Department	International College of Liberal Arts		
Semester	Fall 2025	Year Offered (Odd/Even/Every Year)	Every Year
Course Number	PSCI/ECON/DATA366		
Course Title	Political Economy of Development		
Prerequisites	ECON101 Microeconomics OR ECON102 Macroeconomics, AND PSCI220 Comparative Politics		
Course Instructor	RAJAONARISON Haja	Year Available (Grade Level)	3
Subject Area	Political Science	Number of Credits	3
Class Style	Lecture	Language of instruction	English

(NOTE 1) Depending on the class size and the capacity of the facility, we may not be able to accommodate all students who wish to register for the course

Course Description	This course explores the intersection of political and economic factors influencing the development of nations. It covers theories of economic development, political governance, and their interplay in shaping policies and outcomes in developing countries. Through a combination of lectures, case studies, discussions, and data analysis, students will examine the role of institutions, governance structures, economic policies, and international influences on development. Special emphasis will be placed on the challenges and opportunities faced by developing countries in a globalized world. The course covers data analysis. The instructor will introduce statistical tools students can use to practice at home. You will be required to install them on your PC.
Class plan based on course evaluation from previous academic year	The class plan based on course evaluation from the previous academic year serves to refine teaching strategies and content delivery based on student feedback, enhancing the overall learning experience. Students were asking to increase the word limit for the final paper, which was capped at 2000 words before. So, It would be increased to 4000 words.
Course related to the instructor's practical experience (Summary of experience)	N/A
Learning Goals	At the end of this course, students should be able to: 1) Understand the key concepts and theories of political economy as they relate to development. (DP1) 2) Analyze the impact of political and economic policies on development outcomes in various contexts. (DP2) 3) Evaluate the role of international institutions and global economic forces on national development strategies. (DP2) 4) Develop the ability to critically assess development policies and propose informed, innovative solutions to development challenges. (DP2, DP4) 6) Communicate effectively about complex political and economic issues in both written and oral formats. (DP1) 7) Work effectively and inclusively in teams to address and solve complex political and economic issues. (DP3)

iCLA Diploma Policy	DP1／DP2／DP3／DP4

iCLA Diploma Policy

(DP1) To Value Knowledge – Having high oral and written communication skills to be able to both comprehend and transfer knowledge

(DP2) To Be Able to Adapt to a Changing World – Having critical, creative, problem-solving, intercultural skills, global and independent mindset to adopt to a changing world

(DP3) To Believe in Collaboration – Having a disposition to work effectively and inclusively in teams

(DP4) To Act from a Sense of Personal and Social Responsibility – Having good ethical and moral values to make positive impacts in the world

Active Learning Methods	Problem-Based Learning／Discussion, Debate／Group Work／Presentation			
More details/supplemental information on Active Learning Methods	Problem-Based Learning: Equips students with the ability to tackle real-world development challenges by applying theoretical knowledge to practical scenarios, fostering critical thinking and innovation. Discussion and Debate: Facilitates the exploration of diverse perspectives and solutions to complex development issues, enhancing students' analytical skills and promoting informed decision-making. Group Work: Cultivates teamwork and collaboration among students, allowing for the pooling of expertise and resources to address development challenges more effectively. Presentation: This enables students to communicate complex ideas and findings persuasively, essential for advocating for policy changes, mobilizing resources, and sharing best practices in development practice.			
Use of ICT	ICT, including tools such as Python, Google Colab, R, JASP, and OpenRefine, enhances students' ability to analyse, clean, and manipulate data, which is crucial for informed decision-making and research in development practice. UNIPA (LMS): To distribute course materials, submit assignments, and facilitate feedback. Digital Collaboration Tools: For group projects and discussions, enhancing teamwork and remote collaboration skills. The instructor uses Microsoft Team and the Microsoft environoment too.			
Contents of class preparation and review	Hours Expected to be Spent Preparing for Class: Approximately 3 hours per week, reading assigned materials and preparing for discussions. Hours Expected to be Spent on Class Review: Approximately 2 hours per week, reviewing lecture notes and readings to reinforce learning.	Hours expected to be spent preparing for class (hours per week)	3 hours	Hours expected to be spent on class review (hours per week)	2 hours
Feedback Methods	Written Assignments: Detailed comments on submissions. Class Work Participation: Ongoing feedback during discussions and presentations. Exams and Quizzes: Post-exam reviews to clarify misunderstandings and reinforce knowledge. Office Hours: Opportunities for one-on-one feedback sessions with the instructor.			

Grading Criteria		
Grading Methods	Grading Weights	Grading Content
Systematic Assessment and in class performance	30%	quizz, reaction paper, etc
Group presentation	30%	Depending on the number of participants, a group will be assigned to work on a specific case.
Research process and Final paper	40%	4000-5000 words which should reflect prior feedback from the instructor.

Required Textbook(s)	"Nallari, Raj; Griffith, Breda. 2011. Understanding Growth and Poverty : Theory, Policy, and Empirics. Directions in Development ; poverty. © World Bank. http://hdl.handle.net/10986/2281 License: CC BY 3.0 IGO." Corduneanu Huci,Cristina; Masses Ferrer,Issel Maria; Hamilton,Ian Alexander. Understanding policy change : how to apply political economy concepts in practice (English). Washington, D.C. : World Bank Group. http://documents.worldbank.org/curated/en/364691468326141374/Understanding-policy-change-how-to-apply-political-economy-concepts-in-practice
Other Reading Materials/URL	A list of additional readings and resources will be provided on the LMS, including academic papers, policy reports, and relevant databases.
Plagiarism Policy	Plagiarism is the dishonest presentation of the work of others as if it were one's own. Duplicate submission is also treated as plagiarism. At iCLA, we believe in fostering a culture of academic integrity and responsibility. Plagiarism is strictly prohibited. Any work submitted must be the student's own original work. The use of AI is permitted, but the student must ensure that the work produced is their own and that any sources used are properly cited. Ethical behavior is expected when using AI, and any unethical behavior, such as using AI to generate work for which credit is taken, will result in disciplinary action. Any instance of plagiarism or unethical behavior will result in a failing grade for the assignment and may result in further disciplinary action.

| Other Additional Notes (Outline crucial policies and info not mentioned above) | ##Responsible Use of AI
AI tools must be used ethically and responsibly within academic work. Students are responsible for ensuring the following:
Original Effort: All submissions must prioritise the student's own understanding, insights, and analysis. AI-generated content must be carefully integrated into original work and demonstrate substantive revision and editing by the student.
Proper Attribution: All sources, including those used in conjunction with AI tools, must be accurately and fully cited according to appropriate academic conventions.

##Late Submission Policy: Late papers will incur a 5% deduction per day (including weekends and holidays). Submissions more than five days late will not be accepted and will receive a grade of zero. Exceptions may be granted only in the case of documented medical or family emergencies.

##Lateness of five (5) minutes or more will result in an absence for that session. Repeated lateness: Consistently arriving late can impact your final grade. Emergencies: In the case of a genuine emergency, contact the instructor as soon as possible.

##Absence: Students are required to write an explanation note for any instance of two (2) or more consecutive absences. This class relies heavily on group work, so frequent absences can impact your grade.

To maximise learning, mobile phones (smartphones), smartwatches, earbuds, headphones and other electronic devices must be turned off or silenced during class. Vibrating notifications are equally disruptive. Disruptions: Answering calls, texting, or using devices for non-class purposes is disrespectful and hinders the learning environment for everyone. Devices causing distractions may be confiscated for the remainder of the class period. This includes social media use, gaming, or other unrelated activities. |

(NOTE 2) Class schedule is subject to change

Class Schedule	
Class Number	Content
Class 1	Foundations of Economic Development Overview of the course, key concepts in political economy, and its significance in development studies. Lecture: Introduction to Political Economy Overview of data analysis tools (JASP, JAMOVI, and Python) to be used in the course.
Class 2	Quiz: Basic concepts covered in Class 1. Practice: Group discussion on current events illustrating the impact of political economy on development.
Class 3	Theories of Economic Development Lecture: Historical overview of economic development theories from classical to modern times. Data Analysis: Using historical data to illustrate development theories with JASP.
Class 4	Quiz: Theories of economic development. Practice: Discussion and analysis of a country's development path based on theoretical frameworks. Data Analysis: Hands-on session analyzing the development data of a selected country using JASP
Class 5	Presentation: Students present their analysis of the country's development path.
Class 6	Political Governance and Development Lecture: Examination of how different forms of governance impact economic development. Data Analysis: Comparative analysis of governance indicators and economic outcomes using JASP.
Class 7	Quiz: Political governance concepts. Practice: Comparative discussion of governance structures and their development outcomes. Data Analysis: Regression analysis of governance variables and development outcomes using JASP.

Class 8	Presentation: Students present their comparative analysis.
Class 9	Institutions and Development Lecture: The role of institutions in shaping economic development, based on Douglass North's theories. Data Analysis: Analysis of institutional quality indices using JASP/Python. Assignment: Submit topic for final paper
Class 10	Quiz: Institutional theories. Practice: Group discussion on institutional reforms in a developing country and their impact on growth. Data Analysis: Case study data analysis on institutional reforms using JASP/Python.
Class 11	Presentation: Students present their group discussion findings.
Class 12	Economic Policies and Development Strategies Lecture: Analysis of various economic policies (fiscal, monetary, and trade) and their role in development. Data Analysis: Evaluation of policy impact using macroeconomic data
Class 13	Quiz: Economic policy impacts. Practice: Role-play exercise on policy-making for development. Data Analysis: Simulation of policy impacts using econometric models
Class 14	Students present their role-play outcomes.
Class 15	International Trade and Development Lecture: Theories of international trade and their relevance to developing countries. Data Analysis: Trade data analysis and visualizations
Class 16	Quiz: International trade theories. Practice: Debate on the benefits and drawbacks of free trade for developing nations. Data Analysis: Empirical analysis of trade policies and development outcomes
Class 17	Presentation: Students present their debate arguments and findings.

Class 18	Globalization and its Discontents Lecture: Impact of globalization on developing countries, focusing on Joseph Stiglitz's critiques. Data Analysis: Globalization indices and their impact on development. Assignment: Present outline of the final paper
Class 19	Quiz: Globalization impacts. Practice: Group presentation on strategies to mitigate negative effects of globalization. Data Analysis: Regression analysis of globalization impact on various development indicators
Class 20	Presentation: Students present their strategies and analysis.
Class 21	Poverty, Inequality, and Development Lecture: Causes and consequences of poverty and inequality, and policy responses. Data Analysis: Analysis of poverty and inequality metrics
Class 22	Quiz: Poverty and inequality metrics. Practice: Group discussion on a poverty reduction program and its outcomes. Data Analysis: Evaluation of poverty reduction programs using data
Class 23	Presentation: Students present their findings on poverty reduction programs.
Class 24	Sustainable Development Lecture: Principles of sustainable development and the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). Data Analysis: Metrics and indicators for sustainable development
Class 25	Quiz: Sustainable development principles. Practice: Group proposal for a sustainable development initiative in a local community. Data Analysis: Data analysis for sustainable development initiatives Student submit their annotated bibliography
Class 26	Presentation: Students present their sustainable development proposals.
Class 27	Agriculture and Rural Development Lecture: The role of agriculture in development and rural livelihoods. Data Analysis: Agricultural productivity data analysis

Class 28	Final paper presentation series
Class 29	Final paper presentation series
Class 30	Final reflection 4000-5000 words Final paper is due (see class policy for details and requirements)

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