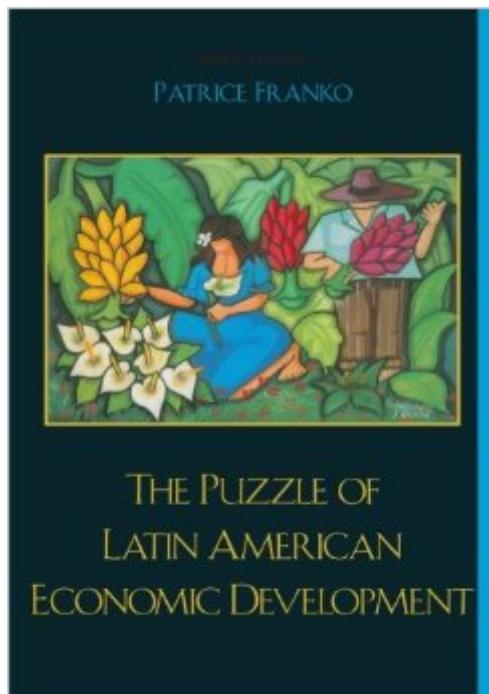


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# The Puzzle Of Latin American Economic Development



## **Synopsis**

Thoroughly revised and updated, this text provides the basic economic tools for students to understand the problems facing the countries of Latin America. In this third edition, Patrice Franko analyzes challenges to the neoliberal model of development and highlights recent macroeconomic changes in the region. Including charts and tables with the most current data available, the book also offers a wealth of new boxed discussions and vignettes.

## **Book Information**

Paperback: 712 pages

Publisher: Rowman & Littlefield Publishers; 3 edition (March 1, 2007)

Language: English

ISBN-10: 0742553531

ISBN-13: 978-0742553538

Product Dimensions: 7.1 x 1.3 x 10.1 inches

Shipping Weight: 2.6 pounds (View shipping rates and policies)

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## **Customer Reviews**

This is probably the most useful all-round textbook on Latin American economic challenges currently on the market. An important strength is its comprehensiveness: unlike some alternatives, Franko does not dwell on issues of macroeconomic management to the exclusion of important socioeconomic issues such as education, health, rural development, and inequality. The book is evidently designed to support a one semester course, and could be used for either advanced undergraduates or graduate students. Franko's text is not without its weaknesses. The updating of macro developments from the first edition was undertaken somewhat randomly. Discussions of different viewpoints on Latin American development issues sometimes make overly schematic use of stock figures ("the structuralist", "the neoliberal") that risk becoming caricatures. There is no discussion of the so-called "Washington Consensus" as a whole (indeed the term does not appear in the index). And Franko discusses the thesis of secular decline in commodity prices in an uncritical manner that suggests she may be unaware of recent more skeptical analyses. This said, the book

does not suffer from obvious systematic biases, and makes a good-faith effort to present different viewpoints without forcing them down the reader's throat.

"The Puzzle of Latin American Economic Development" is, most of all, an incredible clear book. By beginning with a review of the differences between the concepts of economic development and economic growth, Patrice Franko places the study of the Latin American economy in its appropriate framework. The analysis of the historical evolution, while simple, gives a solid overview of many of the roots of the current economic and social problems of the area. Finally, her wide analysis of typical areas of economic development such as agriculture, health and education highlights problems that are sometimes forgotten by the political actors. It is an indispensable book for those who want to get initiated in the fascinating subject of Latin American Economic Development.

This book offers a very complete overview of the historical process of Latin American development and provides useful insights when it comes to thinking of the future. Information is really dense but well organized, and every economic theory that is used (ISI, International monetarism, structuralism, etc.) is well explained and illustrated through its detailed application on different countries throughout Latin America. But it begins to be somewhat outdated given the fast pace of change in current Latin America

excellent teaching resource!

Needed for school.

Excellent

The content of the book was not bad however the quality of the book itself was terrible. The spine of the book was broken and the first time I grabbed the book many pages flew out. All the pages are there but it is more of a loose leaf notebook than an actual textbook.

My only issue was that the pages were falling out, but overall the book was acceptable. I give this product an "it's okay".

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