

**Challenges and opportunities in Africa:
Healthcare and business of Ethiopia
Syllabus**

Location: Ethiopia

Duration: 4 days

Dates: March 5 - 8, 2018 (Arriving Sunday, March 4, 2018)

Course Instructors

Ezekiel J. Emanuel

Vice Provost for Global Initiatives

Diane v.S. Levy and Robert M. Levy University Professor

Professor of Health Care Management, The Wharton School

Chair of the Department and Medical Ethics and Health Policy Medical Ethics, Perelman School of Medicine

Heather Schofield

Assistant Professor

Department of Medical Ethics and Health Policy, Perelman School of Medicine

Operations, Information, and Decisions, The Wharton School

COURSE OVERVIEW

The course will explore the tremendous opportunities and challenges of business, aid, and other activities in Africa by an in-depth examination of the current situation in Ethiopia. Students will appreciate the complex but growing dynamics of the economic, political, and social sectors in Africa.

Ethiopia is both unique and typical of Africa. Unlike every other country in Africa, it has been independent for over 2,000 years except for brief occupation by Italy from 1936 to 1941. It is huge in every way—it is twice the size of Texas with a population of over 100 million people, the second largest in Africa, and a high population growth rate of 2.9% (11th in the world). Only 20.4% of the country is urban and about half the adult population is illiterate.

Ethiopia is a country still steeped in tradition and history, but also aggressively trying to achieve economic prosperity for its people, even as the vast majority still lives in poverty as rural farmers and pastoralists. Nevertheless, the Ethiopian economy has been growing at a considerable and significant rate. Its GDP is just USD 76.9 billion (a GDP of approximately USD 830 per capita) and only USD 2.9 billion in exports. But it has had sustained high single digit growth (8% estimated in 2016) for years.

Ethiopia is worth studying as a paradigmatic case of new Africa for several reasons. It is a locus of relative stability, strongly supported by the US government, with highly volatile neighbors that include Somalia, Eritrea, and Sudan. While its government is authoritarian and can be repressive (like Rwanda), it is strongly committed to development for the benefit of the country's population. There has been

some recent civil unrest because of ethnic tensions inside the country. Some ethnic groups, particularly the Oromo, are upset with the distribution of economic benefits claiming that too much is going to the Tigray of northern Ethiopia who are the dominant ethnic group in the ruling government. Nevertheless, there are not significant charges of corruption by government officials in the same way that is common in other African countries such as Nigeria and South Africa.

This course will examine efforts to develop predominantly by focusing on three sectors. Through a series of site visits both in the capital and in the Oromia region, we will:

1. **Examine foreign investments** to understand the investment atmosphere and potential.
2. **Explore the agriculture sector**, which employs the majority (72.7%) of Ethiopia's labor force of over 50 million.
3. **Examine the health sector** where Ethiopia has been a pioneer in getting basic healthcare to the largely rural population through the innovative health extension worker program and some market based incentives for hospitals and health care workers.

Through the course, students will also **understand the complex political dynamics of the country** and the region by meeting with Ethiopian government officials, as well as members of the U.S. embassy and aid organizations.

GRADING AND ASSIGNMENTS

Students will be asked to read a selection of articles and book chapters covering an array of topics from healthcare to politics. Students will be evaluated on the criteria provided below.

Participation

Students are expected to participate in all classroom discussions, lectures and site visits. Students should be fully prepared to engage in each activity by reading the course materials and completing the accompanying assignments.

Final Paper

A final paper will be due a couple of weeks after the conclusion of the trip in Ethiopia. An example of the assignment could be:

Write a 3-5 page memo to Prime Minister of Ethiopia outlining the reforms and changes you would recommend to facilitate expansion and efficiency of one or more of the sectors we examined— healthcare, agribusiness, and industrial – from public, private and FDI perspectives. In the memo, students should also define how to measure the success of these recommendations.

SAMPLE COURSE OUTLINE

****All proposed meetings and site visits are subject to change. ****

PRE-DEPARTURE SESSIONS

February	Pre-Departure Lecture #1: History of Ethiopia and East Africa
February	Pre-Departure Lecture #2: Personal Account of the History of Ethiopia
February/March	Pre-Departure Lecture #3: Overview of Development Strategies in Ethiopia <i>Part 1: Preparation for Trip</i> <i>Part 2: Overview of Development Strategies in Ethiopia</i>

TRIP SCHEDULE

March 4, 2018 (SUNDAY)

Evening	Welcome Dinner
---------	----------------

March 5, 2018 (MONDAY)

Morning	Kick-Off Meeting
---------	------------------

Morning	Panel Discussion #1: Business in Ethiopia
---------	---

Afternoon	Visit: Ethiopian Commodity Exchange <i>The Ethiopia Commodity Exchange (ECX) is an organized marketplace, where buyers and sellers come together to trade, assured of quality, quantity, payment, and delivery.</i>
-----------	--

OR

Visit: Coffee Processing Facility
Visit and discussion on the challenges Ethiopia is facing and to examine the process for producing coffee.

Evening	Dinner & Discussion with Special Guest <i>Students will have the opportunity to meet with a prominent Ethiopian business leader and entrepreneur to learn about him and his personal history and, by extension, to contextualize the political, economic, and social narratives of Ethiopia.</i>
---------	---

March 6, 2018 (TUESDAY)

Morning	Visit: Health Extension Worker Program <i>Students will meet with Woreda health office leaders and staff, visit the Shara Dibandibe health post and households, and observe the overall health extension program activities in the Biyo Health Center.</i>
Afternoon	Visit: Bishoftu Hospital <i>Students will meet Hospital in-charge and team to learn about the healthcare financing reform program, and visit different departments.</i>
Evening	Debrief and Discussion: Healthcare in Ethiopia

March 7, 2018 (WEDNESDAY)

All Day	Visit: Afriflora <i>Students will examine foreign investments by the flower farm recently bought by the American private equity firm (KKR) to understand the investment atmosphere and potential. The site visit will include a presentation and tour of the farm. Students will have the opportunity to further discuss the opportunities and challenges of conducting business in Ethiopia, and explore the various Afriflora facilities, including the greenhouses, cold rooms, school, and hospital.</i>
---------	---

March 8, 2018 (THURSDAY)

Morning	Meeting: Government Official <i>Students will have the opportunity to meet with a leading Ethiopian politician to address the complex dynamics of the country and the region.</i>
Afternoon	Visit: United States Mission to the African Union <i>Students will learn about the vision for the future of the continent and gain insight to Ethiopia's unique role as geographic host to the African Union.</i>
Late Afternoon	Final Debrief Session