

Cedar Crest College
Economics 222
Economic Geography
3 credits
Spring 2010

Instructor: Chris Duelfer
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Office Hours: Mon. 11:00 - 12:00
Wed. 11:00 - 12:00, 3:00 - 4:00
Thurs. 1:00 - 3:00
Fri. 11:00 - 12:00

Texts and Readings:

Stutz, Frederick P., and Barney Warf. 2007. The World Economy: Resources, Location, Trade, and Development. Fifth Edition. Upper Saddle River, N.J.: Pearson Education. (ISBN: 0-13-243689-2)

Scholastic New Headline World Atlas. New York: Hammond.

Cooper, Robert. 2000. The Post-Modern State and the World Order. London: Demos.
<<http://www.demos.co.uk/files/postmodernstate.pdf>>.

Diamond, Jared. "Why Did Human History Unfold Differently On Different Continents For The Last 13,000 Years?" Edge. (Available on course website in Doc Sharing under "Jared Diamond: Why did human history unfold differently... ?")

Friedman, Thomas L. "It's a Flat World, After All." Editorial. The New York Times 3 April 2005. (Available on course website in Doc Sharing under "Friedman: It's a Flat World, After All")

Rice, Susan E. "The Threat of Global Poverty." The National Interest Spring 2006.
<<http://www.brookings.edu/views/articles/rice/20060401.pdf>>

Other Resources:

Map Games

These may help you learn countries and capitals:

Maps and Map Games: <http://www.maps.com/FunFacts.aspx?nav=FS#>

Games where you are given the name of a country and must locate it on a map of a continent.

The Traveler IQ Challenge: <http://www.travelpod.com/traveler-iq?b11c=09be>

Gives names of capitals, cities, and landmarks, which you locate on a map of the world or of a continent.

Global Income Distribution

These animations show the changing global distribution of income over the past few decades:

http://www.columbia.edu/~xs23/WDI/incomeDistrAnimation_DRAFT_030924.exe

<http://www.gapminder.org/downloads/presentations/human-development-trends-2005.html>

Course Objectives:

This course will provide a framework for understanding the forces shaping the contemporary world. We will examine how the end of colonialism and the end of the Cold War have created instability; the causes and nature of the division of the world into developed and underdeveloped countries; the relationship among population growth, environmental degradation, and economic development; the reasons for the rise of the market system as the model of choice for economic development and recent challenges to it; and the effects of the growing globalization of trade and investment.

Course Requirements:

- Attend class, keep current on all assignments.
- Learn the location of the assigned countries and the names of their capitals.
- Participate in class discussions and analyses of articles and current events.
- Choose an international current event and lead a class discussion of it.
- **Ask questions** if you don't understand something.

Examinations:

There will be two hourly exams and a cumulative final exam. Exams can be rescheduled only with approval of the instructor **prior** to the exam date or in the event of an emergency.

Exam Dates:

Exam #1: March 1

Exam #2: April 12

Grading:

The two hourly exams and the final exam will each count approximately 25% of your grade. The word "approximately" is used to indicate that participation is a vital part of this course, and that your level of participation will influence your final grade. In addition, you will write a paper on an international current event. This will constitute the remaining portion of your grade. Your grade will reflect your understanding of concepts covered in class and in the readings and your application of those concepts to the analysis of international current events.

Attendance:

It is vital that you attend class. If you are unable to attend, you must notify the instructor as quickly as possible. Excessive absences will result in a lower grade.

Honor Code and classroom protocol:

I fully support the Cedar Crest College Honor Code and the Classroom Protocol code as stated in the Customs Book.

Plagiarism: Students are expected to be familiar with Cedar Crest College's policy regarding plagiarism as stated in the Student's Guide. Depending on the severity of the offense, evidence of plagiarism will result in penalties that may range from a request to redo the assignment before a grade is assigned to failure of the course.

Students with Disabilities:

Students with documented disabilities who may need academic accommodations should discuss these needs with their professors during the first two weeks of class. Students with disabilities who wish to request accommodations should contact the Advising Center.

Extra Credit:

"Extra credit" is not available in this course. I believe that it is vital that you understand and are able to apply the concepts we cover, that the exams, discussions, and the paper are the best way to evaluate your performance, and that extra credit is unfair to other students who do "only" the required course work. If you are having difficulties with the course, it is your responsibility to seek help immediately; I will be glad to provide it.

The Course:

Ch. 1- Economic Geography: An Introduction

Rice, "The Threat of Global Poverty"

Cooper, The Postmodern State and the World Order

Friedman, "It's a Flat World, After All"

Ch. 2- The Historical Development of Capitalism

Diamond, Jared. "Why Did Human History Unfold Differently On Different Continents For The Last 13,000 Years?"

Ch. 3- Population

Ch. 4- Resources and Environment

Ch. 13- Development and Underdevelopment in the Developing World

"The Agony of Reform", part 2 out of 3 of The Commanding Heights (broadcast on PBS April 10, 2002)