

**STRATEGOS** 

Master of Science on Modelling, Engineering and Strategies on Operations and Systems

Course: Comparative Political Economy of Development

**88484** ECON-01/A

Credits: 4
Hours: 40

Schedule: 1st Semester, School of Engineering of Genoa University

Friday 1100-1230, DIME MIG Classroom, via Opera Pia 15, 16145 Genova

Friday 1430-1600, B4 Classroom, via Opera Pia 15a, 16145 Genova

## Teachers, Email & References:

Prof. Andrea Vindigni, andrea.vindigni@unige.it www.simulationteam.com/strategos/program

Office in Albergo dei Poveri, Int.Affair Department (DISPI), Piazzale Emanuele Brignole, 3A, 16124 Genova, Italy

# **Education Objectives:**

The course provides an introduction, in comparative perspective, and at a relatively advanced level, to the modern theory of economic growth and development. We will mainly pay attention to formal models, but also look at the main facts of growth.

## Course Program & Elements:

The Course addresses the Comparative Political Economy of Development and refers extensively to the textbook "Introduction to Economic Growth" by C.I. Jones & D.Vollrath (see on the References hereafter).

The Topics are synthetized in the following:

- 1. Facts of growth (JV, CH. 1)
- 2. Solow model (JV, CH. 2)
- 3. Empirics of the Solow model (JV, CH. 3)
- 4. Economics of ideas (JV, CH. 4)
- 5.The Romer model (JV, CH. 5)
- 6. Creative destruction (JV, CH. 6)
- 7. Growth and development (JV, CH. 7)
- 8. Social infrastructure (JV, CH. 8)
- 9. Alternative theories of endogenous growth (JV, CH. 11)
- 10. Understanding growth, inequality and their politics (JV, CH. 13)

We will additionally refer also to:

Mathematical Review (Appendix A)

Additional Model Results (Appendix B)

# Teaching Approach:

Frontal Lectures

#### Evaluation and Final Exam:

To be agreed with the Teacher, basic exam will be based on written exam.

#### Time Zone:

Genoa Local Time

## **Prerequisites:**

The Course does not require specific prerequisites, being accessible to University Students. Therefore basic calculus (mathematical analysis), including MOST elementary differential equations, is ASSSUMED and will not be reviewed. Similarly, a basic understanding of statistics is assumed.

## References

# **MAIN TEXTBOOK**

There is one essential reference, which all students are invited kindly to buy:

# "Introduction to Economic Growth"

by Charles I. Jones and Dietrich Vollrath (henceforth, JV),
Introduction to Economic Growth - Dietrich Vollrath (growthecon.com)
WW NORTON, Fourth Edition

More references (books, papers) will be provided as the course proceeds.

The web page of Daron Acemoglu's Economic Growth course (2023) at MIT is also useful, especially the first slides of the course:

Economic Growth Lecture 1 2023.pdf (mit.edu)