

Assessment Methods for Development Economics 2021

Final exam

The final exam is an oral test consisting of two open questions, which can be answered by using the general knowledge of the field of Development Economics which the student will have acquired by studying the recommended textbook (Chaps 1-9 of of Todaro and Smith Development Economics, Pearson 2020), listening to the lectures and reading the slides of the lectures. To pass the exam it is necessary to obtain a mark of 18 in both questions. The final mark will be the average of the marks obtained in the two questions. In each questions the scale goes from 0 to 34.

If the student chooses not to accept the mark awarded he/she will need to retake the entire exam at a subsequent session.

Presentations

Students can volunteer to give presentations and have their mark added to the mark of the exam. Each presentation will be given a mark of up to 3, which is added to the mark of the written exam, and rounded to the nearest integer to determine the final mark of the students.

If the student chooses not to accept the mark awarded for the exam he/she will need to retake the entire exam at a subsequent session: in this case any positive mark obtained for the presentation is forfeited.

The aim of the presentation is to impart new and hopefully interesting knowledge to the other students. The teacher will provide a list of books, written by leading development economists for the general public. For a book to be presented it is very advisable that all groups of chapters are chosen by some student. Each presentation will last approximately 15 minutes so it will have to focus only on contents that have not been dealt with during the course or during previous courses in the Master. On the other hand the presenter should not use concepts she is not fully familiar with. The sources of data, figures etc should be indicated. Pictures should be used sparingly and only if they add substance to the presentation. The presentations will be held in the last week of the course. The presentation in PowerPoint (or Beamer pdf) must be sent to the teacher's email address by the deadline communicated during the course. The background should be white and the characters of the text black so to ensure maximum clarity. Further suggestions on presentation techniques will be given during the course. Each presentation subjected to the student's consent, will be videotaped and uploaded on Teams.