

2014-2015

Economic Growth and International Development (EDEV132)

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Calendar: TBD

Credits: 5 ECTS

Objective and content

Obtain a good knowledge of the main facts and data characterizing the economic development process. Acquire a good command of the main concepts underlying the models of growth and development. Be able to discuss the role of various factors in fostering growth.

Specific Content:

The course addresses the question of economic growth and development under two different perspectives. The first one considers the take-off process undertaken by now developed countries over the last centuries. The second one looks at a cross-section of countries and is interested in the income gaps between developed and developing countries. The two perspectives allow different approaches to the same question: why are some countries richer than others.

The course has four distinct parts:

- 0) Introduction: Stagnation model, data on standard on living, fertility, mortality, technology and institution of the Malthusian era.
- 1) Malthusian world : neo-classical and endogenous growth mode. Poverty traps, data on incoming inequality and global data from the WB.
- 2) Modern world: from Malthus to Solow, different mechanisms of the transition: exogenous shocks, population driven transition, education driven transition and natural selection mechanisms.
- 3) The Transition:
- 4) Specific Factors: Aid, Education, population control and governance.

Teaching Method

Formal lectures based on powerpoint presentations. Some discussion sessions on selected readings



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Support and evaluation

Oral exam and homeworks