

REQUIREMENTS FOR THE DEVELOPMENT FIELD 2025-2026

COURSE REQUIREMENTS

Fall 2025	Winter 2026	Spring 2026
262D Development Economics Professor Natalie Bau	222B Productivity [cross-listed with Macroeconomics field] Professor David Baqaee 253A Taxes, Transfers, and Development [cross-listed with Public Finance field] Professor Juliana Londoño-Velez	

FIELD REQUIREMENTS

- Students are required to take all 3 courses.
- Course work: Students must pass all 3 courses in the development sequence with a grade of a B or better.
- Second year paper: Every student must write a paper by the end of the second year and receive a passing grade. The topic should be related to economic development. The paper idea must be formally approved by one of the faculty members associated with the development field.
- Proseminar presentation: Each student must present the second-year paper in a UCLA proseminar. Students may choose the proseminar that most closely fits their research area but should notify development faculty of the presentation ahead of time so they can attend.
- Seminar/Proseminar: Students should regularly attend the proseminar closest to their research interests and are expected to attend development mini-conferences and seminars related to development topics.

ADDITIONAL GUIDELINES

- Students are encouraged to combine a field in development economics with a second field such as macroeconomics, applied economics (labor or public), or IO.
- When appropriate a student can submit a development field paper that is also being used as a field paper for another field, as long as the field paper has a clear potential as a development paper. The student must get permission from their main paper advisor.
- The paper advisor may be a member of the development faculty (list below) or could be a faculty member outside of development (with their consent) if the paper crosses multiple fields. *However, a member of the development field must still approve the paper idea and development faculty must still be invited to the proseminar presentation.*

Here is a rough timeline of what you are expected to do regarding your Development field paper:

- Students should identify an advisor to begin discussing paper ideas in January. **They must receive approval of their paper idea from a member of the development faculty by the end of January.**
- Students should meet with advisor and relevant faculty (e.g., prospective committee members) regularly.

- **Present progress on paper in a proseminar in the Spring.** Students should be sure to invite their main advisors/prospective committee members, particularly if it is a proseminar they do not regularly attend. All development faculty should be notified of the presentation.
- Submit the field paper by July 31, 2026 to Chiara Paz (chiara@econ.ucla.edu)

DEVELOPMENT FACULTY

Natalie Bau, David Baqaee, Hugo Hopenhayn, Juliana Londoño-Velez