

Course Outline

Department of Economics  
School of Business and Economics

ECON 4720-3  
Sustainable Economic Development (3,0,0)

**Calendar Description**

Students examine theories and issues, internal and external challenges, and alternative policy options relating to sustainable economic development. Topics include a comparative analysis of the leading theories of economic growth, development, and sustainability; lack of economic growth, poverty, and income distribution; consequences of population growth and technological change; employment and migration, human capital, agriculture, and rural development; international trade and commercial policy, foreign investment, and aid; and global integration, economic transition, and environmental degradation.

**Educational Objectives/Outcomes**

After completing this course, students should be able to:

1. Discuss economic growth, economic development, sustainable development, sustainable economic development, and various other concepts of sustainability.
2. Describe appropriate measures or indicators of development.
3. Explain economic growth and development theories, and their implications on sustainable development.
4. Identify the conditions of underdevelopment and the challenges for sustainability.
5. Discuss poverty, income distribution, and the causes and consequences of population growth.
6. Summarize the process of sustainable economic development.
7. Critique the significance of employment, migration, human capital development, rural development, international trade, and foreign aid and investment on sustainable economic development.
8. Appraise economic transition and environmental degradation.
9. Relate the effect of globalization on sustainable economic development.

**Prerequisites**

ECON 2950

**Co-requisites**

## **Texts/Materials**

Todaro, Michael P. and Stephen C. Smith, Economic Development, 11th Edition, Pearson, 2012.

Selected readings on sustainable development will also be assigned.

## **Student Evaluation**

Participation	0-20%
Assignments/quizzes	0-20%
Project	0-40%
Midterm(s)	30-60%
Final exam	0-50%

## **Course Topics**

1. Issues of Definition and Measurement
  - Introduction to the nature and scope of development economics
  - Use of appropriate measures for development
  - The structure of Third World economies
  - Common characteristics of developing nations
2. Historic Growth & Theories of Development
  - A comparative analysis of the leading theories of economic development
  - The linear-stages models
  - The structural-change models
  - The international-dependence models
  - The neoclassical models
  - The new growth models
3. The Conditions of Underdevelopment and Challenges for Sustainability
  - An examination of the conditions of underdevelopment
  - Lack of economic growth
  - Poverty and income distribution
  - Causes and consequences of population growth
4. The Process of Sustainable Economic Development
  - An examination of internal and external dimensions of economic development
  - Employment and migration
  - Human capital
  - Agriculture and rural development
  - International trade and commercial policy
  - Foreign investment and aid
5. Integration: Globalization, the Environment and Sustainable Development

- An examination of the challenges faced by developing economies
- The ongoing process of global integration
- Economic transition and environmental degradation

**6. Selected Readings on Sustainable Development**

**Methods for Prior Learning Assessment and Recognition**

As per TRU policy

**Attendance Requirements – Include if different from TRU Policy**

As per TRU policy

**Special Course Activities – Optional**

**Use of Technology – Optional**