

ECO 443/590: ECONOMIC GROWTH

Spring 2017

Gary L. Hunt

200B Winslow Hall

Office Hours: by appointment

Email: gary.hunt@maine.edu

First Class course folder: ECO_443_S17

Course Description:

This course presents the basic facts about long-term economic growth and the ideas from past neoclassical, and more recent endogenous (or new) growth theories that have been developed to explain these basic facts. The ideas include the roles of saving and capital investment, population growth, technological progress and human knowledge, human capital investment, social infrastructure, natural resources (a “curse” ?), quality of government/political and market institutions, and other factors such as the changing character of technological progress and some of the consequences.

Class Meetings: Tuesday and Thursday, 2:00PM – 3:15PM; Little Hall 203

Prerequisites ECO 350, or equivalent (Please note that material will be presented in verbal, graphical, and algebraic formats; and also note that there is some calculus.)

Texts and Readings:

- (1) Required: Charles I. Jones and Dietrich Vollrath, *Introduction to Economic Growth, 3rd edition* (New York: W.W. Norton & Company, 2013) – in UMaine bookstore
- (2) Required: Topical book(s) to be assigned later in course – available in a variety of print and electronic formats at Amazon
- (3) Required: additional reading assignments will be posted to the First Class course conference during the semester in downloadable form (usually PDF format)

Evaluation of Work and Grading

Grading: The overall grade for the course will be determined by the following weights:

Homework	25%
Midterm Exam (take home format)	25%
Final Exam (in-class format during finals week)	25%
Short paper summarizing material in assigned book(s)	15%
Attendance and participation in discussion of book(s)	10%

Final grades will be assigned as follows: A (90+); B (80-89); C+ (65-79); D (50-64); F (less than 50).

Incompletes will be given only in well-documented and extraordinary cases.

Important University of Maine policies:

- 1) Academic Honesty Statement:** Academic honesty is very important. It is dishonest to cheat on exams, to copy term papers, to submit papers written by another person, to fake experimental results, or to copy or reword parts of books or articles into your own papers without appropriately citing the source. Students committing or aiding in any of these violations may be given failing grades for an assignment or for an entire course, at the discretion of the instructor. In addition to any academic action taken by an instructor, these violations are also subject to action under the University of Maine Student Conduct Code. The maximum possible sanction under the student conduct code is dismissal from the University.
- 2) Students with disabilities statement:** If you have a disability for which you may be requesting an accommodation, please contact Disabilities Services, 121 East Annex, 581-2319, as early as possible in the term.
- 3) Course Schedule Disclaimer (Disruption Clause):** In the event of an extended disruption of normal classroom activities, the format for this course may be modified to enable its completion within its programmed time frame. In that event, you will be provided an addendum to the syllabus that will supersede this version.
- 4) Sexual Violence Policy: Sexual Discrimination Reporting**
The University of Maine is committed to making campus a safe place for students. Because of this commitment, if you tell a teacher about an experience of **sexual assault, sexual harassment, stalking, relationship abuse (dating violence and domestic violence), sexual misconduct or any form of gender discrimination** involving members of the campus, **your teacher is required to report** this information to the campus Office of Sexual Assault & Violence Prevention or the Office of Equal Opportunity.

If you want to talk in confidence to someone about an experience of sexual discrimination, please contact these resources:

For *confidential resources on campus*: **Counseling Center: 207-581-1392** or **Cutler Health Center: at 207-581-4000**.

For *confidential resources off campus*: **Rape Response Services: 1-800-310-0000** or **Spruce Run: 1-800-863-9909**.

Other resources: The resources listed below can offer support but may have to report the incident to others who can help:

For *support services on campus*: **Office of Sexual Assault & Violence Prevention: 207-581-1406**, **Office of Community Standards: 207-581-1409**, **University of Maine Police: 207-581-4040 or 911**. Or see the OSAVP website for a complete list of services at <http://www.umaine.edu/osavp/>