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.

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 focuses 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:


Background Articles: The following articles would also help familiarise the students with the econometric techniques discussed in the course:


**Course Outline & detailed reference list:**

**Lecture 1: Introduction: Redistribution, Growth and Welfare**

Chapters 1 & 2 of Ray (1998)


References mentioned in the Lectures:


**Lecture 2: Economic Growth: The Neo-classical and Endogenous story**


Aniket’s Lecture Notes on Economic Growth.


Course Outline & Reading List

Lecture 3: Economic Growth: Education and Human Capital

Chapters 5 of Ray (1998)


Lecture 4: Media and Policy


References mentioned in the Lectures:

Dr. Kumar Aniket

LSE Summer School 2011
Lecture 5: Property Rights

Chapters 11 & 12 of Ray (1998)


References mentioned in the Lectures:

Lecture 6: Land Redistribution

Chapters 11 & 12 of Ray (1998)


References mentioned in the Lectures:

Lecture 7: Health

Chapter 8¹ & 13² of Ray (1998)


¹Section on the Functional Impact of Nutrition
²Section on the Poverty, Nutrition and Labour Market


References mentioned in the Lectures:

**Lecture 8: Credit, Saving and Insurance**

Chapters 12 & 14 of Ray (1998)


**Lecture 9: Microfinance**


Aniket’s Lecture Notes on Microfinance.


► **Class based on** on Lecture Notes on Microfinance

Lecture 10: Social Networks and Social Capital


References mentioned in the Lectures:

Lecture 11: Decentralisation and Public Good Provisions


> Class based on Besley, T., Pande, R. and Rao, V. (2005), Political Selection and the Quality of Government: Evidence from South India. mimeo, Department of Economics, LSE.


References mentioned in the Lectures:

Lecture 12: Regulation and Development


References mentioned in the Lectures:
Krugman, Paul. Incidents from my career.