

University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign
College of Liberal Arts & Sciences
Department of Economics
Spring 2026

ECON 519: Economic Development, Migration and Growth

Monday and Wednesday
David Kinley Hall 215

Instructor: Prof. Marieke Kleemans
E-mail: kleemans@illinois.edu
Office: DKH 101B

Office Hours:

- Before spring break, open office hours will be held on Mondays from 2:00 pm to 2:40 pm and after spring break (so from March 23rd onwards), open office hours will be held on Mondays from 12.20 – 12.50 pm. All office hours will be held on zoom and in DKH 101B. You can access the zoom room by going to <https://illinois.zoom.us/my/kleemans>, password “kleemans”
- If you’d like to make an individual appointment at another time, please go to www.mariekekleemans.com – contact and choose a time that works for you. If you cannot find a time, please email Prof. Kleemans at kleemans@illinois.edu.

Course Description:

This class deals with the inter-relationships between economic development, growth, and migration. After introducing the basic concepts of poverty and inequality - between as well as within countries - this course focuses on the role that population growth and structural transformation play in the process of economic development. The causes of migration and its consequences are examined at national and international levels together with their policy implications, including those related to urbanization, brain drain and labor market impacts of immigration.

Course Prerequisites: Econ 102 and Econ 103. Econ 302 strongly recommended. Introduction to statistics strongly recommended (e.g. Econ 202 or Stats 100). Calculus strong recommended (e.g. Math 220 and 221).

Course Format: Combined lecture and discussion every Monday and Wednesday in DKH 215B

Learning Resources:

Required texts:

Primary source: Todaro, Michael P. and Stephen Smith, ‘Economic Development,’ 2014, 12th edition, Pearson. Earlier versions of the book may be used but the student is responsible for ensuring that the material of the 12th edition is covered:

‘TS’ Chapters 3.3, 5, 6 and 7

Auxiliary source: Castles, Steven, Hein de Haas and Mark J. Miller, ‘The Age of Migration: International Population Movements in the Modern World,’ 2014, fifth edn., Palgrave: London. ‘CHM’ Chapters 1, 3, 4, 9, 10, 11 and 12

Academic papers and case studies provided on Canvas.

Todaro and Smith is available at the bookstore and are also on reserve at the undergraduate library where they can be borrowed for two hours.

Semester Schedule: See the proposed schedule on Canvas.

Student Assessment:

*Scoring**

1 Exams	35 %
Paper and in-class presentation	24 % (12% + 12%)
7 Homeworks	41 %

Please check the schedule for the points awarded for each homework.

The total score s for the class corresponds to final grades as follows:

$97\% \leq s < 100\%$	A+	$93\% \leq s < 97\%$	A	$90\% \leq s < 93\%$	A-
$87\% \leq s < 90\%$	B+	$83\% \leq s < 87\%$	B	$80\% \leq s < 83\%$	B-
$77\% \leq s < 80\%$	C+	$73\% \leq s < 77\%$	C	$70\% \leq s < 73\%$	C-
$67\% \leq s < 70\%$	D+	$63\% \leq s < 67\%$	D	$60\% \leq s < 63\%$	D-
$s < 60\%$	F				

Regrades requests: Any regrade requests should be submitted by email: kleemans@illinois.edu. Please use email subject “Econ 519 Regrade request” and briefly motivate your request. Important: note that for all regrades, the initial grade will be deleted and the whole problem set or exam will be regraded. The resulting grade, which may be higher or lower than the initial grade, will replace the old grade. The same problem set or exam will only be regarded once.

Rules and regulations:

- Late assignments will not be accepted
- **All assignments need to be handed in on Canvas;** hard-copy or emailed assignments are not accepted.
 - Canvas allows you to change your assignment after submitting until the deadline.
 - Corrections by email (even before the deadline) are not accepted.
- Class attendance is not required, but please note the following exceptions and rules:
 - The grade for the in-class presentation includes points for attendance.
 - All material discussed in class is considered exam material, even if it's not covered in the class' reading material.
 - The instructor will not repeat material discussed in class either in office hours or by email. The instructor may deviate only if there was a legitimate reason for missing the class, and the instructor was informed in advance of the class of the student's absence.
- Emails will only be answered between 10am and 5 pm on weekdays.
 - If a student sends an email after 5 pm, the email will not be answered that same day, even if there is a deadline for an assignment.
 - **Always include “Econ 519” in the subject for any class-related email** you sent to me
 - I do my best to respond within 48 hours during weekdays. If it takes longer, please send a reminder and check that you put “Econ 519” in the email subject
- The instructor will not answer questions in class or by email about homework assignments that have not yet been introduced in class, even though they may have been posted already.

Academic Dates and Deadlines:

Students should make note of important academic dates for making changes to their courses (add, drop, credit/no-credit, grade replacement, etc.). <https://registrar.illinois.edu/academic-calendars>

Assessment Policies

Assignment Policy:

All assignments are to be turned in on Canvas by the due date. Late assignments receive no credit. The assignment portion of your grade will be the average of all your assignment scores weighted by the points as indicated on the schedule.

Exam Policy:

The following materials are allowed for use during the exam: pen and scientific calculator. There are to be no books, papers other than the exam itself (which I provide), cell-phones or other items. Students found to be using unapproved items are in violation of the Academic Integrity policy of the University and will be subject to disciplinary action.

Exam Conflict Policy:

From the University's exam policy:

- Any student having more than two consecutive examinations is entitled to rescheduling as follows if he or she takes the following action no later than the last day of classes:
 - The student must investigate whether a conflict examination is being held at another time for any of the examinations involved.
 - If a conflict examination has been scheduled for any of the courses, the student must take one or more of these conflict examinations. If conflict examinations are offered for more than one course, the student must take the conflict for the course that has the largest number of students.
 - If no conflict examinations have been scheduled, the student must contact the instructor of the course having the largest number of students. The contact must be made no later than the last day of classes, and that instructor must provide a makeup examination.
 - Normally in a semester several combined-sections, conflict, and noncombined examinations are given at the same time. As a guide to resolving conflicts, an order of priority has been established within each examination period, and a student should resolve a conflict using the published examination schedules and the following priority guidelines.
 - National and state professional examinations (e.g., CPA, actuarial science, Architecture Registration Examination) take priority over campus final examinations. An instructor must offer a conflict examination to a student scheduled to take a national or state professional examination and a campus final examination at the same time.
 - A noncombined course examination has precedence over any combined-sections or conflict examination.
 - A department offering a combined-sections final examination must provide a conflict examination if required to accommodate student conflicts.

The University's final exam policy is available at:

http://studentcode.illinois.edu/article3_part2_3-201.html

Emergency Response Recommendations:

The university maintains guidelines for emergency responses. A list of recommendations when to evacuate and when to find shelter are available at:

http://illinois.edu/cms/2251/general_emergency_response_recommendations_8_16_13_final.docx

Floor plans for specific buildings are available at:

<http://police.illinois.edu/emergencyplanning/floorplans/>

Statement on Accommodations:

To obtain disability-related academic adjustments and/or auxiliary aids, students with disabilities must contact the course instructor and the Disability Resources Educational Services (DRES) as soon as possible. To contact DRES you may visit 1207 S. Oak Street, Champaign, call 333-4603 (V/TTY), or email a message to disability@uiuc.edu.

Academic Integrity:

“The University has the responsibility for maintaining academic integrity so as to protect the quality of education and research on our campus and to protect those who depend upon our integrity.

Expectations of Students. It is the responsibility of each student to refrain from infractions of academic integrity, from conduct that may lead to suspicion of such infractions, and from conduct that aids others in such infractions. Students have been given notice of this Part by virtue of its publication. Regardless of whether a student has actually read this Part, a student is charged with knowledge of it. Ignorance is not a defense.”

The University’s full academic integrity policy is available at:

http://studentcode.illinois.edu/article1_part4_1-401.html

Student Support:

The Counseling Center is committed to providing a range of services intended to help students develop improved coping skills in order to address emotional, interpersonal, and academic concerns. Please visit their website to find valuable resources and services: <https://counselingcenter.illinois.edu/>.

- **Counseling Center Information:** 217-333-3704
Location: Room 206, Student Services Building 610 East John Street, Champaign, IL
Appointment: Scheduled for same day, recommend calling at 7:50 a.m.
- **McKinley Mental Health Information:** 217-333-2705
Location: 3rd Floor McKinley Health Center 1109 South Lincoln, Urbana, IL
Hours: 8 a.m. – 5 p.m., Monday through Friday Appointment: Scheduled in advance.
- **Emergency Dean:** The Emergency Dean may be reached at (217) 333-0050 and supports students who are experiencing an emergency situation after 5 pm, in which an immediate University response is needed and which cannot wait until the next business day. The Emergency Dean is not a substitute for trained emergency personnel such as 911, Police or Fire. If you are experiencing a life threatening emergency, call 911. Please review the Emergency Dean procedures: <http://odos.illinois.edu/emergency/>

Sexual Misconduct Reporting Obligation:

The University of Illinois is committed to combating sexual misconduct. Faculty and staff members are required to report any instances of sexual misconduct to the University’s Title IX and Disability Office. In turn, an individual with the Title IX and Disability Office will provide information about rights and options, including accommodations, support services, the campus disciplinary process, and law enforcement options. A list of the designated University employees who, as counselors, confidential advisors, and medical professionals, do not have this reporting responsibility and can maintain confidentiality, can be found here:

<http://www.wecare.illinois.edu/resources/students/#confidential>.

Other information about resources and reporting is available here: <http://wecare.illinois.edu/>.

Inclusivity statement:

I do my best to contribute to the creation of an anti-racist, inclusive community that welcomes diversity along a number of dimensions, including, but not limited to, race, ethnicity and national origin, political beliefs, gender and gender identity, sexuality, disability status, religion, class and age.