ECU33041 — Economics of Less Developed Countries A

Module Information	
Module Code	ECU33041
Module Title	Economics of Less Developed Countries A
Department	Economics
Year Group	Junior Sophister
Module Personnel	Prof. Michael King
Academic Year	2026-27
Credit Weighting	5 credits
Semester	Semester 1
Contact Hours	2 lectures per week

Module Content	
Module Description	Building on the classic models of economic development covered in Module 1, this module uses contemporary models of economic development to investigate why some countries are rich and others are poor. The inherent challenges of development policymaking will be considered, before the success and failure of trade, finance and aid policies in less developed countries is examined. The central role of macro and micro institutions in economic development is then considered in detail. The module concludes with a discussion of the key challenge of environmental sustainability. • Contemporary Theories of Economic Development (including 'self discovery' and the growth diagnostics framework). • Policymaking: What Role for the State in development? • Trade: Engine of growth or obstacle to development? • Domestic and International Finance: Opportunities and instability. • Aid: Does it work? • The Role of Institutions in Development. • Economic Growth and Environmental Sustainability.

Module Content	
Module Learning Aims	
Learning Outcomes	On successful completion of this module, student should be able to: • Understand the various theories of economic development and their implications for developing countries. • Identify and understand the challenges of government planning in developing countries. • Appraise the contribution of trade, finance and aid policies to the advancement of developing countries. • Formulate a balanced judgement on the opportunities and threats posed by trade, finance and aid policies to developing countries. • Understand the multiple dimensions of institutions and the role they play in economic development. • Appreciate the myriad of connections between economic development and the environment and articulate a balanced judgement on the potential policy responses.
Indicative Reading / Resources	The core book is Michael P. Todaro and Stephen C. Smith, Economic Development (13th Edition) 2020 or previous editions.

Assessment	
Assessment Components	Essay 40% Final Exam 60%
Assessment Details	

Additional Information	
Prerequisites	'None'
Co-requisites	'None'
Any other information	Website – Blackboard