

Economics 8784: Economic Development

Spring 2012

M/W 12:00-1:15 PM

Room: Economics 5

Class Website through CULearn: <https://culearn.colorado.edu/>

No Class: 3/26-3/28 (Spring Break)

Professor Francisca Antman

Office: Economics 102

Office Hours: Mon/Wed 1:30-2:00 PM, Fri 12:00-2:00 PM, and by appointment

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Course Description & Objectives

This course is one of a two-part series which, along with ECON 8774, makes up the development economics field at the University of Colorado. In this class we will focus primarily on microeconomic issues from a largely empirical perspective. Some of the topics covered include the distribution of resources within households, human capital development such as health and education, migration, poverty traps, and gender issues relevant for developing countries. The objective of the course is to provide an overview of the microeconomics of development and to prepare students for doing original research in the field.

Prerequisites: Ph.D. Microeconomic Theory and Econometrics. See me if you have not taken these courses.

Textbook: There are no required texts for this course. Consult the reading list for texts that may be useful supplementary material for understanding the articles we will discuss.

Assignments & Grading:

1. You will write two referee reports on unpublished papers from a set of recent job market papers in the field. Each referee report should be about 3 pages long (double-spaced), briefly summarize the work, critique the article, and provide suggestions for improvement. I will provide some guidance on writing referee reports in advance of the assignment as well as the set of possible papers to review. Please see the schedule below for due dates.
2. Class participation is required and you will be graded on your contributions to our class discussions. Reading the articles in advance of lectures will help you in this respect. Your participation grade will also reflect satisfactory completion of one-page (max) summaries of 10 articles from the main section of the syllabus (not background or further reading), excluding overview papers which cover several research projects. At minimum, each summary should (1) identify the main research question, (2) discuss the empirical strategy used to answer the question and (3) state the main results. It should also be obvious from your summary that you read the entire paper. These summaries are due in class before we are scheduled to begin discussion of the relevant paper.

3. You will make two in-class, computer-based, presentations of selected articles from the reading list. Each presentation should last about 30 minutes and should both summarize the article focusing on the empirical strategy and provide the basis for a critical discussion of the article in class.
4. You will write a 7-10 page (double-spaced) research proposal on a topic of your choice, related to the themes explored in this class. Over the course of the semester, you will meet with me individually to discuss your proposal idea and we will discuss your research progress in class as well. The proposal should outline your research question in detail and explain the contribution your work would make to the existing literature on the subject. The paper should also address the empirical strategy and the data set you expect to use. If you have access to the data, this would be an excellent opportunity to develop your research further by presenting some preliminary data analysis. If you are an advanced student that has already begun working on a paper, we can discuss modifying this project to be of greater value to you.
5. There will be a final exam based on the articles on the reading list and the material we cover in class. I will provide discussion questions to prepare you for the types of questions you will see on the final.

These assignments will be weighted as follows:

1. 2 Referee Reports: 15%
2. 2 Presentations: 15%
3. Participation—including 10 summaries: 15%
4. Research Proposal: 30%
5. Final Exam: 25%

Every written assignment/exam should be accompanied by a signed cover sheet (available at the course website) affirming that it is your own original work.

Class Policies

There is no excuse for missing an exam unless there is a documented medical or family emergency. Note that you are required to submit documentation of any emergency. In all other cases, failure to take an exam will result in a zero for that exam. If a legitimate emergency arises, other graded work will be re-weighted; no make-up exams will be given. If you foresee any legitimate conflict with the dates of the assignments or exams, please see me at least two weeks beforehand or as soon as possible.

If you miss a class, you are responsible for obtaining notes on the material we covered from another classmate. I encourage you to come to my office hours to discuss the material you missed, but not before you have gone over the material yourself. If you miss the date of your presentation because of a medical or family emergency or because class has been cancelled, you will make up the presentation at a later date in the semester.

Unless otherwise noted, assignments are due in class at the beginning of lecture on the dates specified. Following a 15-minute grace period, your assignment grade will be lowered by one grade level for every day that the assignment is late (with a zero being the minimum obtainable score). It is important that you demonstrate that you are thinking independently as I will compare your responses to those of other students in the class.

Campus policy regarding religious observances requires that faculty make every effort to deal reasonably and fairly with all students who, because of religious obligations, have conflicts with scheduled exams, assignments or required attendance. In this class, please see me at least two weeks prior to any conflicts due to religious observances. See full details at http://www.colorado.edu/policies/fac_relig.html

Other Policies

If you qualify for accommodations because of a disability, please submit to me a letter from Disability Services in a timely manner so that your needs can be addressed. Disability Services determines accommodations based on documented disabilities. Contact: 303-492-8671, Center for Community N200, and <http://www.colorado.edu/disabilityservices>.

If you have a temporary medical condition or injury, see guidelines at <http://www.colorado.edu/disabilityservices/go.cgi?select=temporary.html>

Students and faculty each have responsibility for maintaining an appropriate learning environment. Those who fail to adhere to such behavioral standards may be subject to discipline. Professional courtesy and sensitivity are especially important with respect to individuals and topics dealing with differences of race, color, culture, religion, creed, politics, veteran's status, sexual orientation, gender, gender identity and gender expression, age, disability, and nationalities. Class rosters are provided to the instructor with the student's legal name. I will gladly honor your request to address you by an alternate name or gender pronoun. Please advise me of this preference early in the semester so that I may make appropriate changes to my records. See policies at <http://www.colorado.edu/policies/classbehavior.html> and http://www.colorado.edu/studentaffairs/judicialaffairs/code.html#student_code at

The University of Colorado at Boulder Discrimination and Harassment Policy and Procedures, the University of Colorado Sexual Harassment Policy and Procedures, and the University of Colorado Conflict of Interest in Cases of Amorous Relationships policy apply to all students, staff, and faculty. Any student, staff, or faculty member who believes s/he has been the subject of sexual harassment or discrimination or harassment based upon race, color, national origin, sex, age, disability, creed, religion, sexual orientation, or veteran status should contact the Office of Discrimination and Harassment (ODH) at 303-492-2127 or the Office of Student Conduct (OSC) at 303-492-5550. Information about the ODH, the above referenced policies, and the campus resources available to assist individuals regarding discrimination or harassment can be obtained at <http://www.colorado.edu/odh>

All students of the University of Colorado at Boulder are responsible for knowing and adhering to the academic integrity policy of this institution. Violations of this policy may include: cheating, plagiarism, aid of academic dishonesty, fabrication, lying, bribery, and threatening behavior. All incidents of academic misconduct shall be reported to the Honor Code Council (honor@colorado.edu; 303-735-2273). Students who are found to be in violation of the academic integrity policy will be subject to both academic sanctions from the faculty member and non-academic sanctions (including but not limited to university probation, suspension, or expulsion). Other information on the Honor Code can be found at <http://www.colorado.edu/policies/honor.html> and at <http://www.colorado.edu/academics/honorcode/>

Economics 8784: Economic Development
Reading List
Professor Francisca Antman

Lectures and discussions will primarily be drawn from journal articles and working papers. Although there is no required textbook for the course, the textbooks and methods articles listed below may be useful for you to consult for a more thorough presentation of the theory and methods used in the articles we will review.

Useful Books

- Bardhan, Pranab and Christopher Udry. 1999. *Development Microeconomics*. New York: Oxford University Press.
- Deaton, Angus. 1997. *The Analysis of Household Surveys: A Microeconometric Approach to Development Policy*. Baltimore, Maryland: The World Bank.
- H. Chenery, T.N. Srinivasan, J. Behrman, T. Schultz, and J. Strauss, eds. *Handbook of Development Economics*, Vol. 1-4. Published by Elsevier.
- Wooldridge, Jeffrey M. 2001. *Economic Analysis of Cross Section and Panel Data*. Cambridge, MA: The MIT Press.
- Ray, Debraj. 1998. *Development Economics*. Princeton, N.J.: Princeton University Press.

Useful Methods Articles

- Deaton, Angus. 1993. "Data and Econometric Tools for Development Analysis." *Handbook of Development Economics*, Vol. 3, Ch. 33, Ed. J. Berhman and T.N. Srinivasan.
- Angrist, Joshua D. and Alan B. Krueger. 1999. "Empirical Strategies in Labor Economics." *Handbook of Labor Economics*, Vol. 3, Ch. 23, Ed. O. Ashenfelter and D. Card.
- Duflo, Esther, Rachel Glennerster, and Michael Kremer. 2008. "Randomization in Development Economics Research: A Toolkit." *Handbook of Development Economics*, Vol. 4, Ch. 61.
- Todd, Petra E. 2008. "Evaluating Social Programs with Endogenous Program Placement and Selection of the Treated." *Handbook of Development Economics*, Vol.4, Ch. 60. Pp. 3847-3894.
- Angrist, Joshua D., Guido W. Imbens, and Donald B. Rubin. 1996. "Identification of Causal Effects Using Instrumental Variables." *Journal of the American Statistical Association*, 91(434): 444- 455.
- Angrist, Joshua D. and Alan B. Krueger. 2001. "Instrumental Variables and the Search for Identification: From Supply and Demand to Natural Experiments." *The Journal of Economic Perspectives*, 15(4): 69-85.
- Meyer, Bruce D. (1995). "Natural and Quasi-Experiments in Economics." *Journal of Business and Economic Statistics*, 13(2): 151-161.
- Bound, John, David A. Jaeger, Regina M. Baker. 1995. "Problems with Instrumental Variables Estimation When the Correlation Between the Instruments and the Endogenous Explanatory Variable is Weak." *Journal of the American Statistical Association*, 90(430): 443- 450.
- Imbens and Wooldridge. 2009. "Recent Developments in the Econometrics of Program Evaluation." *Journal of Economic Literature*, 47(1): 5-86.

Course Outline

The articles under the topic headings below are required reading for everyone in the class. The last page lists specific articles that will be presented by a student, but everyone should read those articles for class discussion as well. Articles under the Background sections may be useful to you but may not be included in lectures and are thus optional readings unless otherwise noted.

For many of these papers, multiple versions are available. To ensure that we are all reading the same paper, please read the version that is referenced below and use the recommended means of access if one is offered. *Please make sure to bring copies of the papers to class so that you can refer to them during our discussion.*

I. Poverty

a. Poverty in the Developing World

Banerjee, Abhijit and Esther Duflo. 2007. "The Economic Lives of the Poor." *Journal of Economic Perspectives* 21(1): 141-167.

Besley, Timothy and Robin Burgess. 2003. "Halving Global Poverty." *Journal of Economic Perspectives* 17(3): 3-22.

b. Poverty Traps and Income Mobility

Dasgupta, Partha and Debraj Ray. 1986. "Inequality as a Determinant of Malnutrition and Unemployment: Theory." *The Economic Journal*, 96(384): 1011-1034.

Antman, Francisca and David McKenzie. 2007. "Poverty Traps and Nonlinear Income Dynamics with Measurement Error and Individual Heterogeneity." *Journal of Development Studies*, 43(6): 1057-1083.

Background

Ray (1998), p. 272-279. 489-504.

Deaton (1997), Section 2.7

II. The Family & Intra-household Allocation

a. Modeling the Household

Benjamin, Dwayne. 1992. "Household Composition, Labor Markets, and Labor Demand: Testing for Separation in Agricultural Household Models." *Econometrica*. 60(2): 287-322.

Deaton, Angus and Christina Paxson. 1998. "Economies of Scale, Household Size, and the Demand for Food." *The Journal of Political Economy*, Vol. 106, No. 5 (Oct., 1998), pp. 897-930.

b. Testing the Unitary Model

Thomas, Duncan. 1990. "Intra-Household Resource Allocation: An Inferential Approach. *The Journal of Human Resources*, 25(4): 635-664.

c. Gender and Distribution

Deaton, Angus. 1989. "Looking for Boy-Girl Discrimination in Household Expenditure Data." *The World Bank Economic Review*. 3 (1): 1-15.

Duflo, Esther. 2003. "Grandmothers and Granddaughters: Old-Age Pensions and Intrahousehold Allocation in South Africa." *The World Bank Economic Review* 17(1): 1-25.

Udry, Christopher. 1996. "Gender, Agricultural Productivity and the Theory of the Household." *The Journal of Political Economy* 104(5): 1010-1046.

Background & Further Reading

Bobonis, Gustavo J. "Is the Allocation of Resources within the Household Efficient? New Evidence from a Randomized Experiment." *Journal of Political Economy*, 117(3) (2009), 453-503.

Browning, M. and P. A. Chiappori. 1998. "Efficient Intra-Household Allocations: A General Characterization and Empirical Tests." *Econometrica* 66(6): 1241-1278.

Duflo, Esther and Christopher Udry. 2004. "Intrahousehold Resource Allocation in Cote d'Ivoire: Social Norms, Separate Accounts and Consumption Choices." NBER Working Paper No. 10498.

Strauss and Thomas. "Human Resources: Empirical Modeling of Household and Family Decisions." *Handbook of Development Economics*, Vol. 3A, Ch. 34.

Deaton (1997), Ch. 4.

Bardhan & Udry (1999), Ch. 1-2.

III. Education

a. Returns to Schooling

Duflo, Esther. 2001. "Schooling and Labor Market Consequences of School Construction in Indonesia: Evidence from an Unusual Policy Experiment." *The American Economic Review*, 91(4): 795-813.

b. Program Evaluation

Schultz, T. Paul. 2004. "School Subsidies for the Poor: Evaluating the Mexican Progresa Poverty Program." *Journal of Development Economics*, 74(1); 199-250.

Kremer, Michael, Rebecca Thornton, and Edward Miguel. 2008. "Incentives to Learn." Forthcoming, *Review of Economics and Statistics*.
(Available at http://elsa.berkeley.edu/~emiguel/pdfs/miguel_incentives.pdf)

c. Classroom Interventions

Angrist, Joshua D. and Victor Lavy. 1999. "Using Maimonides' Rule to Estimate the Effect of Class Size on Scholastic Achievement." *The Quarterly Journal of Economics*, 114(2): 533-575.

Banerjee, Abhijit and Esther Duflo. 2006. "Addressing Absence." *Journal of Economic Perspectives*, 20(1): 117–132.

Background

Glewwe, Paul and Michael Kremer. 2006. "Schools, Teachers, and Education Outcomes in Developing Countries." *Handbook of the Economics of Education*, Vol. 2, Ch.16.

Card, David. 1999. "The Causal Effect of Education on Earnings." *Handbook of Labor Economics*, Vol. 3, Ch. 30.

Kremer, Michael. 2003. "Randomized Evaluations of Educational Programs in Developing Countries: Some Lessons." *The American Economic Review*, Papers and Proceedings of the One Hundred Fifteenth Annual Meeting of the American Economic Association, Washington, DC, January 3-5, 2003, 93(2): 102-106.

Foster, Andrew D. and Mark R. Rosenzweig. 1996. "Technical Change and Human Capital Returns and Investments: Evidence from the Green Revolution." *The American Economic Review*, 86(4): 931-953.

Duflo, Esther, Rema Hanna and Stephen Ryan. 2007. "Monitoring Works: Getting Teachers to Come to School." BREAD Working Paper No. 103.

IV. Health, Disease, and Mortality

a. Randomized Evaluations & Experiments

Miguel, Edward and Michael Kremer. 2004. "Worms: Identifying Impacts on Education and Health in the Presence of Treatment Externalities." *Econometrica*. 72(1): 159-217.

Thornton, Rebecca L. 2008. "The Demand for, and Impact of, Learning HIV Status" *American Economic Review*, 98 (5): 1829-63

Cohen, Jessica and Pascaline Dupas. 2009. "Free Distribution or Cost Sharing? Evidence from a Randomized Malaria Prevention Experiment." Forthcoming, *Quarterly Journal of Economics*.

(Available at <http://www.econ.ucla.edu/pdupas/CohenDupas.pdf>)

Thomas, Duncan, Elizabeth Frankenberg, Jed Friedman, Jean-Pierre Habicht, Mohammed Hakimi, Nicholas Ingwersen, Jaswadi ., Nathan Jones , Christopher McKelvey, Gretel Pelto, Bondan Sikoki, Teresa E. Seeman, James P. Smith, Cecep Sumantri, Wayan Suriastini, and Siswanto Wilopo, "Causal Effect of Health on Labor Market Outcomes: Experimental Evidence" (September 1, 2006). *California Center for Population Research. On-Line Working Paper Series*. Paper CCPR-070-06.
<http://repositories.cdlib.org/ccpr/olwp/CCPR-070-06>

b. Exploiting Spatial and Temporal Variability

Bleakley, Hoyt. 2007. "Disease and Development: Evidence from the Hookworm Eradication in the American South." *The Quarterly Journal of Economics*, 122(1): 73-117.

Jayachandran, Seema. 2008. "Air Quality and Infant Mortality: Evidence from Indonesia's Wildfires." Forthcoming, *Journal of Human Resources* 44(4).
(Available at http://www.stanford.edu/~jayachan/indo_fires.pdf)

c. Missing Women

Oster, Emily. 2005. "Hepatitis B and the Case of the Missing Women." *Journal of Political Economy*, Dec2005, Vol. 113 Issue 6, p1163-1216.

Lin, Ming-Jen and Luoh, Ming-Ching. 2008. "Can Hepatitis B Mothers Account for the Number of Missing Women? Evidence from Three Million Newborns in Taiwan" *The American Economic Review*. 98(5): 2259-2273.

Qian, Nancy. 2008. "Missing Women and the Price of Tea in China: The Effect of Sex-Specific Earnings on Sex Imbalance." *Quarterly Journal of Economics*, 123(3): 1251-1285.

Background

Strauss and Thomas. 1998. "Health, Nutrition, and Economic Development." *Journal of Economic Literature*, 36(2): 766-817.

Strauss and Thomas. 2008. "Health over the Life Course." *Handbook of Development Economics*, Vol. 4. Ch. 30, p. 3375-3474.

Subramanian, Shankar and Angus Deaton. 1996. "The Demand for Food and Calories." *The Journal of Political Economy*, 104(1): 133-162.

Kremer, Michael and Edward Miguel. 2007. "The Illusion of Sustainability." *The Quarterly Journal of Economics*, 112(3): 1007-1065.

V. Environment & Natural Resources (Water)

Duflo, Esther and Rohini Pande. 2007. "Dams." *The Quarterly Journal of Economics*. 122(2): 601-646.

Galiani, Sebastian, Paul Gertler and Ernesto Schargrotsky. 2005. "Water for Life: The Impact of Privatization of Water Services on Child Mortality." *The Journal of Political Economy*, 113(1): 83-120.

Background

Bardhan & Udry (1999), Ch. 13.

VI. Labor and Migration

Munshi, Kaivan. 2003. "Networks in the Modern Economy: Mexican Migrants in the U.S. Labor Market." *The Quarterly Journal of Economics*, 118(2): 549-599.

Yang, Dean. 2008. "International Migration, Remittances and Household Investment: Evidence from Philippine Migrants' Exchange Rate Shocks." *The Economic Journal*, 118(528): 591-630.

Jayachandran, Seema. 2006. "Selling Labor Low: Wage Responses to Productivity Shocks in Developing Countries." *The Journal of Political Economy*, 114(3): 538-575.

Background

Ray (1998), Ch. 10.

Bardhan & Udry (1999), Ch. 5.

Banerjee, Abhijit V. and Andrew F. Newman. 1998. "Information, the Dual Economy and Development." *The Review of Economic Studies*, 65(4): 631-653.

VII. Land & Agriculture

Field, Erica. 2007. "Entitled to Work: Urban Property Rights and Labor Supply in Peru" *The Quarterly Journal of Economics*. 122(4): 1561-1602.

Banerjee, Abhijit V., Paul J. Gertler, and Maitreesh Ghatak. 2002. "Empowerment and Efficiency: Tenancy Reform in West Bengal." *The Journal of Political Economy*, 110(2): 239-280.

Shaban, Radwan Ali. 1987. "Testing Between Competing Models of Sharecropping." *The Journal of Political Economy*, 95(5): 893-920.

Background

Ray (1998), Ch. 12.

Bardhan & Udry (1999), Ch. 6

Foster, Andrew D. and Mark R. Rosenzweig. 1995. "Learning by Doing and Learning from Others: Human Capital and Technical Change in Agriculture." *The Journal of Political Economy*, 113(6): 1176-1209.

VIII. Savings & Credit

Ashraf, Nava, Dean Karlan and Wesley Yin. 2006. "Tying Odysseus to the Mast: Evidence from a Commitment Savings Product in the Philippines." *The Quarterly Journal of Economics*, 121(2): 635-672.

Burgess, Robin and Rohini Pande. 2005. "Do Rural Banks Matter? Evidence from the Indian Social Banking Experiment." *The American Economic Review*, 95(3): 780-795.

Karlan, Dean and Jonathan Zinman. 2009. "Expanding Microcredit Access: Using Randomized Supply Decisions to Estimate the Impacts in Manila." Working Paper.
(Available at http://karlan.yale.edu/p/expandingaccess_manila_oct09.pdf)

Background

Deaton (1997), Ch. 6.

Bardhan and Udry (1999), Ch. 7 & 8.

Ray (1998), Ch. 14-15.

- Banerjee, Abhijit and Andrew Newman. 1993. "Occupational Choice and the Process of Development." *The Journal of Political Economy*, 101(2): 274-298.
- Morduch, Jonathan. 1999. "The Microfinance Promise." *Journal of Economic Literature*, 37(4): 1569-1614.
- Karlan, Dean and Jonathan Morduch. 2009. "Access to Finance." *Handbook of Development Economics*, vol.5. Eds. Dani Rodrik and Mark Rosenzweig.
(Available at http://karlan.yale.edu/p/HDE_June_11_2009_Access_to_Finance.pdf)
- Paxson, Christina H. 1992. "Using Weather Variability to Estimate the Response of Savings to Transitory Income in Thailand." *The American Economic Review*, 82(1): 15-33.
- Townsend, Robert M. 1994. "Risk and Insurance in Village India." *Econometrica*. 62(3): 539-591.
- Banerjee, Abhijit, Esther Duflo, Rachel Glennerster, and Cynthia Kinnan. 2009. "The Miracle of Microfinance? Evidence from a Randomized Evaluation." MIT Working Paper No. 4161.
(Available at <http://econ-www.mit.edu/files/4161>)

IX. Political Economy

a. Institutions & Corruption

- Acemoglu, Daron, Simon Johnson and James A. Robinson. 2001. "The Colonial Origins of Comparative Development: An Empirical Investigation." *The American Economic Review*, 91(5): 1369-1401.
- Olken, Benjamin A. 2007. "Monitoring Corruption: Evidence from a Field Experiment in Indonesia." *The Journal of Political Economy*, 115(2): 200-249.
- Fisman, Raymond and Edward Miguel. 2007. "Corruption, Norms, and Legal Enforcement: Evidence from Diplomatic Parking Tickets." *The Journal of Political Economy*, 115(6): 1020-1048.

b. Political Representation

- Pande, Rohini. 2003. "Can Mandated Political Representation Increase Policy Influence for Disadvantaged Minorities? Theory and Evidence from India." *The American Economic Review*, 93(4): 1132-1151.
- Chattopadhyay, Raghabendra and Esther Duflo. 2004. "Women as Policy Makers: Evidence from a Randomized Policy Experiment in India." *Econometrica*, 72(5): 1409-1443.
- Beaman, Lori, Raghabendra Chattopadhyay, Esther Duflo, Rohini Pande and Petia Topalova. 2008. "Powerful Women: Does Exposure Reduce Bias?" Forthcoming, *The Quarterly Journal of Economics*.
(Available at <http://faculty.wcas.northwestern.edu/~lab823/powerfulwomen.pdf>)

Background

- Aidt, Toke S. "Economic Analysis of Corruption: A survey" *The Economic Journal*, 113(491): F632-F652.

- Shleifer, Andrei and Robert W. Vishny. 1993. "Corruption." *The Quarterly Journal of Economics*, 108(3): 599-617.
- Mauro, Paolo. 1995. "Corruption and Growth." *The Quarterly Journal of Economics*, 110(3): 681-712.

X. The Future of Development Economics

- Banerjee, Abhijit, Pranab Bardhan, Kaushik Basu, Ravi Kanbur (editor), and Dilip Mookherjee. 2005. "New Directions in Development Economics: Theory or Empirics? A Symposium in *Economic and Political Weekly*." Boston University Working Paper No.28.
(Available at <http://www.arts.cornell.edu/poverty/kanbur/NewDirectionsDevEcon.pdf>)
- Banerjee, Abhijit V. and Esther Duflo. 2008. "The Experimental Approach to Development Economics." NBER Working Paper No. 14467.
- Deaton, Angus. 2009. "Instruments of development: Randomization in the tropics, and the search for the elusive keys to economic development." Keynes Lecture, British Academy, October 9, 2008.
(Available at http://www.princeton.edu/~deaton/downloads/Instruments%20of%20development%20v1d_mar09_all.pdf)
- Heckman, James J. and Jeffrey A. Smith. 1995. "Assessing the Case for Social Experiments." *The Journal of Economic Perspectives*, 9(2): 85-110.
- Background
- Heckman, James. 1991. "Randomization and Social Policy Evaluation." NBER Technical Working Paper No. 107.
- Rosenzweig, Mark R. and Kenneth I. Wolpin, 2000. "Natural 'Natural Experiments' in Economics." *Journal of Economic Literature*, 38(4): 827-874.

Economics 8784 Tentative Course Outline, Spring 2012

Week	Dates	Material
1	Jan 18	Poverty --Poverty in the developing world --Poverty traps and income mobility
2	Jan 23-25	The Family/Household --Agricultural households --Modeling the household
3	1/30-2/1	The Family/Household, continued --Testing the unitary model --Gender & distribution
4	Feb 6-8	Education --Program Evaluation Methodologies --Returns to Schooling
5	Feb 13-15	Education, continued --Program Evaluation (Student Presentation 2/13: Kremer, et al.) RJ --Classroom Interventions
6	Feb 20-22	Health --Randomized Evaluations and Experiments --(Student Presentation 2/22: Cohen & Dupas) BB W 2/22 Referee Report 1 due at beginning of class
7	Feb 27-29	Health continued --Randomized Evaluations, cont. (Student Presentation 2/27: Thomas, et al.) AS --Spatial and Temporal Variation (Student Presentation 2/29: Bleakley)
8	Mar 5-7	Health & Environment --Missing Women (Student Presentation 3/5: Qian) BB --Water (Student Presentation 3/7: Galiani, et al.)
9	Mar 12-14	Labor and Migration --Networks (Student Presentation 3/12: Yang) TL --Productivity (Student Presentation 3/14: Jayachandran)---- AS
10	Mar 19-21	Land & Agriculture --Tenancy --Sharecropping W 3/21 Referee Report 2 due at beginning of class
11	Mar 26-28	No classes—Spring Break
12	Apr 2-4	Savings & Credit --Savings (Student Presentation 4/2 Ashraf, et al.)----- XZ --Alternative Credit Strategies
13	Apr 9-11	Political Economy --Institutions (Student Presentation 4/9: Acemoglu, et al.)--- TL --NO CLASS APR 11 IN LIEU OF ERICA FIELD SEMINAR (APR 11 3:30-5 ECON 5)
14	Apr 16-18	Political Economy, continued --Corruption (Student Presentation 4/16: Olken) XZ --Political Representation (Student Presentation 4/18: Pande, 2003)---- RJ
15	Apr 23-25	Future of Development Economics --Theory vs. Empirics?
16	4/30-5/2	Review for Final Exam W 5/2 Research Proposal due at beginning of class
	WED 5/9	Final Exam 4:30-7PM