



The Economics of Less Developed Countries A | ECU33041

Year	Junior Sophister
ECTS Credits	5
Contact Hours	22 hours of lectures and 4 hours of tutorials
Pre-Requisite	ECU22011 and ECU22012 and ECU22031 and ECU22032 or equivalent
Semester	1
Module Leader and Lecturer	Professor Michael King
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Module Outline:

The problems facing less developed countries are among the greatest challenges facing the world today. This module will focus on the diverse structures and common characteristics of less developed countries and will offer an evaluation of policies being pursued.

The module begins by discussing the idea of economic development before moving onto sources of and barriers to development. It uses contemporary models of economic development to investigate why some countries are rich and others are poor.

Topics Covered Include:

- What is "development" and who are the "developing countries"?
- Inequality and Development
- Education and Health in Development
- Financial Markets and Development
- Programmes for Poverty Reduction
- Agriculture and Rural Development



- Population Growth and Urbanisation: Problems and Policies

Module Learning Outcomes:

On successful completion of this module, you will be able to:

- Explain what is commonly meant by development and which countries fit into the less developed country category and why they do so.
- Identify and account for the challenges of government planning in developing countries.
- Appraise the contribution of trade, finance and aid policies to the advancement of developing countries. And formulate a balanced judgement on the opportunities and threats posed by these to developing countries.
- Recognise the multiple functions of institutions and the role they play in economic development.
- Outline the connections between economic development and the environment and articulate a balanced judgement on the potential policy responses.

Assessment:

- 50% Essay
- 50% Final examination

Recommended Reading List:

The main textbook for the course is: Michael Todaro and Stephen C. Smith, *Economic Development*, (11th edn.), Addison Wesley Longman, 2011.

A supplementary reading list will also be available on Blackboard.