WASHINGTON UNIVERSITY IN ST. LOUIS  
Department of Economics

Growth and Development (ECON 572)  
Spring 2020:  M 4:00-7:00 PM (Seigle 306)  
Professor:  Ping Wang  
E-mail:  pingwang@wustl.edu  
Office Hours:  Th 11:30-12:45 & By appointment  
Office:  340 Seigle Hall

COURSE DESCRIPTION:

This course is the first of a two-module seminar in economic growth, covering the last 6 weeks from March 16 to April 20 (no class on the MLK day). I will then administer student presentation on March 4, followed by the second module to be lectured by Professor Costas Azariadis after the Spring Break. This first module is primarily devoted to major issues in growth and development. It begins with fundamentals in Shumpeterian Theory and Big Push Theory, followed by advanced topics in economic transition and transformation as well as in skills, demographics, institutions and trade through the development process. Its main purpose is to help you explore the frontier of growth and development to jump-start your potentially fruitful research in these areas. Weekly materials will be ready at https://sites.wustl.edu/pingwang/courses/advanced-topics-in-growth-and-development/.

GRADING:

Your performance in this module will be assessed based on (i) two homework assignments (25% each) and (ii) a term paper (related to topics covered, 50%, graded based on literature review, motivation and sketch of a new idea; double submission of a paper to multiple courses not permitted). No deferral of homework or term paper submission will be granted except medical or family emergency. Your course grade will be the simple average of the grades received from the two modules.

TEXTS:

There is no required text. Yet, limited chapters of the following books may be useful at various occasions:


TIMETABLE:

3/16  Lecture A-1, A-2, A-3  
3/23  Lecture B-1  
3/30  Lecture B-1, B-2; HW#1 distributed  
4/6  Lecture B-2, B-3; HW#1 due by 4:15 PM  
4/13  Lecture C-1; HW#1 and HW#2 distributed  
4/20  Lecture C-1, C-2 or C-3; HW#2 due by 4:15 PM  
4/24  Presentation of term-paper-in-progress  
5/1  final term paper due by noon (e-copy in pdf only, by e-mail to my WUSlL address above)

* Everyone is encouraged to join the MSG (Macro Study Group) run by Wang, the MRG (Macro Reading Group) run by Manuelli and Shin, and the Study Group run by Boldrin.
READINGS:  (* Required; + Recommended)

A. Fundamentals: Stylized Facts and Theoretical Foundation

(AC), ch. 1.
(BS), chs. 1, 2.
Lucas, R.E. Jr. (1990), “Why doesn't capital flow from rich to poor countries?” AER, 80, 92-96.

1. Basic Models

(AC), ch. 11.
(AH), chs. 5, 10.
(BS), chs. 4, 5.
(GH), chs. 3, 4.
2. The Shumpeterian Theory of Economic Growth

(AC), chs. 15, 18, sec. 21.4.
(AH), chs. 2, 3.
(GH), chs. 3, 4, 11, 12.


3.  The Big Push Theory of Economic Development

(RY), ch. 5.


B. Economic Transition and Transformation

1. Dynamic Transition and Economic Development


Productivity Differences,” AER, 103, 948-80.

2. Industrial Transformation

Handbook of Economic Growth.

3. Demographic Transition

(AC), sec. 21.2.
(BS), sec. 9.2.
+Cervellati, Matteo and Uwe Sunde (2015), “The Economic and Demographic Transition,
C. Skills, Institutions and Trade in Economic Development

1. Labor-Market Development and Human Capital Evolution

(AC), ch. 10.

Endogenous Growth and Income Inequality,” JPE, 100, 813-834.
JPE, 101, 274 - 98.

evidence from aggregate cross-country data,” JME, 34, 143-173.

Taiwan,” JME, 34, 101-124.

Connection,” RES, 63, 237-264.

Bilateral Search and Bargaining,” IER, 39, 477-494.

and wage inequality,” QJE, 113, 1055-1089.


Economic Growth,” QJE, 115, 469-497.

nations,” AER, 90, 1184-1208.
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2. Institutional Development, Entrepreneurship and Organizational Capital (AC), chs, 22, 23.

(AH), ch. 9.
(DZ), chs. 3, 7, 8, 14.


3. International Development and Globalization

(AH), ch. 11.
(GH), chs. 6, 7.


