ECONOMICS 173
SEMINAR ON ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

Course Requirements

(a) Two topics from the following list will be assigned to you for presentation in class; (b) active participation in class discussion; and (c) a term paper (of not more than 20 double spaced typed pages) on one of the presentation topics. Weights in the course grade will be 40% on (a), 20% on (b) and 40% on (c). (If you cannot make it to quite a few of the class discussions, this course is not for you). No final exam. The term paper is due definitely by May 11, the last day of class. Prerequisite for the course: Econ 171 (or some equivalent of a general course on economic development) or consent of instructor (in special cases).

Books

It is not absolutely necessary to purchase any books for the course. But the following books may serve as important general reading:


2. Pranab Bardhan and Christopher Udry, Development Microeconomics, Oxford University Press, 1999 (paperback).


Topics

Some very general topics to be discussed in class are indicated below. You may choose a sub-topic within the general area for your term paper. The emphasis should be on economic ANALYSIS (i.e. using tools and concepts you have learned in your study of economics), NOT on descriptive accounts. You may draw upon specific country examples, but the term paper should NOT be exclusively on the development experience of any particular country. The references cited below under each topic are deliberately incomplete (to encourage you to do some literature search yourself) and at best suggestive (you are entirely at liberty to not follow the references cited and to draw upon alternative readings). All books and articles in this reading list should be on 2-hour reserve at the Moffitt Library Reserve Desk.
A. Impact of Globalization (including Policies of International Trade and Finance)  
February 9

5. S. Collins and C. Graham (eds.) Globalization, Poverty, and Inequality, Brookings Trade Forum 2004, Brookings Institution Press (articles by Ravallion, Goldberg and Pavcnik, and Bardhan)

B. Technology Transfers and Foreign Investment / February 23


C. International Labor Standards (including those for Child Labor) /March 2

2. E.V. Edmonds, Handbook of Development Economics, Vol. 4, Chapter 57
7. C. Udry, Ch. 16 in A. Banerjee, R. Benabou and D. Mookherjee (eds.) Understanding Poverty.
D. Issues in Poverty Alleviation/March 9


E. Credit Market Imperfections and Policy (including the Micro-credit Movement) March 16

3. The Economist, November 5, 2005, special survey.

F. Agricultural Transformation / March 30


G. Population / April 6


H. Rural-urban Interaction (including Migration) and Urbanization / April 13


I. State and Development (Including Liberalization and Privatization) / April 20


J. Corruption / April 27


K. Gender Issues in Development / May 4


L. Environment and Development / May 11