

Syllabus
Econ La Ceiba
Development in Practice
University of Mary Washington
Fall 2010
TR 9:30 – 10:45
1004 College Avenue

Instructor: Dr. Shawn Humphrey

Contact Information:

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Office Hours: M from 10:00 am – 11 am and TR from 4:30 pm – 6 pm. You can make an appointment by phone, email, or in class.

Required Texts:

Daryl Collins, Jonathan Murdoch, Stuart Rutherford, and Orlanda Ruthven “Portfolios of the Poor: How the World’s Poor Live on \$2 a Day” (2009)

Additional Readings will be placed on Blackboard or shared via gmail

Course Requirements:

Progress Reports: Students will be organized around Team Projects (see blackboard for *Projects Overview*). Four progress reports worth 10 points each will be submitted every four weeks detailing the team’s progress on their respective projects. See blackboard for the *Progress Report Overview*

Course Readings Blog: Each student will keep a blog during the semester. See blackboard for *Blog Overview*.

Constant Client Contact: See blackboard for the *Constant Client Contact Overview*

Vision/Mission/Values: This is a class assignment. While some time will be provided during class time, this assignment will be conducted and completed outside of class. The deadline will be the end of October. You will grade each other’s effort in a secret ballot.

Discretionary Points: Given that flexibility and quick response to opportunities on the ground are crucial to our success, I have set aside 10 points that I can use at my discretion to get particular tasks accomplished. I also reserve the right to add some or all of these points to an existing assignment. If for some reason, I do not use these points then you will get all 10 automatically.

Journal: Each student will keep a daily journal while we are in Honduras. The purpose of your journal is to reflect upon the overall experience of being in the community and the gap that exists between the classroom experience and reality. Your journal will be due Friday, January 15, 2009 at 5 pm. See blackboard for the *Journal Overview*.

Personal Experience Portfolio: See blackboard for the *Personal Experience Portfolio Overview*

Final Report: Upon our return from Honduras, you will compose a Final Report and accompanying PowerPoint presentation. This report is a group project, is worth 20 points, and is due January 31. Upon its submission and grading, you will receive your final grade for the class. This is essentially a final Progress Report. See blackboard for a *Benchmark Final Report*.

Individual Meeting Times: We will be working on six projects throughout the semester. I will set up a time outside of our regular schedule to meet with at least one project representative every two weeks.

Grading:

Progress Reports	40	points
Blog	40	points
Vision/Mission/Values	10	points
Constant Client Contact	10	points
Journal	25	points
Discretionary Points	10	points
Final Report	20	points
Personal Experience Portfolio	20	points
Total:	175	points

Final Grades: (Your Score/175)

A	=	93 – 100%
A -	=	90 – 92 %
B +	=	87 – 89%
B	=	83 – 86%
B -	=	80 – 82%
C +	=	77 – 79%
C	=	73 – 76%
C -	=	70 – 72%
D +	=	67 – 69%
D	=	60 – 66%
F	=	< 60%

Course Policies: See Blackboard for *Student Expectations* document.

Course Schedule (Subject to Change):

Week 1 (08/24 – 08/26): Syllabus and Getting Organized

Readings:

Illich “To Hell with Good Intentions”

Assignment:

Blog Entry

Week 2 (08/31 – 09/02):

Readings:

Fisher “Real Good not Feel Good”

Datar “Clients Must Come First”

Fisher “Income is Development”

Assignment:

Blog Entry

Week 3 (09/07 – 09/09)**Readings:**

Sen “Development as Freedom” (Preface and Introduction)

Assignment:

Blog Entry

Week 4 (09/14 – 09/16)**Readings:**

Sen “Development as Freedom” (Chapters 1, 2 and 4)

Assignments:

Blog Entry

Progress Report #1 (due 09/16)

Week 5 (09/21 – 09/23)**Readings:**

Easterly “White Man’s Burden” (Chapters 1 and 3)

Assignment:

Blog Entry

Week 6 (09/28 – 09/30)**Readings:**

Collins “Portfolios of the Poor” (Chapters 1 and 2)

Additional Readings:

Banerjee and Duflo “The Economic Lives of the Poor”

Prahalad “Bottom of the Pyramid” (preface and Ch. 1)

Assignment:

Blog Entry

Week 7 (10/05 – 10/07):**Readings:**

Collins “Portfolios of the Poor” (Chapters 3 and 4)

Additional Readings:

“Life and Death on \$1 a day”

“The hidden wealth of the poor. Survey,” *The Economist*, November 3, 2005.

Assignment:

Blog Entry

Week 8 (10/12 – 10/14)**Readings:**

Armendariz de Aghion “Economics of Microfinance” (Chapters 1 and 2)

Additional Readings:

Karani – MFI Misses Mark

Whaton – Microfinance Elusive

Assignment:

Blog Entry

Progress Report #2 due (10/14)

Important Dates

Fall Break – no class 10/12

Week 9 (10/19 – 10/21)

Readings:

Armendariz de Aghion “Economics of Microfinance” (Chapter 5)

Assignment:

Blog Entry

Week 10 (10/26 – 10/28)

Readings:

UNDP Lessons 1.1 – 1.4

Assignment:

Blog Entry

Vision/Mission/Values

Homepage and Newsletter

II. Getting Ready for Honduras

Week 11 (11/02 – 11/04)

Reading:

Development Fieldwork - Chapters 1 (pp. 1 – 10), 6 (pp. 97-108) and 7 (pp. 119 – 31)

Trip Preparation Packet

Assignment:

Blog Entry

Institutional Review Board Certification

Week 12 (11/09 – 11/11)

Readings:

Development Fieldwork - Chapters 8 (pp. 139-49 and pp. 155-8) and 9

Assignment:

Progress Report #3 due (11/11)

Blog Entry

Week 13 (11/16 – 11/18): In the Field and Methodology

Readings:

Development Fieldwork – Chapters 10 (pp. 202-11) and 11 (pp. 219-21)

Assignment:

Blog Entry

Week 14 (11/23 – 11/25)

Catching Our Collective Breath...Thanksgiving

Week 15 (11/30 – 12/02)

Readings:

Getting Ready to Leave

Assignment:

Progress Report #4 due (12/02)

Week 16 (12/07 – 12/09): Getting Ready to Leave

Depart for Honduras on 12/11/10 and return 12/18/10