the course, after due warning has been given. On the recommendation of the department concerned, and with the permission of the Dean of that Faculty, the student will be debarred from taking the regular examination in the course.