

Lecturer: Dr. Kumar Aniket

Course Materials and Coverage

Development has been one of the most lively and thought provoking areas in the Economics. Over the past two decades there have been advances in econometric methods and economic theory, which have allowed Development Economics to reformulate some age-old questions. This course will introduce you to these advances and give you a feel of the lively and stimulating debate that has ensued.

This course will take you through an exciting journey that will acquaint you with new ideas and new ways of answering fundamental questions about economic development. These are the very ideas that have enriched our understanding of the processes that ultimately engender economic development. The course has a broad reach and is relevant as an introduction to the subject for continuing students as well as to people who work in the world of policy and business. It is designed to equip you with the *theoretical* and *applied* tools that will allow you to analyse the problems faced by *deprived communities* across the world in a systematic and analytical way.

Topics to be covered include:

- The Neo-classical and Endogenous Growth Theories
- Property Rights and Investment Incentives
- Role of Media and Policy in Development
- Role of Institutions in Development
- Social Networks and Social Capital
- Role Regulation in Development
- Poverty, Under-nutrition and Intra-household Resource Allocation
- Decentralisation of Public Goods Provisions
- Education and Human Capital
- Credit, Saving and Insurance
- Microfinance
- Land Redistribution

Format

The course will explore twelve important topics in the field of Economic Development. We will devote a lecture and a class to each topic. Each *lecture* would be based on a set of readings and is intended to give you an overview of the topic as well as acquaint you with current research in the area. Each *class* focusses on a particular journal article and is designed to help you to

explore the topic in greater detail. It is crucial that you read the relevant article carefully and attempt to answer the questions set out in the class exercise sheet before attending the class. There are also *further readings* in nine topics. These are relatively advanced texts, which would allow you to pursue the topic further.

Reference Text

The main textbook for the course is:

Ray, D. (1998). *Development economics*. Princeton University Press.

Lectures and Classes

Lectures: 36 hours

Classes: 12 hours

Assessment

Two written examinations