



KAUTILYA SCHOOL OF PUBLIC POLICY

GITAM (Deemed to be University)

Rudraram, Patancheru Mandal

Hyderabad, Telangana 502329

Course Code: PPOL6321	Course Title: Big Debates in Development	
Trimester: TBA	Course Type: Elective	Credits: 3
Home Program(s): MPP	Batch/Academic Year: 2021-2023	
Course Lead: Dr. Indermit Gill	Assigned T/RA: TBA	

Course Description

Does it make sense to study international development by studying only the economies that are not yet developed? Is economic development best understood by mastering “development economics” instead of rigorously applying insights from all the relevant sub-disciplines in economics? Even though economic growth is about making people better off, should it be taught impersonally, with dry concepts and depressing prose? This course is designed on the premise that the answer to all three questions is ‘no’. It will span the development spectrum—from the United States and Europe to South Asia and Sub-Saharan Africa—to search for answers to the questions being debated today. It will utilize concepts from several sub-disciplines, including industrial organization, resource economics, public finance, and economic geography. And it will introduce students not just to the economic arguments but also the background and views of the prominent protagonists—people like Francis Fukuyama, Thomas Piketty, Paul Krugman, Greg Mankiw, Dambisa Moyo, Jagdish Bhagwati, Amartya Sen and Lee Kuan Yew.

Learning Objectives

1. Write: Provide briefings on important economic policy debates using presentations, short notes and policy memos
2. Understand: Know the salient facts and arguments in current debates in economic development around the world
3. Analyse: Identify the core concepts that should be of concern to policymakers
4. Apply: Be reasonably familiar with the technical methods needed to analyse the relevant evidence
5. Evaluate: Use these skills, facts, and methods to assess a specific country/state/situation

Course Outcomes

On successful completion of this course, students will be able to:

1. Understand the main arguments in the development economics field as well as interpret the vital statistics in each debate.
2. Assess and provide comprehensive briefings on the current debates in the area of development.
3. Evaluate and discuss various economic concepts impacting development across various countries.
4. Analyze economic arguments, the background, and views of prominent economists and political scientists in approaches to development.

Textbooks and Course Materials

All required readings will be from publicly available sources (documentaries and published material).

Course Schedule

Unit I	Sessions: 4	Human Development and Globalisation
Introduction: Course Objectives Debate 1: Material Welfare, Human Development and Human Rights Debate 2:: Globalisation, Development Aid and International Development		
Unit II	Session: 5	Market Capitalism and Social Market Economies
Debate 3: Capitalism, Social Inequality and Populism (United States) Debate 4: Migration, Spatial Inequality, and Social Welfare (European Union)		
Unit III	Sessions: 5	Institutions
Debate 5: Regulation, Informality and Productivity (Latin America) Debate 6: Diversification, Volatility, and the Development (Russian Federation) Debate 7: Democracy, Development and the Arab Spring (Turkey)		
Unit IV	Sessions: 5	Structural Change and Poverty Reduction
Debate 8: Investment, Innovation and the Middle-Income Trap (China) Debate 9: Poverty, Growth and Redistribution (India)		
Unit V	Sessions: 5	Prospects for Low-Income Economies
Debate 10: Geography, Institutions and Economic Integration (Africa) Conclusion: Core Concepts and Debate Summaries		