Econ 309
Emerging Economies

Instructor: Monal Abdel-Baki
Room #: 1029 Jameel
Office hours: UW 1:00-2:00 or by appointment
Email: via Blackboard

Catalog Course Description
This course conducts a critical analysis of the specific economic and institutional characteristics enabling emerging economies to achieve rapid and sustainable economic growth and development. Case studies will also be used to illustrate the impact of these nations upon global integration dynamics.
Pre-requisites: Econ 201, Econ 202

Course Overview
Emerging market economies (EMEs) comprise of transition economies and rapidly growing developing nations with a relatively deep financial sector and a skilled labour force. During the last three decades these nations have attained unparalleled rates of GDP growth, recorded the highest levels of domestic savings and investment, enhanced their sovereign debt ratings, improved their levels of liquidity and achieved immense institutional reforms. This progress has furnished EMEs with a dominant presence in the global economy and rendered them as the invaluable arteries of international capital flows. In this course, the ability of these economies to achieve rapid and sustainable economic growth is explored. Moreover, the course examines the sources of competitiveness on international markets and investigates the inherent features that gave these economies resilience to the global financial crisis. On the other hand, it also explores the methods of diluting the cultural, institutional and sociopolitical impediments to human development. The course heavily relies on applying growth, financial deepening and economic development theories to real time case studies of EMEs.
Course Outcomes

After completing this course students will acquire the following skills:

- Identify the difference between developing, emerging and developed nations.
- Study the newly developed economic growth models specific to emerging economies.
- Define the features that enable EMEs to attain high GDP growth.
- Specify the prerequisites for sustaining economic development.
- Recognize the causes of low levels of human development in EMEs.
- Appreciate the nexus between financial development and economic development.
- Categorize the inherent characteristics that enable EMEs to weather financial crises.

Course Requirements

Course Material and Assigned Readings

- Supplementary journal articles available on Blackboard.

Grading System

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<tr>
<th>Component</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Mid-term exam</td>
<td>15%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Final exam</td>
<td>30%</td>
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<td>Reaction Papers</td>
<td>20%</td>
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<td>Simulation</td>
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<tr>
<td>Presentations</td>
<td>10%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Class participation</td>
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<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td><strong>100%</strong> (+3.5% bonus opportunity)</td>
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Exams: Exams are in-class and closed book and require the ability to apply case studies to the theories studied in class. The instructor will prepare the class by exemplifying the method of applying economic theory to the specific case of a selected emerging economy, using real time data and figures.

Term paper and reaction papers: Twice per semester, students will be asked to upload a 250-300 reaction paper reflecting the upcoming session’s readings by noon of the day preceding the class. The term paper is expected to be 500-1000 words. Students should strictly abide by the proper MLA formatting. All papers must be uploaded via both Blackboard and Turnitin. No hard copies will be accepted. Each one day delay automatically loses you one point. Students will
receive an “F” in case of posting their papers **five days** after the deadline. Details will be thoroughly discussed in class and will also be posted via Blackboard.

**Group presentations:** Topics will be selected in consultation with the instructor and teams will have three to four members, depending on the class size. The instructor will select one student among a number of volunteers to serve as a **chair of the presentation session**; the tasks of the chair are to enforce time limits and to ensure compliance with requirements. Another student will be selected as a **discussant** and will assume the task of moderating the 10 minute post-presentation discussion. Innovation is highly valued, whilst keeping in mind that presentations should not last more than 20 minutes. Other groups will evaluate the presentations, along with the instructor.

**Class participation:** **All students** are expected to participate actively in class and share experiences and ideas with their peers.

**Bonus points:** A total of **3.5 bonus points** will be randomly offered throughout the semester to help boost your grade. Only students attending the session are allowed to take advantage of this opportunity. Bonus assignments will be in the form of very interesting and highly interactive mini-assignments pertaining to current events occurring in EMEs.

**Attendance, General Procedures and Academic Integrity**

- All students are required to regularly attend classes. As per the university regulations, if you miss a total of six sessions, you automatically receive an “F” for the course. In case of having an excuse for not attending a session, a certified note needs to be submitted to me.
- All students are required to be prompt and no more than three late arrivals will be accepted per semester.
- Students are required to be attentive in class. Hence, you are prohibited from using mobile phones or any other communication or music devices while the class is in session.
- You are required to strictly abide by the rules of academic integrity. Otherwise, you will be reported to the Academic Integrity Committee of the University. For more details, please visit the following website: [http://catalog.aucegypt.edu/content.php?catoid=4&navoid=66#unde_acad_regu](http://catalog.aucegypt.edu/content.php?catoid=4&navoid=66#unde_acad_regu)

**Hoping that we share together a**

**most fruitful and enjoyable learning experience**