Development Economics
Collegio Carlo Alberto - Spring 2019

Instructor: Juan S. Morales
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Lectures: T4-6 Th 11-1
Office hours: T6-7

Course Description:
This course presents an overview of Development Economics. This field studies issues related to developing countries: the possible reasons why some countries are poor and others rich - geography, history, institutions, culture; the progress that we have seen over the last century and potential interventions - trade and migration, health, education, media; and some of the current challenges faced - corruption, conflict. The course provides a look at these topics through relevant readings and assignments.

Pre-requisites:
Econometrics I
Applied Economics (recommended)

Grades:
Midterm (20%)
Term paper (20%)
Presentation (20%)
Final Exam (40%)
Participation (+10%)

Outline and reading list (*required):

1. Introduction


*Ferguson and Lohman (1994) "The Anti-Politics Machine:“Development” and bureaucratic power in Lesotho". The Ecologist (+Book Preface)


2. Geography
*Jared Diamond (1998) Guns, Germs and Steel, Chapter 10 (+ Preface & Prologue)
3. **History**


4. **Institutions**

*Daron Acemoglu and James Robinson (2012) Why Nations Fail, Chapters 1 & 2 (+ Preface)*


Dell (2011) “The Persistent Effects of Peru’s Mining Mita”. *Econometrica*


5. **Culture**

*Alesina and Giuliano (2015) "Culture and Institutions". *Journal of Economic Literature*


6. **Trade and migration**

*Pietra Rivoli (2005) The Travels of a T-Shirt in the Global Economy, (Chapters 6, 7, 8 + Prologue)*


7. **Health**


Cohen and Dupas (2010) "Free Distribution or Cost-Sharing? Evidence from a Malaria Prevention Experiment". *Quarterly Journal of Economics*

8. **Education**

*Abhijit V. Banerjee and Esther Dulo (2011) Poor Economics: A Radical Rethinking of the Way to Fight Global Poverty, Chapters 1 & 4 (+ Foreword)*


9. **Media**


*Jensen and Oster (2009) "The Power of TV: Cable Television and Women's Status in India". *Quarterly Journal of Economics*

Qin, Strömberg and Wu (2018) "Media Bias in China". *American Economic Review*


### 10. Corruption


Olken (2007), "Monitoring Corruption: Evidence from a Field Experiment in Indonesia". *Journal of Political Economy*

Fisman and Miguel (2007), "Corruption, Norms and Legal Enforcement: Evidence from Diplomatic Parking Tickets". *Journal of Political Economy*

### 11. Conflict


*Crost, Felter and Johnston (2014) "Aid under Fire: Development Projects and Civil Conflict". *American Economic Review*


Blattman and Miguel (2010) "Civil War". *Journal of Economic Literature*