

Syllabus

RURAL & REGIONAL DEVELOPMENT POLICY

Virginia Polytechnic Institute and State University

Course #:	AAEC 3304 (CRN # 90070)	Semester:	Fall 2008
Day/Time:	MW @ 2:30pm	Place:	310 Hutch
Prerequisites:	AAEC 1005, 1006 (or permission)	Credit:	3 undergraduate hours
Instructor:	Dr. Michael J. Ellerbrock (Mike) Professor, mebrock@vt.edu Dept of Agricultural & Applied Economics	Office:	218 Hutcheson Hall (W) 540-231-7722 (H) 552-4009 (C) 239-9996 (C) 239-2882
Lecturer:	Ms. Sibel Atasoy, sibela@vt.edu	Grad Asst:	Bob Needham
Office Hours:	MW, 4-5 pm, best by appointment	Help Sessions:	Before each exam and when requested
Secretary:	Ms. Jill Albert, 202 Hutcheson 231-7727 (call Mike first)		

Objectives:

- Understand the complexity of rural/regional development;
- Apply micro/macroeconomic principles & concepts to rural problems & issues;
- Consider the economic roles of government institutions;
- Illustrate the linkages between the agricultural sector and rest of the economy;
- Examine social science modes of inquiry & alternative social theories;
- Examine the organization of society and individuals' roles;
- Investigate the impact of cultural norms and patterns of inclusion/exclusion;
- Develop and utilize critical thinking skills, and have some fun.

Topics: Def Rural Dev, 4% of course; SW VA Rural Pros Com, 5%; SE U.S. Rural Dev, 5%; Globalization Cases Studies (Behera text), 50%; Econ Tools (Atasoy), 20%; VA Bridge (Mitchell & Sink), 8%; International Perspectives (McDowell), 8%.

Text: Behera, M.C., *Globalising Rural Development* (New Delhi: Sage Publications), 2006.

Grades: Based on students' final averages, appropriate ranges of grades will be set (including + and -). Please note: an "A" is for excellence, failing performance receives an "F".

Exams:

1) Mon, Sep 22nd – 100 pts	3) Wed, Dec 10 th ? – 100 pts
2) Mon, Oct 27th – 100 pts	4) Class Part – 50 pts (please note baseline criteria: attending class, but saying nothing in class discussion = 25/50 points)
5) Class Project – 50 pts (TBD by class)?	

Misc: Make-Up exams (cumulative or individual at instructor's discretion based on the student's circumstances) given only to students with an approved (by me) absence from a regular exam. Note: I expect to be notified ASAP whenever you know you must miss an exam. Practice problems will be given and reviewed in class, but not graded. Students are expected to know and abide by the VT Honor Code. If you need accommodations for a disability, please let me know. For everyone's benefit, please be on time for class - thank you!