স্কুল অব বিজনেস
Bangladesh Open University
MBA Program
Semester: 162 (4th Level)

Course: Economic Development and Planning   **Due on: October 20, 2017**

Instructions

> ➢ **Answer the all questions in your <u>own handwriting</u> on <u>A4 size white paper</u>.**
> ➢ **The assignment must be submitted on the assigned date to the Coordinator of the study center you are attached with.**
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Questions [50% Marks]

1. Explain the concept of sustainable development.

2. Discuss the basic features and limitations of the classical theories of growth.

3. What does the Harrod-Domar model offer for the analysis of development policy?

4. Explain why the terms of trade deteriorate because of a generally lower level of the income elasticity of demand for the products of periphery?

5. Describe the salient features of structural adjustment policies.

Forum engagement records [50% Marks]:

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Questions [50% Marks]

1. "A development strategy which ignores the agriculture sector will fall." Discuss.

2. Explain the rural credit markets and its impact on the development of agriculture.

3. What are the main features and effects of an industrialization based on protection from imports?

4. "Openness" is not the panacea that some suggest; and trade policy involves much more than the degree of anti-export bias. – Explain.

5. **Go through the case and answer the question below the case:**
   THE CURRENT STRUCTURE OF TELECOMMUNICATIONS REGULATION

   The U.S. telecommunications industry is governed by Federal, State, and local regulatory agencies, with the Federal courts playing a special role. The FCC, the principal Federal regulatory agency governing telecommunications, is responsible for regulating interstate and international long-distance telephone services, managing non-Federal U.S. radio spectrum use, enforcing the rules applicable to the broadcasting industry, and establishing standards.

   A complicating factor in the Federal regulatory structure in the 1982 court settlement of the Federal Government's antitrust case against AT & T. This settlement, or consent decree, governed the subsequent breakup of AT & T. Under the decree, AT & T was required to divest itself of its 22 local telephone companies, which were then formed into 7 independent companies known as Regional Bell Operating Companies (RBOCs) . Most importantly, the decree also placed limits on the products and services the RBOCs could produce. Although, some of these restrictions have been lifted, applications for interpretations of and waivers from the remaining restrictions have made the Federal courts a virtual second Federal Regulator.

   State regulatory commissions are responsible for regulating intrastate telephone services, but they also share their authority with Federal regulators because the same equipment is often used to provide both interstate and interstate service. For example, the same telephone company switch that handles calls from San Francisco to Los Angeles may handle calls from San Francisco to Phoenix as well. But the first call is regulated by the state government and the second by the FCC. A system of rules and joint boards has been developed to help separate the Federal and state roles. The role of local government, on the other hand, has generally focused on franchising cable television service. The local government's role in cable television mute regulation will be expanded by new legislation, an issue discussed in detail below.

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Questions:

    a)   Why has the telephone industry been regulated by the federal and state governments?

    b)   What are the benefits of such regulation?

    c)   What are the drawbacks of regulation of the telephone industry? What would be the benefits of deregulation?

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Course: International Economics, Globalisation and Policy　　　　　　Due on: **October 20, 2017**

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Questions [50% Marks]

1. Explain the importance of international trade for Bangladesh? What type of trade Bangladesh encourages? Give your reflection on trade pattern in Bangladesh.

2. What are the arguments for free trade? What type of economies will be benefitted more from free trade - low-income countries lower middle income countries, upper middle income countries, and high income countries?

3. Give a summary of the trade policies in Bangladesh since a suitable pre-liberation year. Emphasize on the following points:
   a. Trade concentration
   b. Trade diversion
   c. Trade contraction

4. What is globalisation? Why it is intensified day-by-day? Based on the following data, identify the country which is more globalised economically and why:

Variables	Data		Weights
	Country A	**Country B**	
Trade	2%	5%	21%
Foreign Direct Investment, stocks	5%	3%	28%
Portfolio Investment	4%	2%	24%
Embassies in Country	100	80	25%
Membership in International Organizations	10	6	28%
Mean Tariff Rate	5%	10%	27%
Taxes on International Trade	10%	10%	26%
Capital Account Restrictions	4	7	23%
Income Payments to Foreign Nationals	8%	4%	27%
Hidden Import Barriers	15	10	24%
Participation in U.N. Security Council Missions	10	15	22%
International Treaties	6	10	25%
Actual Flows			**50%**
Restrictions			**50%**

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Questions [50% Marks]

1. What are the trends in migration from Bangladesh to other countries? Did you see any diversion of migration in recent years? What is the nature?
2. Mention the trends in inward FDI to Bangladesh. Do we have outward FDI? Gives examples.
3. **FDI and Trade Balance: Bangladesh**

    Our trade scenario with neighbouring India is traditionally unfavourable. Bangladesh government has been looking for the alternative ways to squeeze this trade gap since long. However, the rate of progress in this case is not so satisfactory. In these circumstances, India's TATA group's interest for investing in Bangladesh could have been welcomed by the Bangladesh government. TATA Group had proposed US$ 3 billion investment in four ventures in Bangladesh. The TATA projects, once they could have been operational, would have given Bangladesh a net business of $951 million annually, a report prepared by Economist Intelligence Unit said. The report forecasted that the planned steel, power, fertiliser and coal plants of TATA would have the potentials to turn the country's current account deficit into the positive territory by the year 2015. The economic unit's report said that over the 25 years lifetime off the projects the investment was estimated to result in a net inflow of $17.6 billion, the same projection that the TATA authorities themselves made earlier. 'It will be second largest taxpayer after the British American Tobacco Bangladesh,' Alan Roseling, executive director of TATA Sons, said.

    Questions:
      a) What type of investment did TATA propose?
      b) What would have been the effect of TATA investments on the balance of payments of Bangladesh with India?
      c) "If TATA could have started its operation, it was thought that Bangladesh would have turned from current account deficit into current account surplus with India." – Do you agree with this projection? Explain with arguments.
      d) Do you think Bangladesh must attract more FDI to improve the current account balance situation? Justify you answer.

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Course: Money, Banking and Financial Markets　　　　　　　**Due on: October 20, 2017**

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Questions [50% Marks]

1. Discuss the functions and structures of financial markets.

2. Define money. Explain the inconveniences attendant upon barter system and show how the introduction of money removes them.

3. Describe the different types of credit market instruments.

4. Explain the concept of liquidity preference framework.

5. Describe how each of the following can affect the money supply: (a) the central bank; (b) banks; and (c) depositors.

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Course: Money, Banking and Financial Markets   **Due on: December 15, 2017**

(Answer all the questions in own handwriting on A4 size white pages)

Questions [50% Marks]

1. What is meant by monetary policy? Briefly explain the instruments of monetary policy.

2. How does expansionary monetary policy work?

3. What is the Phillips curve? "The trade off between unemployment rate and inflation rate is visible only in the short-run" – explain by using Philips curve.

4. Discuss the various components of balance of payments.

5. **Go through the case and answer the question below the case :**

Apple's Morning After: Lost of Competition

Apple Computer Inc.'s $96.8 million initial public offering on Dec. 12 added another chapter to the company's textbook success story. In just four years, the Cupertino concern has evolved from a garage workshop to a leading force in the fast-moving market for personal computers, with annual sales topping $100 million. But as the fanfare of the public offering recedes, Apple faces an onslaught of new high-powered competitors.

Within the next year as many as a dozen large companies are expected to join the battle offering personal computers costing less than $ 10,000. International Business Machines, Xerox and Digital Equipment are all working on personal computers in their laboratories, and each is opening a string of computer-owned retail stores as a possible means of distribution…. Meanwhile, at least eight Japanese companies- including Nippon Electronic, Casio and Sharp – have introduced personal computers. And some are preparing to come to the U.S. market.   "Looking out a few years, the competition will be very rough".

questions:

  a) What is about the profit of Apple Computer Inc.?
  b) What did lure the other firms to enter the industry?
  c) What happened with the price of the personal computers as new firms entered
  d) Was there any improvement with the personal computers as new firms entered into?

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Course: International trade and finance   **Due on: October 20, 2017**

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Questions [50% Marks]

1.   Why trade is important? What are the limitations of free trade? In what respect comparative advantage theory has superiority over absolute advantage theory of trade? Explain.

2.   What are the trends in trade in Bangladesh? What are the pre-independence and post-independence trade policies in Bangladesh? What are the basic differences? Give a summary based on data.

3.   How exchange rate system is defined in Bangladesh? What is impact of exchange rate fluctuations in Bangladesh on the trade balance? How it impacts the remittances? Give a summary based on data.

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Questions [50% Marks]

1. What is balance of payments? Describe the various components of the balance of payments. What is the balance of payment situation in Bangladesh in post-independence period? provide a summary based on data.

2. Define portfolio investment. How it is different from direct investment? Describe the welfare effects of portfolio investment. What is the picture of portfolio investment in Bangladesh? Give a summary based on data.

3. Case study: **RMG Trade from Bangladesh: The Recent Developments**

    Whenever one talks about Bangladesh's export trade or its volume, the issue of ready-made garment (RMG) comes first. The RMG sector's contribution to the GDP (gross domestic product) is predominant and remarkable. About 80 per cent or $19.00 billion out of the $ 24.00 billion export earnings comes from the RMG sector. About 50 million low-paid workers, most of them women, are working in 5,000-plus factories. Now Bangladesh is the second largest RMG exporter in the world, after China. It can be easily said that the economy of the country mostly depends on the RMG sector.

    The sector has faced sporadic challenges from the very beginning of its journey. But it has never faced so many problems on its growth path as it is now incurring. Recently some issues like safety and security in RMG factories, political unrest, the Generalised System of Preferences (GSP) in the US and the Indian free trade agreement with the EU (European Union) have put the sector into uncertainty and threaten its future prospects.

    Of late, the American Federation of Labour and Congress of Industrial Organizations (AFL-CIO) filed a petition with the United State Trade Representative (USTR), which is weighing withdrawal of the GSP facilities enjoyed by Bangladeshi products in the US market over the issues of labour standards, working conditions and safety and security in RMG factories. The worst fire incident so far in the RMG sector of Bangladesh took place in the factory of Tazreen Fashions that claimed lives of 112 workers on November 24 last year. The murder of labour union leader Aminul Islam is another burning issue. If the GSP is withdrawn, it will not hamper our RMG export to the US market as Bangladesh's RMG does not get the GSP facility there. In the case of GSP facility withdrawal by the USTR, our export of plastic and other items, which is $26 million or 0.54 per cent of Bangladesh's total exports to the US worth of more than $5 billion, may be hampered. But the story does not end here.

    Any event likely to lead to the scrapping of the GSP facility by the US might have a bearing on the EU countries and Canada which give Bangladesh the zero-duty facility. Regarding the GSP withdrawal, US Ambassador to Bangladesh Dan W Mozena was quoted as saying that the loss of Bangladesh's GSP privileges in the US market would

send a strong and negative signal to the world. If Bangladesh's GSP privileges are removed, he feared, getting them restored would be 'a lengthy and arduous process'.

The world's largest retailers are very concerned about the ongoing political unrest which is casting shadows over business environment in Bangladesh. "Bangladesh is a good place to do business. But you have to read the political trends there," says Christophe Roussel, chief executive for global non-food sourcing and logistics at Tesco Corp. "We are already moving away from Bangladesh," adds Veit Geise, vice president for sourcing at VF Corp. that owns brands such as Wrangler, Timberland and Nautica. "How many eggs do you want in a basket that's basically a powder keg?" Both men were speaking at a meeting of supply-chain executives about sourcing goods in Asia sponsored by the French Chamber of Commerce in Hong Kong. The above statements convey the message of concern to the RMG sector.

Source: Dhaka Courier, Vol 29, Issue 43, Dated: 10 May, 2013

Questions:

a) What is the contribution of RMG sector to our export earning?
b) If GSP facility that is being enjoyed now by Bangladesh is withdrawn by USA following the recent unrest in the country, what will be its impact on export trade of Bangladesh?
c) What account of the Balance of Payments will be affected if RMG export is hurt anyway due to the deterioration of labour standards, working conditions and safety and security in the RMG Factories?
d) What measures should be taken to prevent the possible threats to RMG trade from Bangladesh?

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Course: Business Research Methods   **Due on: October 20, 2017**

Instructions

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Questions

1. (a) What is research? Why should there be any question about the definition of research?
    (b) Describe the characteristics of the scientific methods.

2. (a) What is the difference between data, information, and intelligence?
    (b) What are the characteristics of useful information?
    (c) What is the key question distinguishing relevant data from irrelevant data?

3. A business school at a particular university has 25 full-time faculty. The following table shows the number of faculty grouped by years of teaching experience.

Years of Teaching Experience	Number of Faculty
5 to under 10	11
10 to under 15	7
15 to under 20	5
20 to under 25	2

What is the approximate standard deviation for years of teaching experience for this population?

4. Distinguish among the following sets of items and suggest the significance of each in a research context:
    (a) Descriptive and Causal
    (b) Concepts and Construct
    (c) Concept and variable
    (d) Hypothesis and proposition
    (e) Theory and model.

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5. Steve Taylor is the owner of Home Plus, which is a chain of home improvement stores. He would like to investigate the relationship between month advertising and monthly sales. The table below shows the amount spent on advertising, in millions of dollars, over several months along with the corresponding sales, also in millions of dollars.

Month	Advertising (Tk. millions)	Sales (Tk. millions)
1	3	11
2	3	13
3	4	12
4	5	21
5	1	7

(a) Use the Home Plus data to determine the correlation coefficient for this data and interpret its meaning.

(b) Use the Home Plus data to perform a hypothesis test to determine if the population correlation coefficient is different than zero using $\alpha = 0.05$.

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(Answer all the questions in your own handwriting on A4 size white pages)

1. (a)   Distinguish among response error, interview error and non-response error.
   (b)   Under what kind of conditions would you recommend:

   (i) A probability sample? A non-probability sample?

   (ii) A simple random sample? A cluster sample? A stratified sample?

   (iii) Using the finite population adjustment factor?

2. Discuss the relative merits and problems with:

   (a)   Rating versus ranking scales.
   (b)   Likert versus differential scales.

3. You conduct a survey of a sample of 25 members of this year"s graduating class and find that their average GPA is 3.2. The standard deviation of the sample is 0.4.Over the last 10 years, the average has been 3.0.

   Is this year's class significantly different from the long run average? At what alpha level would it be significant?

4. A professor would like to test the hypothesis that the average grade for a student taking a 10 AM statistics class averages five points higher than the average grade from a student in an 8 AM statistics class. The following data shows the sample size and average grades for students in the two class times along with the population standard deviations.

	10 AM	8 AM
Sample mean	87.1	81.4
Sample size	32	30
Population standard deviation	3.4	3.2

Define Population 1 is defined as the 10 AM class and Population 2 the 8 AM class. Construct an 80% confidence interval for the difference in population mean and interpret

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the results.

5. Your are curious about whether the Professors and students at your school are of different political persuasions. So you take a sample of 20 professors and 20 students drawn randomly from each population. You find that 10 professors say that they are conservative while 6 students claim that they are conservative.

    Is this a statistically significant difference?

6. Gartner, Inc. reported that the market share for Smartphones is as follows:

Smartphone	Market Share
Android	56%
Apple	23%
Nokia	9%
BlackBerry	7%
Other	5%

    To test the validity of Gartner's report, a random sample of smartphone users was collected with the following results.

Smartphone	Frequency
Android	62
Apple	25
Nokia	12
BlackBerry	12
Other	9

    Using $\alpha = 0.05$, what conclusions can be made about Gartner's report?

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