Course overview: Why are some countries rich and others poor? To help answer this question, we start by examining leading theories of economic development. In light of these theories, we then examine the development experiences of three major regions of the world. We next consider a series of issues about development, including the effect of ethnic diversity, corruption, natural resources and women’s empowerment on economic development. We conclude with an examination of the effects of the international interactions—via trade, foreign aid, migration and war—on economic development.

Assignments and grading: The final class grade will be based on:
- A first in-class exam, for 30% of the class grade,
- A second in-class exam, for 30% of the class grade, and
- A final exam, for 40% of the class grade.

Disabilities: Students needing special accommodations to enable full participation in this course should contact me during the first week of class. All information will remain confidential. You may, in addition to contacting me, contact the McBurney Disability Resource Center (www.mcburney.wisc.edu) at 1305 Linden Drive and 608.263.2741 regarding questions about campus policies and services.

Class plan (subject to modification; readings are on Canvas):

Class 1 (9/7): Introduction

Class 2 (9/12): What is development? How can we measure it?

Class 3 (9/14): Poor countries in comparative perspective, and the economic lives of the poor

**Class 4 (9/19): Growth theory**

**Class 5 (9/21): Policies**

**Class 6 (9/26): Geography**

**Class 7 (9/28): Culture**

**Class 8 (10/3): Institutions: The state**

**Class 9 (10/5): Institutions: Private property**

**Class 10 (10/10): First in-class exam**

**Class 11 (10/12): Command economies, 1/2**
Class 12 (10/17): Command economies, 2/2

Class 13 (10/19): The developmental state in East Asia

Class 14 (10/24): How did the West develop?

Class 15 (10/26): Regime type

Class 16 (10/31): Gender

Class 17 (11/2): Accountability

Class 18 (11/7): Corruption
Class 19 (11/9): Second in-class exam

Class 20 (11/14): Resource curse

Class 21 (11/16): Ethnic differences

Class 22 (11/21): Trade

(No class on 11/23: Thanksgiving Recess)

Class 23 (11/28): Aid, 1/2

Class 24 (11/30): Aid, 2/2
- Moyo, Dambisa. 2009. *Dead aid: Why aid is not working and how there is a better way for Africa*: Macmillan.

Class 25 (12/5): Migration

Class 26 (12/7): Military intervention
Class 27 (12/12): Conclusions

Final, 12/16, 5:05-7:05PM