

Economics 4784: Economic Development

Spring 2015

MWF 11:00-11:50 AM

Room: ECON 119

Class Website through Desire2Learn (D2L): <https://learn.colorado.edu/>

No Class: 1/19 (Martin Luther King, Jr. Holiday), 3/23-3/27 (Spring Break)

Professor Francisca Antman

While these assignments may not be formally graded, I will count your level of effort on these exercises along with your attendance and potentially also your participation (e.g. answering questions posed to the class) throughout the course. You will be given the opportunity to make up for up to two lost participation points at the end of the semester. I may also present exam questions drawn from our class discussions.

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 exams 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 as soon as possible.

If you miss a class, you are responsible for obtaining notes on the material we covered from another classmate. You are welcome to visit my office hours to discuss the material you missed, but not before you have gone over the material yourself through notes and the textbook if necessary.

Other Policies

Campus policy regarding religious observances requires that faculty make every effort to reasonably and fairly deal with all students who, because of religious obligations, have conflicts with scheduled exams, assignments or required attendance. In this class, please review the course

Economics 4784 Tentative Course Outline Spring 2015

Note: The journals listed below can be accessed online from the University of Colorado library system at <http://libraries.colorado.edu/>

- I. Introduction (Week 1: Jan 12-16)
 - A. Topics
 - 1. How should we measure economic development?
 - 2. What do development economists study?
 - 3. Millennium Development Goals
 - B. Readings
 - 1. Lecture Notes
 - 2. Article(s) from popular press, consult website
 - 3. Ray, ch. 1, 2 (optional)

- II. Theories of Economic Growth (Week 2: Jan 21-23)
 - A. Topics
 - 1. Explaining cross-country income differences
 - 2. Convergence hypotheses
 - B. Readings
 - 1. Lecture Notes
 - 2. Article(s) from popular press, consult website
 - 3. Pritchett, Lant. 1997. "Divergence, Big Time." *Journal of Economic Perspectives*, 11(3): 3-17.
 - 4. Ray, ch. 3 (optional)

- III. Inequality (Week 3: Jan 26-30)
 - A. Topics
 - 1. Measuring inequality
 - 2. Inverted-U hypothesis
 - 3. Self-perpetuating inequality
 - B. Readings
 - 1. Lecture Notes
 - 2. Article(s) from popular press, consult website
 - 3. Ray, Debraj. 2010. "Uneven Growth: A Framework for Research in Development Economics" *Journal of Economic Perspectives*, 24(3): 45-60.
 - 4. Ray, ch. 6, 7 (optional)

- IV. Poverty (Week 4: Feb 2-6)
 - A. Topics
 - 1. Measuring poverty
 - 2. Poverty traps
 - B. Readings
 - 1. Lecture Notes
 - 2. Article(s) from popular press, consult website
 - 3. Banerjee, Abhijit and Esther Duflo. 2007. "The Economic Lives of the Poor." *Journal of Economic Perspectives*, 21(1): 141-167.

4. Besley, Timothy and Robin Burgess. 2003. "Halving Global Poverty." *Journal of Economic Perspectives*, 17(3): 3-22.
5. Ray, ch. 8 (optional)

2. Article(s) from popular press, consult website
3. Field, Erica. 2007. "Entitled to Work: Urban Property Rights and Labor Supply in Peru" *The Quarterly Journal of Economics*. 122(4): 1561-1602. (Optional.)
4. Ray, ch. 12, sections 1-3 (optional)

NO CLASS March 23-27 (Week 11): SPRING BREAK

IX. Human Capital (Week 12: Mar 30-Apr 3)

A. Topics

1. Returns to Schooling
2. Health & Nutrition

B. Readings

1. Lecture Notes
2. Article(s) from popular press, consult website
3. Strauss, John and Duncan Thomas. 1998. "Health, Nutrition, and Economic Development." *Journal of Economic Literature*, 36(2): 766-817.
4. Rosenzweig, Mark R. 2010. "Microeconomic Approaches to Development: Schooling, Learning, and Growth." *Journal of Economic Perspectives*, 24(3): 81-96.

MIDTERM 2: Wednesday April 8 in class (Week 13)

Midterm 2 Solutions in class following midterm

X. Labor (Week 14: Apr 13-17)

A. Topics

1. Piece Rates
2. Women's Work
3. Child Labor

B. Readings

1. Lecture Notes
2. Article(s) from popular press, consult website
3. Edmonds, Eric and Nina Pavcnik. 2005. "Child Labor in the Global Economy." *Journal of Economic Perspectives*, 19(1): 199-220.
4. Mammen, Kristin and Christina Paxson. 2000. "Women's Work and Economic Development." *Journal of Economic Perspectives*, 14(4): 141-164.
5. Ray, ch. 13, section 4 (optional)

XI. Credit Markets (Week 15: Apr 20-24)

A. Topics

1. Moral hazard and adverse selection
2. Formal and informal credit markets
3. Microfinance

B. Readings

1. Lecture Notes
2. Article(s) from popular press

