Instructor: Ann Owen  
KJ-260, x4419  
e-mail: aowen@hamilton.edu

Office Hours: Mondays 2:30 to 4:00; Wednesdays 10:00 to 11:30, and by appointment

Textbook: Economic Growth, third edition by David N. Weil

Additional readings are listed at the end of this syllabus. They are available on the course Blackboard page.

Course Objectives: This course focuses on economic growth in the long run. We will explore in-depth the process of economic growth and differences in the level of income per capita between countries. The course will integrate economic theory with reality through use of several statistics laboratory experiences. In short, we will try to answer the question, “Why are some countries so rich while others are so poor?”

This course satisfies the senior project requirement.

Prerequisites: Microeconomic Theory, Macroeconomic Theory, Economic Statistics or Math Statistics

Assignments & Grading

Grades will be determined as follows:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Assignment</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Midterm (take-home)</td>
<td>15%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Quizzes</td>
<td>10%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Participation</td>
<td>18%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Labs</td>
<td>17%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Senior Project Paper</td>
<td>30%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Senior Project Presentation</td>
<td>10%</td>
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Regular Labs

During classes designated as a lab period, students will explore the evidence for the theory we discuss during the non-lab sessions. When you are in class, you will work with a lab partner, however, after the initial lab period, further joint work is optional. You may turn in one joint write-up with your lab partner or you may each turn in a separate write-up. All group work completed in this class is governed by the Honor Code. You may share computer output with your lab partner and discuss the assignment with other lab groups, but you may not share computer output with a member of another lab group.
Quizzes

Over the course of the semester, two quizzes will be given. Questions on these quizzes will be related to the assigned articles.

Senior Project

The approximately 18 - 20 page paper is due on Monday, November 26. You may not use your late coupon for the final draft of the senior project. This assignment is discussed in more detail in a separate handout.

Oral Presentation

Students will give an oral presentation to the class based on their research paper. Presentations will last between 15 and 20 minutes and be held during the last two weeks of classes. More details on this assignment are also discussed in a separate handout. Attendance for all class members is mandatory during this time period.

Participation

The contribution your participation makes to the class will influence your final grade. In determining your participation grade, I will consider the quality of your in-class comments, the quality of the presentations you do in class, your participation in statistics labs, as well as the quality of the feedback you give to your fellow students during and after their oral presentations. Students will also be asked to make two 15 – 20 minute presentations of an assigned reading. The first presentation is a group presentation with two classmates, the second reading presentation is an individual presentation. The quality of these presentations will be factored into your participation grade in a significant way, with the individual presentation being weighted more heavily.

In evaluating your participation, general guidelines I use are as follows:

C: Prepared for class and attentive in class. Infrequent or low quality comments
B: Prepared for class, attentive and makes good comments on a regular basis
A: Prepared for class, attentive, makes high-quality comments on a regular basis

High-quality comments relate readings and topics from previous classes to the current topic or are particularly insightful about the topic at hand. I will consider comments or suggestions related to the course topics that you make both during class and outside of normal class times.

Late Work Policy

All work is due in class on the specified date. Over the course of the semester, you will turn in several assignments in class (several labs, a take-home exam, a paper outline, a rough draft, and a paper.) Each student is allowed one two-day grace period to be used over the course of the semester when circumstances make it difficult to turn in an assignment on time. This will allow you to turn in one assignment as late as 48 hours after the assignment is due without penalty. If
you would like to exercise this option on a group assignment, all students in the group must not have used their grace period in order for it to be available to the group as a whole. **Once you have exercised this option, you will receive no credit for late assignments. Students may not exercise this option on in-class presentations, quizzes, or the senior project final paper.** To exercise this option, turn in the coupon attached to this syllabus with the late assignment.

**Staying in Touch**

Please check your e-mail frequently. Over the course of the semester, I may send you e-mails about course material and assignments. In addition, course assignments are posted on the course’s Blackboard page. Should you miss a class for any reason, you are responsible for checking this page for any new assignments posted and turning in that assignment on the scheduled due date.

**Preliminary Course Outline**

**See the course calendar on Blackboard for specific dates for readings and other assignments.**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Week Starting</th>
<th>Topic</th>
<th>Reading</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>8/23,8/28</td>
<td>Introduction</td>
<td>Chapter 1</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Thinking About Growth</td>
<td>Chapter 2</td>
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<td>Physical Capital Accumulation</td>
<td>Chapter 3</td>
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<tr>
<td>9/4</td>
<td>Physical Capital Accumulation (cont.)</td>
<td>Chapter 3</td>
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<td>Rodrik</td>
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<td>Mankiw, Romer, and Weil</td>
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<td>Kraay and McKenzie</td>
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<td></td>
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<td>Arcand, Berkes, and Panizza</td>
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<td>9/11</td>
<td>Population Growth</td>
<td>Chapter 4</td>
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<td>Lorentzen, McMillan and Wacziarg</td>
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<tr>
<td>9/18</td>
<td>Future Population Trends</td>
<td>Chapter 5</td>
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<td><em><strong>September 20: Quiz 1</strong></em></td>
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<td>9/25</td>
<td>Human Capital</td>
<td>Chapter 6</td>
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<td>10/2</td>
<td>Measuring Productivity</td>
<td>Chapter 7</td>
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10/9 Technology Chapter 8 Bloom, Jones, Van Reenen, and Webb

***Take-home midterm distributed October 9, due on October 22***

***Fall Break: October 10 – October 14***

10/16 The Cutting Edge Chapter 9 Cook

10/23 Efficiency Chapter 10 Alesina and LaFerrara

10/30 Open Economies Chapter 11 Anderson and Dalgaard

Policy & Politics

Chapter 12

Acemoglu, Johnson and Robinson

Fortunato and Panizza

***Quiz 2: November 8***

11/6 Inequality Chapter 13 Dollar, Kleineberg and Kraay

Kotschy and Sunde

Culture

Chapter 14

Alesina, Harnoss, and Rapoport

11/13 Natural Resources and Geography Chapter 15 Gylfason

Resources and the Environment from a Global Perspective

Chapter 16

Dell, Jones, and Olken

***Thanksgiving Break: 11/17-11/25***

11/27, 11/29, 12/4, 12/6 Oral Presentations

Important Notes:

No make-up quizzes will be given unless preapproval is obtained from me.

Students who feel that they may need an accommodation because of a disability (learning disability, attention deficit disorder, psychological, physical, etc.) should make an appointment to see me during the first two weeks of the semester.
Additional Readings


LATE ASSIGNMENT COUPON

Assignment_________________________

Date________________________________

By signing below, I indicate that I understand that

1) No credit will be given for any subsequent assignments turned in after the due date and time,

2) Use of this coupon is irrevocable. Once used, the extension of a late privilege for any given assignment cannot be rescinded and used on future assignments,

3) The late privilege does not apply to assignments turned in more than 48 hours past their due date and time without prior approval.

and

4) This coupon cannot be used for quizzes, in-class presentations, or the senior project final paper.

____________________________________
Signature

This coupon is non-transferrable.