

GROUP PROJECT

ECON 4311 — Economy of Latin America, SPRING 2024

INSTRUCTIONS

1. Students will form teams of **6** members (the same groups as for the homeworks) to give a short lecture on a topic related to our class. *You can choose who to collaborate with.*
 - Groups must be formed by **January 24, 2024**.
 - Each group must designate a **group leader**, who **shall register his/her group** using this [link](#).
2. Associated with each topic, there is a designated date and time for presentation.
3. Read, *individually*, the designated material, and make sure you understand it in depth.
4. Meet with you fellow team members to discuss the material and lay out a plan to consistently summarize and present this material to the class.
5. Prepare slides, aiming to present for 30 minutes, and be prepared to answer questions for 5 additional minutes.
 - Make sure to include (at least) 2 slides summarizing what we have learnt from your talk. *You are expected to send me a pdf version of your slides containing only the cover slide and the two summary slides before or after your presentation.*
 - Email me a *pdf* version of your *full set* of slides at least 24 hours before we meet to discuss them (remember you must sign up for office hours the week prior to your presentation.)
 - During our meeting, I will give you feedback on your slides so that you can incorporate changes and get a better grade.
6. Every team member is expected to present part of the slides material.

GRADING

I will evaluate the group project based on two factors: (i) the quality of the slides; (ii) the overall flow of the presentation. Each of these components will receive equal weight (i.e., 50%).

IMPORTANT-TO-KNOW

- It is forbidden to read flashcards or from any electronic device. Doing so will result in a penalty of 50/100 points.
- You are expected to attend and pay attention to your classmates during their talk.
- The material included in the slides of the group presentations can and will be subject to midterm- and final-exam questions.

LIST OF TOPICS (with corresponding presentation slot)

1. Lecture 4

- A) Acemoglu, D. (2007). *Introduction to Modern Economic Growth*. Chapter 4 (p. 155-211): “Fundamental determinants of differences in Economic Performance”.
- B) Acemoglu, D., Johnson, S., and Robinson, J. (2001). “The Colonial Origins of Comparative Development: An Empirical Investigation”. *The American Economic Review*, Vol. 91, No. 5, pp. 1369-1401.

2. Lecture 8

- A) Villareal, M. A., and Ferguson, I. F. (2017). “The North American Free Trade Agreement (NAFTA)”. Congressional Research Service, Report 42965, p. 1-32.
- B) Kose, M. A., Meredith, G. M., and Towe, C. M. (2005). “How Has NAFTA Affected the Mexican Economy? Review and Evidence”. *Monetary Policy and Macroeconomic Stabilization in Latin America*, Springer, p. 35-81.

3. Lecture 10

- A) Esquivel, C., Kehoe, T. J., and Nicolini, J. P. (2020). “Lessons from the Monetary and Fiscal History of Latin America”. Federal Reserve Bank of Minneapolis, Research Division Staff Report No. 608, p. 1-39.
- B) Buera, F., and Nicolini, J. P. (2005). “The Monetary and Fiscal History of Argentina, 1960-2017”. Becker Friedman Institute for Economics, Working Paper.

4. Lecture 11

- A) Quispe-Agnoli, M. (2002). “Costs and Benefits of Dollarization”. Federal Reserve Bank of Atlanta, Research Division Working Paper, p. 1-30.

- B) Velde, F. R., and Veracierto, M. (2005). “Dollarization in Argentina”. *Economic Perspectives*, Vol. 24, No. 1, p. 24-37.

5. Lecture 12

- A) Puggioni, D., Calderón, M., Cebreros-Zurita, A., Bujanda, L. F., Inguanzo-González, J. A., and Jaume, D. (2021). “Income Dynamics and Inequality: The Case of Mexico”. Working Paper, p. 1-75.
- B) Blanco, A., Diaz de Astarloa, B., Drenik, D., Moser, C., and Trupkin, D. (2021). “The Evolution of the Earnings Distribution in a Volatile Economy: Evidence from Argentina”. Working paper, p. 1-77.