Huron AT WESTERN

Brief Course Outline

Course Title:	**Economic Growth and Technological Change**
Course Number and Section	ECONOMIC 3393A 550
Instructor Name(s):	Samira Hasanzadeh
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Disclaimer: Information in the brief course outline is subject to change. The syllabus posted on OWL Brightspace is the official and authoritative source of information for the course.

Course Description:

Why are some countries richer than others? What makes countries grow at different rates? What roles do technological change, human capital, political and social institutions, and other growth channels play in determining economic performance? How does income inequality affect economic growth? This course develops students' analytical reasoning about the complex forces underlying economic growth and differences in living standards across countries. By examining the growth process through different channels, students learn to use economic theory to understand and evaluate differences and changes in economic performance. The course covers major theories of economic growth and technological change and applies them to understanding the historical evolution and contemporary performance of economies around the world.

Learning Outcomes: one outcome per entry

By the end of this course, students should have a solid understanding of the basic models and mechanisms of economic growth.
For each topic, students should be able to explain how and why it affects the level and/or growth rate of income per capita and distinguish between transitional and long-run effects.
Students should be able to apply economic growth theories to understand and evaluate real-world economic
Students will develop skills in interpreting economic data, graphs, and statistics and in reading and critically evaluating economic arguments and evidence.
Students will develop skills in oral presentation and economic communication.

Textbooks and Course Materials:

The following textbooks will be available on course reserve at the library for students to use. Students are not required to purchase either textbook.
_Charles I. Jones and Dietrich Vollrath, Introduction to Economic Growth, 4th ed., W. W. Norton, 2024.
_ Quamrul H. Ashraf and David N. Weil, Economic Growth, 4th ed., Routledge, 2025. The eBook version of the 3rd edition of Economic Growth is also available through the library.

Methods of Evaluation: one assignment per entry

Assignment	Due Date mm/dd/yy	Weight - %
In-class Assignments/participation		10%
Midterm	10/19/2026	25%
Presentation		15%
Final		50%

Friday, August 14, 2026

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For Textbooks and Course Materials (below), you are required to include the cost of each textbook or other learning material.

Note whether there are any restrictions that would prevent a student from using a second-hand copy. Here is some suggested text:

- Required textbook: [author, title, edition, publisher, date]. Cost: [insert amount].
    - Or include the weblink of the textbook's publisher site that includes the cost information.
- Students need to purchase this edition. Second-hand or older editions will not be sufficient.
- OR Students are welcome to purchase second-hand or earlier editions of this textbook.
- This course has an optional field trip that costs [insert amount].
- This course has a required field component that costs [insert amount].

In solidarity with the Anishinaabe, Haudenosaunee, Lūnaapéewak, and Chonnonton peoples on whose traditional treaty and unceded territories this course is shared.