

**Syllabus for 172: Case studies in Development Economics. Fall 2014.**  
**Instructor : Gérard Roland**

The course this year will not be focusing on a specific continent or on specific regions but will be focusing on specific issues. The theme this year will be on the role of institutions in affecting development outcomes. There is indeed a blooming literature arguing that differences in institutions are key to explain differences in development. The course will familiarize students with the economics of institutions and its relevance for development. All continents will be covered.

The course will be based on my recent *Development Economics* textbook (2013) published with Pearson Higher Education

<http://www.pearsonhighered.com/educator/product/Development-Economics/9780321464484.page>

The book covers all the main issues in development economics and puts a particular emphasis on the role of institutions in development, both at the micro and at the macro level.

Slides used during the lecture will be made available to students, either before or after the lectures.

Lecture 1 (Aug 28) **Introduction.**  
(based on Chapter 1 in the book)

Lectures 2 and 3 (Sept. 2 and 4) : **What are Institutions and Why do they Matter for Development?** (based on Chapter 7)

Lectures 4 and 5 (Sept. 9 and 11): **Political Institutions** (based on Chapter 9)

Lecture 6 (Sept. 16 ) : **Legal Institutions** (based on Chapter 10).

Lecture 7 (Sept. 18): **Fiscal Institutions** (based on Chapter 10)

Lectures 8 and 9 (Sept. 23 and 25): **Culture** (based on Chapter 11)

Lectures 10 and 11 (Sept. 30 and Oct. 2): **Rural Land rights and Contracts** (based on Chapter 12)

Lectures 12 and 13 (Oct. 7 and 9): **Property Rights and Efficiency in Urban Areas**  
(based on Chapter 13)

Lectures 14 and 15 (Oct. 14 and 16): **Market Development** (based on Chapter 14)

Lectures 16 and 17 (Oct. 21 and 23): **Credit Markets in Development** (based on Chapter 15)

Lectures 18 and 19 (Oct. 28 and 30): **Institutions and Growth** (based on Chapter 4)

Lectures 20 and 21 (Nov. 4 and 6): **Healthcare** (based on Chapter 16)

Lectures 22 and 23 (Nov. 11 and 13): **Education** (based on Chapter 17)

Lecture 24 (Nov. 18): **Infrastructure** (based on Chapter 18)

Lecture 25 and 26 (Nov. 20 and 24): **Corruption** (based on Chapter 19)

Lectures 27 and 28 (December 2 and 4): **Conflict** (based on Chapter 20)

**Grade:** 30% based on sections, 30% mid-term exam, 40% final exam.