UCLouvain

lbrai2212

2025

Economics of Rural Development

3.00 crédits	30.0 h	Q1

Enseignants	Van den Broeck Goedele ;
Langue d'enseignement	Anglais > Facilités pour suivre le cours en français
Lieu du cours	Louvain-la-Neuve
Préalables	Introduction to economics, especially micro-economics (e.g., LBIR1260 Principles of Economics)
Thèmes abordés	This course is about the economics of rural development, focussing on low- and middle-income countries. It covers several themes on poverty and other development indicators, the role of agricultural transformation in structural transformation, farm-household behaviour and livelihood diversification, gender inequality and women empowerment, and food security and nutrition. As such, this course helps students to better understand how to contribute to the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) of no poverty (SDG1), zero hunger (SDG2), gender equality (SDG5), and decent work and economic growth (SDG8).
Acquis d'apprentissage	**A la fin de cette unité d'enseignement, l'étudiant est capable de :** By the end of this course, students are able to: · Measure, monitor and track development over time, using both monetary and non-monetary indicators · Understand the role of agricultural transformation in structural transformation and how theories and policies have changed over time · Understand why and how farm-households diversify their livelihoods and predict their decisions under market imperfections · Understand the extent of gender inequality and how to measure women empowerment · Understand how global diets have changed over time and the implications for food insecurity and the triple burden of malnutrition · Write an essay in which they provide evidence-based argumentation on the role of agriculture in rural development Students have acquired the skills to examine rural development using insights from economic sciences. They are able to critically reflect on the role of agriculture in rural development and provide evidence-based argumentation on enabling and hindering conditions in this process. With respect to the learning outcomes of the program in Bio-engineering, this course contributes to the following main learning outcomes: - 1.2: to know and understand the basic concepts as part of an introduction to economics 1 - 3.1: to search for information on a defined and simplified scientific problem, to assess its reliability based on the nature of the source of the information and to produce a summary - 3.6: To demonstrate an ability to summarise and formulate conclusions on a well-defined scientific question. - 6.1: To understand and use scientific texts and literature and basic technical documents in French and English. - 6.2: To communicate information, ideas, solutions and conclusions as well as the knowledge and underlying principles, in a clearly structured, substantiated, concise and comprehensive way (as appropriate) both verbally and in writing according to the standards of communication specific to the context. - 6.6: To communicate effectively and respectfully with peers and teachers, demonstrating listening skills, empathy and assertiveness. - 7.1: To demonstrate intellectual independence of thought, to regard knowledge critically. - 7.3: To understand the key issues of sustainable development and to situate their own career in the light of these challenges. - 7.4: To demonstrate humanism, cultural openness and solidarity. - 8.5: To integrate new knowledge and skills independently (including methodological skills) in response to defined situations.

Modes d'évaluation des acquis des étudiants	Essay (75% of overall grade) Participation during the year based on submitted questions for the paper discussions (25% of overall grade) **Use of Artificial Intelligence (AI) Tools** The use of AI tools, such as ChatGPT, is only permitted to improve the writing of the text. AI tools must not be used to generate content or results, nor to add references. AI tools must be used responsibly and critically. You must never copy and paste an AI tool's response without critically reflecting on it. If improper use of AI tools is detected during the evaluation of the report, sanctions will be applied, which may result in a final grade of zero out of 20 for this course.
Méthodes d'enseignement	Classes, directed reading, oriented questions and answers, debate
Contenu	Students learn more about the processes of rural development and the economics behind it with a particular focus on the Global South. Five topics are covered: 1) Introduction of different concepts of development, distinguishing between monetary and non-monetary based indicators 2) The role of agricultural transformation in rural development, highlighting how development thinking and policies have changed over time 3) Decisions that farm-households take and how market imperfections influence these decisions 4) Gender equality and the empowerment of women and girls in poor, rural areas 5) Food and nutrition security, and the link with agricultural transformation The students are first introduced to the theoretical concepts through lectures. Each lecture is followed by a discussion on a related paper that students need to read beforehand and prepare one question about it. Students learn to debate based on their own questions and learn to reason about their answers in an interactive way.
Ressources en ligne	Moodle
Bibliographie	Variable
Autres infos	The course will be taught in English. Students are expected to participate in an English-spoken debate.
Faculté ou entité en charge:	AGRO

Programmes / formations proposant cette unité d'enseignement (UE)

Intitulé du programme	Sigle	Crédits	Prérequis	Acquis d'apprentissage
Mineure en développement et environnement	MINDENV	3		
Master [120] : bioingénieur en gestion des forêts et des espaces naturels	BIRF2M	3		
Master [120] en sciences agronomiques et industries du vivant	SAIV2M	4		
Master [120] : bioingénieur en sciences agronomiques	BIRA2M	3		