

Reading list for Development Economics (MSc)

Mohammad Vesal

Spring 2023

Graduate School of Management and Economics

Sharif University of Technology

The two main texts we use in this course are as follows

Ray, D., *Development Economics*. (Princeton NJ: Princeton University Press, 1998).

Roland, G., *Development Economics*. (Pearson Education Inc., 2014).

Banerjee, A. and E. Duflo, *Poor Economics: A Radical Rethinking of the Way to Fight Global Poverty*. (PublicAffairsTM, 2011)

We refer to the relevant chapters from these books under each topic separately. The course relies heavily on journal papers and you must read the **starred** readings. For some of the macro topics you could use relevant chapters from

Acemoglu, D. *Introduction to Modern Economic Growth*. (Princeton University Press, 2009).

Topic 0: Background readings on (empirical) methods

This course has an empirical focus. You would need to develop a good understanding of causal econometrics and methods of causal identification. We will not cover this topic in the lectures but you must read the starred readings from the following list. A few books are also available that provide great discussion of methods we use.

Articles

*Banerjee, A. V. and E. Duflo, 'The experimental approach to development economics', *Annual Review of Economics* 1(1) 2009, pp.151-78.

*Deaton, A., 'Instruments, Randomization, and Learning about Development', *Journal of Economic Literature* 48(2) 2010, pp. 424-455.

*Duflo, Esther. "Richard T. Ely Lecture: The Economist as Plumber." *American Economic Review* 107.5 (2017): 1-26.

*Imbens, G. W. and J. M. Wooldridge (2009), "Recent Developments in the Econometrics of Program Evaluation", *Journal of Economic Literature*, vol. 47(1), pp 5-86.

Acemoglu, D., 'Theory, General Equilibrium, and Political Economy in Development Economics', *Journal of Economic Perspectives* 24(3) 2010, pp.17-32.

Angrist, J. D. and J. S. Pischke, 'The Credibility Revolution in Empirical Economics: How Better Research Design Is Taking the Con out of Econometrics', *Journal of Economic Perspectives* 24(2) 2010, pp.3-30.

Angrist, J. D. and A. Krueger, 'Instrumental Variables and the Search for Identification: From Supply and Demand to Natural Experiments', *Journal of Economic Perspectives* 15 2001, pp. 69-87.

Bertrand, Marianne, Esther Duflo, and Sendhil Mullainathan. "How Much Should We Trust Differences-In-Differences Estimates?" *The Quarterly journal of economics* 119.1 (2004): 249-275.

Deaton, A., 'Understanding the Mechanisms of Economic Development', *Journal of Economic Perspectives* 24(3) 2010, pp.3-16.

Duflo, E., Glennerster, R. and M. Kremer, 'Using randomization in development economics research: A toolkit', *Handbook of development economics* 4 (2007): 3895-3962.

Meyer, B. D., 'Natural and quasi-experiments in economics', *Journal of business and economic statistics* 13(2) 1995, pp.151-61.

Ravallion, M., 'The mystery of the vanishing benefits: An introduction to impact evaluation', *World bank economic review* 15(1) 2001, pp.115-40.

Rosenzweig, M. R. and K. I. Wolpin, 'Natural "Natural Experiments"', *Journal of Economic Literature* 38(4) 2000, pp. 827-74.

Books

Angrist, J. D. and J. S. Pischke, *Mostly harmless econometrics: An empiricist's companion*. (Princeton university press, 2008).

Angrist, J. D. and J. S. Pischke, *Mastering Metrics: The Path from Cause to Effect* (Princeton University Press, 2014).

Stock, J. H. and M. M. Watson, *Introduction to Econometrics* (Pearson Education, 2011).

Dunning, T., *Natural experiments in the social sciences: a design-based approach*. (Cambridge University Press, 2012).

Part I: Cross-country Differences and Macro Models of Development

Topic 1: Overview of development basic facts

*Roland (2014) Chapter 1.

*Ray (1998) Chapter 2.

*Banerjee and Duflo (2011) Chapters 1 and 2.

*Banerjee, A. V. and E. Duflo, 'The Economic Lives of the Poor', *Journal of Economic Perspectives* 21(1) 2007, pp.141-68.

Deaton, A. (2010) "Price indexes, inequality, and the measurement of world poverty", *American Economic Review*, vol. 100(1), pp. 5-34.

Pinkovskiy, Maxim, and Xavier Sala-i-Martin. 'Shining a Light on Purchasing Power Parities'. *American Economic Journal: Macroeconomics* 12, no. 4 (October 2020): 71–108.

Watch: Rosling, H. (2007). "[New Insights on Poverty and Life Around the World](#)." TED Talks.

Watch: Duflo, E. (2010), "[Social Experiments to Fight Poverty](#)", TED Talks.

Besley, T. and R. Burgess, 'Halving Global Poverty', *Journal of Economic Perspectives* 17(3) 2003, pp.3-22.

Chen, S. and M. Ravallion, 'The developing world is poorer than we thought, but no less successful in the fight against poverty', *Quarterly Journal of Economics* 125(4) 2010, pp.1577–625.

Deaton, A., 'Income, Health, and Well-Being around the World: Evidence from the Gallup World Poll', *Journal of Economic Perspectives* 22(2) 2008, pp.53-72.

Helliwell, J. F., 'How's Life? Combining Individual and National Variables to Explain Subjective Well-Being', *Economic Modelling* 20(2) 2003, pp.331-60.

Sen, A., 'The concept of development', Chapter 1 in Hollis, C. and T. N. Srinivasan, *Handbook of Development Economics*., Elsevier. Volume 1, 1988, pp.9-26.

Class 1

Dollar, D. and A. Kraay (2002) "Growth Is Good for the Poor," *Journal of Economic Growth*, vol. 7(3), pp. 195-225.

Topic 2: Factor accumulation

*Ray (1998) Chapter 3.

Roland (2014) Chapter 4.

*Mankiw, N.G., "Growth of Nations", *Brookings Papers on Economic Activity* 1 1995, pp. 274-326.

*Mankiw, N.G., Romer D. and D. Weil, 'A contribution to the empirics of economic growth', *Quarterly Journal of Economics* 107(2) 1992, pp.407-437.

*Hsieh, C-T and P. J. Klenow, 'Development accounting', *American Economic Journal: Macroeconomics* 2(1) 2010, pp.207-23.

Banerjee, A. V. and E. Duflo, 'Growth through the lens of economic development', Chapter 7 in P. Aghion and S. N. Durlauf, *Handbook of Economic Growth*, Elsevier, 2005, Volume 1, Part A, pp.473-552.

Caselli, F., 'Accounting for Cross-Country Income Differences', Chapter 9 in Aghion, P. and N. D. Steven, *Handbook of Economic Growth*, Elsevier. Volume 1, Part A, 2005, pp.679-741.

Caselli, F., Esquivel, G. and F. Lefort, 'Reopening the convergence debate: a new look at cross-country growth empirics', *Journal of Economic Growth* 1(3) 1996, pp.363-89.

Hsieh, C-T and P. Klenow, 'Misallocation and Manufacturing TFP in China and India', *Quarterly Journal of Economics* 124(4) 2009, pp.1403-48.

Hsieh, C-T, "What Explains the Industrial Revolution in East Asia? Evidence from the Factor Markets", *American Economic Review*, 2002.

Hsieh, C-T and P. J. Klenow, "Relative Prices and Relative Prosperity," *American Economic Review*, 2007.

Lucas, R (1990), 'Why doesn't capital flow from rich to poor countries?', *American Economic Review* 80, 92-96.

Pritchett, L "Divergence, Big Time" *Journal of Economic Perspectives* 11(3) 1997:pp. 3-17.

Rodrik, D "Unconditional Convergence in Manufacturing", *Quarterly Journal of Economics* 128(1) 2013: pp. 165-204.

Young, A (1995) "The Tyranny of Numbers: Confronting the Reality of the East Asian Growth Experience", *Quarterly Journal of Economics* 110: 641-680.

Class 2

Caselli, F. and J Feyrer "The Marginal Product of Capital", *Quarterly Journal of Economics* 122(2) 2007, pp. 535-568.

Topic 3: Endogenous growth and poverty traps

*Ray (1998), Chapter 4 and 5.

Roland (2014) Chapter 4.

*Aghion, P., Akcigit, U., and P. Howitt, 'What do we learn from Schumpeterian Growth Theory?', Chapter 1 in Aghion, P. and S. N. Durlauf, *Handbook of Economic Growth*, Elsevier. Volume 2, 2014, pp. 515-63.

*Murphy, K., Shleifer, A. and R. Vishny, 'Industrialisation and the Big Push', *Journal of Political Economy* 97(5) 1989, pp.1003-26.

Aghion, P., & Howitt, P. (2005). Growth with quality-improving innovations: an integrated framework. *Handbook of economic growth*, 1, 67-110.

Aghion, P. and P. Howitt, 'Appropriate Growth Policy: A unifying Framework', *Journal of European Economic Association* 4(2-3) 2006, pp.269-314.

Comin, D., W. Easterly, and E. Gong, 'Was the wealth of nations determined in 1000 BC?', *American Economic Journal: Macroeconomics* 2(3) 2010, pp.65-97.

Davis, D. R. and D. E. Weinstein, 'Bones, bombs, and break points: the geography of economic activity', *American Economic Review* 92(5) 2002, pp.1269-89.

Miguel, E. and G. Roland, 'The long-run impact of bombing Vietnam', *Journal of Development Economics* 96(1) 2011, pp.1-15.

Redding, S. J., Sturm, D. M. and N. Wolf, 'History and industry location: Evidence from German airports', *Review of Economics and Statistics* 93(3) 2011, pp.814-31.

Watch: Aghion, P., "Designing Policies for Growth", Series of three LSE Public Lectures ([Lecture 1](#), [Lecture 2](#), [Lecture 3](#)).

Class 3

Aghion, P., Howitt, P. and D. Mayer-Foulkes, 'The Effect of Financial Development on Convergence: Theory and Evidence', *Quarterly Journal of Economics* 2005.

Topic 4: Inequality and growth

*Ray (1998) Chapter 6 and 7.

Roland (2014) Chapter 2.

*Banerjee, A. V. and E. Duflo, 'Inequality and growth: what can the data say?', *Journal of Economic Growth* 8(3) 2003, pp.267-99.

*Galor, O. and J. Zeira, 'Income distribution and macroeconomics', *Review of Economic Studies* 60(1) 1993, pp.35-52.

Banerjee, A. V. and A. F. Newman, 'Occupational choice and the process of development', *Journal of political economy* 101(2) 1993, pp.274-98.

Galor, O., & Moav, O. (2004). From physical to human capital accumulation: Inequality and the process of development. *The Review of Economic Studies*, 71(4), 1001-1026.

Galor, O., & Moav, O. (2000). Ability-biased technological transition, wage inequality, and economic growth. *The quarterly journal of economics*, 115(2), 469-497.

Ghatak, Maitreesh and Nien-Huei Jiang, 'A Simple Model of Inequality, Occupational Choice and Development', *Journal of Development Economics*, 69(1) 2002.

Ray, D., 'Uneven growth: a framework for research in development economics', *Journal of Economic Perspectives* 24(3) 2010, pp.45-60.

Deininger, K. and L. Squire, 'A New Data Set Measuring Income Inequality', *World Bank Economic Review* 10(3) 1996, pp.565-91.

Deininger, K. and L. Squire, 'New Ways of Looking at Old Issues: Inequality and Growth', *Journal of Development Economics* 57(2) 1998, pp.259-87.

Halter, Daniel, Manuel Oechslin, and Josef Zweimüller. "Inequality and growth: the neglected time dimension." *Journal of economic growth* 19, no. 1 (2014): 81-104.

Class 4

Easterly, W., 'Inequality does cause under development: Insights from a new instrument', *Journal of Development Economics* 84(2) 2007, pp.755-76.

Topic 5: Role of institutions

*Roland (2014) chapter 7.

*Banerjee and Duflo (2011) chapter 10.

*Acemoglu, D., and S. Johnson, 'Unbundling institutions', *Journal of Political Economy* 113(5) 2005, pp.949-95.

*Nunn, N., 'The Importance of History for Economic Development', *Annual Review of Economics* 1(1) 2009, pp.65-92.

*Besley, T., 'Property rights and investment incentives: theory and evidence from Ghana', *Journal of Political Economy*, 103(5) 1995, pp.903-37.

Nunn, N. and L. Wantchekon, 'The Slave Trade and the Origins of Mistrust in Africa', *American Economic Review* 101(7) 2011, pp.3221-52.

Acemoglu, D, Johnson, S. and J. A. Robinson, 'The colonial origins of comparative development: an empirical investigation', *American Economic Review* 91(5) 2001, pp.1369-401.

Glaeser, E., LaPorta, R., Lopez-de-Silanes, F. and A. Shleifer, 'Do Institutions Cause Growth?', *Journal of Economic Growth*, 9(3) 2004, pp.271-303.

Besley, T. and M. Ghatak, 'Property rights and economic development', Chapter 68 in D. Rodrik and M. Rosenzweig *Handbook of Development Economics*, Elsevier, 2010, Volume 5, pp.4525-95.

La Porta, R., Lopez-de-Silanes, F. and A. Shleifer, 'The Economic Consequences of Legal Origins', *Journal of Economic Literature* 46(2) 2008, pp.285-332.

North, D. C., 'Institutions', *Journal of Economic Perspectives* 5(1) 1991, pp.97-112.

Acemoglu, D., Johnson, S. and J. A. Robinson, 'Institutions as a Fundamental Cause of Long-Run Growth', Chapter 6 in P. Aghion and S. N. Durlauf, *Handbook of Economic Growth*, Elsevier, 2005, Volume 1, Part A, pp.385-472.

Acemoglu, D., Johnson, S. and J. A. Robinson, 'Reversal of Fortune: Geography and Institutions in the Making of the Modern World Income Distribution', *Quarterly Journal of Economics* 117 (4) 2002, pp.1231-94.

Englebert, P., 'Pre-colonial institutions, post-colonial states, and economic development in tropical Africa', *Political Research Quarterly* 53(1) 2000, pp.7-36.

Grier, R. M., 'Colonial legacies and economic growth', *Public Choice* 98(3-4) 1999, pp.317-35

La Porta, R., Lopez-de-Silanes, F., Shleifer, A. and R. Vishny, 'Legal determinants of external finance', *Journal of Finance* 52(3) 1997, pp.1131-50

La Porta, R., Lopez-de-Silanes, F., Shleifer, A. and R. Vishny, 'Law and finance', *Journal of Political Economy* 106(6) 1998, pp.1113-55

Botero, J. C., Djankov, S., La Porta, R., Lopez-de-Silanes, F. and A. Shleifer, 'The Regulation of Labor', *Quarterly Journal of Economics* 119(4) 2004, pp.1339-82.

Class 5

Field, E., 'Entitled to Work: Urban Property Rights and Labor Supply in Peru', *Quarterly Journal of Economics* 122(4) 2007, pp.1561-602.

Part II: Markets in developing countries

Topic 6: Land and agriculture

*Roland (2014) Chapter 12

*Ray (1998) Chapters 11 and 12.

*Banerjee, A., Gertler, P. and M. Ghatak, 'Empowerment and efficiency: Tenancy Reform in West Bengal', *Journal of Political Economy* 110(2) 2002, pp.239-80.

*Bold, T., Kaizzi, K. C., Svensson, J., & Yanagizawa-Drott, D. (2017). Lemon technologies and adoption: Measurement, theory and evidence from agricultural markets in Uganda. *The Quarterly Journal of Economics*, 132(3), 1055–1100.

Bardhan, P. and D. Mookherjee, 'Determinants of Redistributive Politics: An Empirical Analysis of Land Reforms in West Bengal, India', *American Economic Review* 100(4) 2010, pp.1572-600.

Besley, T. and R. Burgess, 'Land Reform, Poverty Reduction, and Growth: Evidence from India', *Quarterly Journal of Economics* 115(2) 2000, pp.389-430.

Goldstein, Markus, and Christopher Udry. "The profits of power: Land rights and agricultural investment in Ghana." *Journal of political Economy* 116.6 (2008): 981-1022.

Jacoby, Hanan G., Rinku Murgai, and Saeed Ur Rehman. "Monopoly power and distribution in fragmented markets: The case of groundwater." *The Review of Economic Studies* 71.3 (2004): 783-808.

Barrett, C. B., Reardon, T., Swinnen, J., & Zilberman, D. (2022). Agri-food value chain revolutions in low-and middle-income countries. *Journal of Economic Literature*, 60(4), 1316-77.

Watch: Ernest Aryeetey, Ijaz Nabi, Mark Rosenzweig, Paul Romer, John Sutton, "[Panel Discussion on Industrial Revolution or Agricultural Revolution?](#)", International Growth Centre, Growth Week 2010.

Class 6

Lin, J. Y., 'Rural reforms and agricultural growth in China', *American Economic Review* 82(1) 1992, pp.34-51.

Topic 7: Credit

*Roland (2014) Chapter 15.

*Ray (1998) Chapter 14.

*Banerjee and Duflo (2011) Chapter 7.

*Burgess, R. and R. Pande, 'Do Rural Banks Matter? Evidence from the Indian Social Banking Experiment', *American Economic Review* 95 (3) 2005, pp.780-95.

*Karlan, Dean, and Jonathan Zinman, 'Observing unobservables: Identifying information asymmetries with a consumer credit field experiment' *Econometrica* 77.6 (2009): 1993-2008.

Banerjee, A. V. and E. Duflo, 'Giving credit where it is due', *Journal of Economic Perspectives* 24(3) 2010, pp.61-79.

Aleem, I., 'Imperfect Information, Screening, and the Costs of Informal Lending: A Study of a Rural Credit Market in Pakistan', *World Bank Economic Review* 4(3) 1990, pp.329-49.

Cull, R., Demirgüç-Kunt, A. and J. Morduch, 'Microfinance Meets the Market', *Journal of Economic Perspectives* 23(1) 2009, pp.167-92.

Morduch, J., 'The Microfinance Promise', *Journal of Economic Literature* 37(4) 1999, pp.1569-614.

Angelucci, M., Karlan, D. and J. Zinman, 'Win some lose some? Evidence from a randomized microcredit program placement experiment by Compartamos Banco', National Bureau of Economic Research, Working Paper No. w19119., 2013.

Attanasio, O., Augsburg, B., De Haas, R., Fitzsimons, E. and H. Harmgart, 'Group lending or individual lending? Evidence from a randomised field experiment in Mongolia', Working Paper 2011.

Augsburg, B., De Haas, R., Harmgart, H. and C. Meghir, 'Microfinance, poverty and education', National Bureau of Economic Research, Working Paper No. w18538., 2012.

Crépon, B., Devoto, F., Duflo, E., and W. Parienté, 'Impact of microcredit in rural areas of Morocco: Evidence from a Randomized Evaluation', MIT, Working Paper, 2011.

Watch: watch Muhammad Yunus (2012), "[A history of microfinance.](#)" TEDxVienna Talk.

Class 7

Banerjee, A. V., Duflo, E., Glennerster, R. and C. Kinnan, 'The Miracle of Microfinance? Evidence from a Randomized Evaluation', Working Paper, 2014.

Topic 8: Education

*Roland (2014) Chapter 17.

*Banerjee and Duflo (2011) Chapter 4.

*Das, Jishnu; Dercon, Stefan; Habyarimana, James; Krishnan, Pramila; Muralidharan, Karthik and Sundararaman, Venkatesh (2013) School Inputs, Household Substitution, and Test Scores *American Economic Journal: Applied Economics*, 5(2): 29-57

* Andrabi, T., Das, J., Khwaja, A. I., Ozyurt, S., & Singh, N. (2020). Upping the Ante: The Equilibrium Effects of Unconditional Grants to Private Schools. *American Economic Review*, 110(10), 3315–3349.

*Jensen, R., 'The (perceived) returns to education and the demand for schooling', *Quarterly Journal of Economics* 125(2) 2010, pp.515-48.

Banerjee, A. and E. Duflo, 'Addressing Absence', *Journal of Economic Perspectives* 20(1) 2006, pp.117-32.

Chaudhury, N., Hammer, J., Kremer, M., Muralidharan, K. and F. Halsey Rogers, 'Missing in Action: Teacher and Health Worker Absence in Developing Countries', *Journal of Economic Perspectives* 20(1) 2006, pp.91–116.

Duflo, E., Hanna, R. and S. Ryan, 'Incentives Work: Getting Teachers to Come to School', *American Economic Review* 102(4) 2012, pp.1241-78.

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

Schultz, T.P., 'School Subsidies for the Poor: Evaluating the Mexican Progresa Poverty Program', *Journal of Development Economics* 74(1) 2004, pp.199-250.

Watch: Michael Kremer, George Imbanga Godia, Geeta Kingdon, Lansana Nyalley, James Tooley, "[Panel Discussion on Reforming Educational Systems](#)", International Growth Centre, Growth Week 2010.

Class 8

Muralidharan, K., & Sheth, K. (2016). Bridging education gender gaps in developing countries: The role of female teachers. *Journal of Human Resources*, 51(2), 269–297.

Topic 9: Health and nutrition

*Roland (2014) Chapter 16.

*Banerjee and Duflo (2011) Chapters 2 and 3.

*Ray (1998) Chapter 8, Chapter 13, pp.489-504.

*Bjorkman, M. and J. Svensson, 'Power to the People: Evidence of a Randomized Field Experiment on Community-Based Monitoring in Uganda', *Quarterly Journal of Economics* 24(2) 2009, pp.735-769.

*Cohen, J., and P. Dupas, 'Free Distribution or Cost-Sharing? Evidence from a Randomized Malaria Prevention Experiment', *Quarterly Journal of Economics* 125(1) 2010, pp.1-45.

Chaudhury, N., J. Hammer, M. Kremer, K. Muralidharan, and F. Halsey Rogers, 'Missing in Action: Teacher and Health Worker Absence in Developing Countries', *Journal of Economic Perspectives* 20(1) 2006, pp.91–116.

Ashraf, N., Bandiera, O. and K. Jack, 'No margin, no mission? A Field Experiment on Incentives for Pro-Social Tasks', CEPR Discussion Paper no. 8834, 2013.

Banerjee, A. V., Duflo, E., Glennerster, R., & Kothari, D. (2010). Improving immunisation coverage in rural India: clustered randomised controlled evaluation of immunisation campaigns with and without incentives. *BMJ*, 340.

Das, J., J. Hammer, and K. Leonard, 'The quality of medical advice in low-income countries', *Journal of Economic Perspectives* 22(2) 2008, pp.93-114.

Behrman, J. R. and A. B. Deolalikar, 'Will Developing Country Nutrition Improve with Income? A Case Study for Rural South India', *Journal of Political Economy* 95(3) 1987, pp.492-507.

Deaton, A. and J. Drèze, 'Food and nutrition in India: facts and interpretations', *Economic and political weekly* 44(7) 2009, pp.42-65.

Subramanian, S. and A. Deaton, 'The Demand for Food and Calories', *Journal of Political Economy* 104 (1) 1996, pp.133-62.

Watch: Sen, Amartya, "[Child Under-nourishment as a Social Predicament](#)", LSE Public Lecture 2010.

Class 9

Nyqvist, M. B., Svensson, J., & Yanagizawa-Drott, D. (2020). Can Good Products Drive Out Bad? A Randomized Intervention in the Antimalarial Medicine Market in Uganda.

Part III: State and the process of development

Topic 10: Poverty

*Ravallion, M. (2020a). On measuring global poverty.

*Ravallion, M. (2020b). On the Origins of the Idea of Ending Poverty. National Bureau of Economic Research.

*Balboni, C., Bandiera, O., Burgess, R., Ghatak, M., & Heil, A. (2022). Why do people stay poor?. *The Quarterly Journal of Economics*, 137(2), 785-844.

- Aizer, A., Eli, S., Ferrie, J., & Lleras-Muney, A. (2016). The Long-Run Impact of Cash Transfers to Poor Families. *American Economic Review*, 106(4), 935–971.
- Alatas, V., Banerjee, A., Hanna, R., Olken, B. A., & Tobias, J. (2012). Targeting the Poor: Evidence from a Field Experiment in Indonesia. *American Economic Review*, 102(4), 1206–1240.
- Allen, R. C. (2017). Absolute poverty: When necessity displaces desire. *American Economic Review*, 107(12), 3690–3721.
- Anand, S., & Harris, C. J. (1994). Choosing a Welfare Indicator. *American Economic Review*, 84(2), 226–231.
- *Atkinson, A. B. (2019). *Measuring poverty around the world*. Princeton University Press.
- Atkinson, A. B., & Stern, N. (2017). Tony Atkinson on Poverty, Inequality, and Public Policy: The Work and Life of a Great Economist. *Annual Review of Economics*, 9(1), 1–20.
- Barr, N. (1992). Economic Theory and the Welfare State: A Survey and Interpretation. *Journal of Economic Literature*, 30(2), 741–803.
- Benjamin, D. J., Cooper, K. B., Heffetz, O., & Kimball, M. (2017). Challenges in Constructing a Survey-Based Well-Being Index. *American Economic Review*, 107(5), 81–85.
- Besley, T., & Kanbur, R. (1991). The principles of targeting. In *Current issues in development economics* (pp. 69–90). Springer.
- Brown, C., Ravallion, M., & Van De Walle, D. (2016). *A poor means test? Econometric targeting in Africa*. National Bureau of Economic Research.
- Browning, M., Crossley, T. F., & Winter, J. (2014). The Measurement of Household Consumption Expenditures. *Annual Review of Economics*, 6(1), 475–501.
- Burtless, G. (1996). Social Security Income and Taxation: Four Views on the Role of Means Testing: The Folly of Means-Testing Social Security. In P. A. Diamond, D. C. Lindeman, & H. Young (Eds.), *Social security: What role for the future?* (pp. 172–180). Washington, D.C.:
- Cameron, L., & Shah, M. (2013). Can mistargeting destroy social capital and stimulate crime? Evidence from a cash transfer program in Indonesia. *Economic Development and Cultural Change*, 62(2), 381–415.
- Case, A., & Deaton, A. (2005). Health and Wealth among the Poor: India and South Africa Compared. *American Economic Review*, 95(2), 229–233.
- Castaneda, T., & Fernandez, L. (2005). Targeting social spending to the poor with proxy-means testing: Colombia's SISBEN system. *World Bank Human Development Network Social Protection Unit Discussion Paper*, 529.
- Chetty, R., Hendren, N., & Katz, L. F. (2016). The Effects of Exposure to Better Neighborhoods on Children: New Evidence from the Moving to Opportunity Experiment. *American Economic Review*, 106(4), 855–902.
- Currie, J., & Gahvari, F. (2008). Transfers in Cash and In-Kind: Theory Meets the Data. *Journal of Economic Literature*, 46(2), 333–383.
- Datt, G., Ravallion, M., & Murgai, R. (2020). Poverty and Growth in India over Six Decades. *American Journal of Agricultural Economics*, 102(1), 4–27.
- Deaton, A. (2016). Measuring and Understanding Behavior, Welfare, and Poverty. *American Economic Review*, 106(6), 1221–1243.
- Diamond, A., Gill, M., Rebolledo Dellepiane, M. A., Skoufias, E., Vinha, K., & Xu, Y. (2016). *Estimating poverty rates in target populations: An assessment of the simple poverty scorecard and alternative approaches*.

- Evans, M. (1996). *Means-Testing the Unemployment in Britain, France and Germany* (Availability Note: Information provided in collaboration with the RePEc Project: <http://repec.org>). 54 pages.
- Evans, Martin. (1997). Means Testing Flaws. *New Economy*, 4(2), 89–94.
- Feldstein, M. (2005). Rethinking Social Insurance. *American Economic Review*, 95(1), 1–24.
- Hoynes, H., Schanzenbach, D. W., & Almond, D. (2016). Long-Run Impacts of Childhood Access to the Safety Net. *American Economic Review*, 106(4), 903–934.
- Johannsen, J., & others. (2006). *Operational Poverty Targeting In Peru? Proxy Means Testing With Non-Income Indicators*.
- Karlan, D., & Thuysbaert, B. (2013). *Targeting ultra-poor households in Honduras and Peru*.
- Lipton, M., & Ravallion, M. (1995). Poverty and policy. *Handbook of Development Economics*, 3, 2551–2657.
- Kraay, A., & McKenzie, D. (2014). Do poverty traps exist? Assessing the evidence. *Journal of Economic Perspectives*, 28(3), 127–148.
- Ludwig, J. (2013). Long-Term Neighborhood Effects on Low-Income Families: Evidence from Moving to Opportunity. *American Economic Review*, 103(3), 226–231.
- Macours, K., Premand, P., & Vakis, R. (2013). *Demand versus returns? Pro-poor targeting of business grants and vocational skills training*.
- Margitic, J., & Ravallion, M. (2019). Lifting the floor? Economic development, social protection and the developing World's poorest. *Journal of Development Economics*, 139, 97–108.
- Matsuyama, K. (2011). Imperfect Credit Markets, Household Wealth Distribution, and Development. *Annual Review of Economics*, 3(1), 339–362.
- Neumark, D., & Powers, E. (1996). *Consequences of means testing Social Security: Evidence from the SSI program*.
- Niehaus, P., Atanassova, A., Bertrand, M., & Mullainathan, S. (2013). Targeting with Agents. *American Economic Journal: Economic Policy*, 5(1), 206–238.
- Powers, E. T. (1995). *Does means-testing welfare discourage saving? Evidence from the National Longitudinal Survey of Women*.
- Rai, A. S. (2002). Targeting the Poor Using Community Information. *Journal of Development Economics*, 69(1), 71–83.
- Ravallion, M. (2012). Why Don't We See Poverty Convergence? *American Economic Review*, 102(1), 504–523.
- Ravallion, M., & Chen, S. (2017). *Welfare-consistent global poverty measures*. The World Bank.
- Ravallion, M., & Chen, S. (2019). Global poverty measurement when relative income matters. *Journal of Public Economics*, 177, 104046.
- Redmond, G. (1999). Incomes, Incentives and the Growth of Means-Testing in Hungary. *Fiscal Studies*, 20(1), 77–99.
- Sharif, I., & others. (2009). *Building a targeting system for Bangladesh based on proxy means testing*. World Bank, Human Development Network.
- Yang, C. S. (2017). Does Public Assistance Reduce Recidivism? *American Economic Review*, 107(5), 551–555.

Class 10

- Muralidharan, K., Niehaus, P., & Sukhtankar, S. (2016). Building State Capacity: Evidence from Biometric Smartcards in India. *American Economic Review*, 106(10), 2895–2929.

Topic 11: Infrastructure

*Roland (2014), Chapter 18.

*Dinkelman, T., 'The Effects of Rural Electrification on Employment: New Evidence from South Africa', *American Economic Review* 101(7) 2011, pp.3078-108.

*Duflo, E. and R. Pande, 'Dams', *Quarterly Journal of Economics* 122(2) 2007, pp.601-46.

*Donaldson, D., 'Railroads of Raj: Estimating the Impact of Transportation Infrastructure', *American Economic Review* (forthcoming).

Ahuja, A., Kremer, M. and A. P. Zwane, 'Providing safe water: Evidence from randomized evaluations', *Annual Review of Resource Economics* 2(1) 2010, pp.237-256.

Aker, J. C. and I. M. Mbiti, 'Mobile Phones and Economic Development in Africa', *Journal of Economic Perspectives* 24(3) 2010, pp.207-32.

Devoto, F., Duflo, E., Dupas, P., Pariente, W. and V. Pons, 'Happiness on Tap: Piped Water Adoption in Urban Morocco', *American Economic Journal: Economic Policy* 4(4) 2012, pp.68-99.

Galiani, S., Gertler, P. and E. Schargrodsky, 'Water for life: The impact of the privatization of water services on child mortality', *Journal of political economy* 113(1) 2005, pp.83-120.

Goyal, A., 'Information, Direct Access to Farmers, and Rural Market Performance in Central India', *American Economic Journal: Applied Economics* 2(3) 2010, pp.22-45.

Kremer, M., Leino, J., Miguel, E. and A. P. Zwane, 'Spring Cleaning: Rural Water Impacts, Valuation, and Property Rights Institutions', *Quarterly Journal of Economics* 126(1) 2011, pp.145-205.

Jensen, R., 'The Digital Divide: Information (Technology), Market Performance, and Welfare in the South Indian Fisheries Sector', *Quarterly Journal of Economics* 122(3) 2007, pp.879-924.

Burgess, R., and D. Donaldson, 'Can openness mitigate the effects of weather shocks? Evidence from India's famine era', *American Economic Review* 100(2) 2010, pp.449-53.

Burgess, R., Jedwab, R., Miguel, E., Morjaria, A. and G. Padro-i-Miquel, 'The Value of Democracy: Evidence from Road Building in Kenya', Working Paper, LSE 2013.

Reinikka, R. and Svensson, J., 2002. Coping with poor public capital. *Journal of development economics*, 69(1), pp.51-69.

Allcott, H., Collard-Wexler, A. and O'Connell, S.D., 2016. How do electricity shortages affect industry? Evidence from India. *American Economic Review*, 106(3), pp.587-624.

Watch: Jenny Aker, Ken Banks, Dawn Haig-Thomas, "[Panel Discussion on Mobile Phones for Development](#)", International Growth Centre, Growth Week 2010.

Class 11

Steinwender, C. (2018). Real effects of information frictions: When the states and the kingdom became united. *American Economic Review*, 108(3), 657–96.

Topic 12: Environment and development

* Jayachandran, S., 'Air Quality and Early-Life Mortality: Evidence from Indonesia's Wildfires', *Journal of Human Resources*, 44 (4) 2009, pp.916-954.

*Duflo, E., Greenstone, M., Pande, R. and N. Ryan, 'Truth-telling by Third-party Auditors and the Response of Polluting Firms: Experimental Evidence from India', *Quarterly Journal of Economics* 128(4) 2013, pp.1499-1545.

*Strömberg, D., 'Natural disasters, economic development, and humanitarian aid', *Journal of Economic Perspectives* 21(3) 2007, pp.199-222.

Burgess, R., Deschenes, O., Donaldson, D. and M. Greenstone, 'Weather and death in India', Working Paper, 2011.

Dell, M., Jones, B. and B. Olken, 'Temperature Shocks and Economic Growth: Evidence from the Last Half Century', *American Economic Journal: Macroeconomics*, 4 (3) 2012, pp.66-95.

Ebenstein, A., 'The Consequences of Industrialization: Evidence from Water Pollution and Digestive Cancers in China', *Review of Economics and Statistics* 94 (1) 2012, pp.186–201.

Graff Zivin, J. and M. Neidell, 'Environment, Health, and Human Capital', *Journal of Economic Literature* 51(3) 2013, pp.689-730.

Greenstone, M., 'Estimating regulation-induced substitution: The effect of the Clean Air Act on water and Ground Pollution', *American Economic Review* 93(2) 2003, pp.442-448.

Jayachandran, S., 'Liquidity Constraints and Deforestation: The Limitations of Payments for Ecosystem Services', *American Economic Review* 103(3) 2013, pp.309-13.

Maccini, S. and D. Yang, 'Under the Weather: Health, Schooling, and Economic Consequences of Early-Life Rainfall', *American Economic Review* 99(3) 2009, pp.1006-26.

Newell, R. G., Pizer, W. A. and D. Raimi, 'Carbon Markets 15 Years after Kyoto: Lessons Learned, New Challenges', *Journal of Economic Perspectives* 27(1) 2013, pp.123-46.

Stern, N., 'The economics of climate change', *American Economic Review* 98(2) 2008, pp.1-37.

Besley, T. and R. Burgess, 'The political economy of government responsiveness: Theory and evidence from India', *Quarterly Journal of Economics* 117(4) 2002, pp.1415-51.

Pagiola, S., Arcenas, A., & Platais, G. (2005). Can payments for environmental services help reduce poverty? An exploration of the issues and the evidence to date from Latin America. *World Development*, 33(2), 237–253.

Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change, 'Climate Change 2013: The Physical Science Basis', Published online on 27 September 2013, <http://www.ipcc.ch/report/ar5/wg1/#.UnDk7PISh8E>.

Sachs, J. D., 'Institutions Don't Rule: Direct Effects of Geography on Per Capita Income', National Bureau of Economic Research Working Paper 9490, 2003.

Zheng, S. and M. E. Kahn, 'Understanding China's Urban Pollution Dynamics', *Journal of Economic Literature* 51(3) 2013, pp.731-72.

Class 12

Burgess, R., Hansen, M., Olken, B., Potapov P. and S. Sieber, 'The Political Economy of Deforestation in the Tropics', *Quarterly Journal of Economics* 127(4) 2012, pp.1707-54.

Topic 13: Taxation and development

*Roland (2014), Chapter 10.

*Besley, T. and T. Persson, Chapter 2 - Taxation and Development, in: A. J. Auerbach, R. Chetty, M. Feldstein and E. Saez, Editor(s), *Handbook of Public Economics*, Volume 5, Elsevier, 2013, pp.51-110.

*De Mel, S., McKenzie, D. and C. Woodruff, 'The Demand for, and Consequences of, Formalization among Informal Firms in Sri Lanka', *American Economic Journal: Applied Economics* 5(2) 2013, pp.122-150.

*Gordon, R. and W. Li, 'Tax Structures in Developing Countries: Many Puzzles and a Possible Explanation', *Journal of Public Economics* 93(7-8) 2009, pp.855-866

Besley, T., Jensen, A., & Persson, T. (2019). Norms, enforcement, and tax evasion. National Bureau of Economic Research.

Best, M. C., Brockmeyer, A., Kleven, H. J., Spinnewijn, J., & Waseem, M. (2015). Production versus revenue efficiency with limited tax capacity: theory and evidence from Pakistan. *Journal of political Economy*, 123(6), 1311-1355.

Brockmeyer, A., Estefan, A. M., Arras, K. R., & Serrato, J. C. S. (2020). Taxing Property in Developing Countries: Theory and Evidence from Mexico.

Brockmeyer, A., & Hernandez, M. (2019). Taxation, information, and withholding: evidence from Costa Rica.

Brockmeyer, A., Smith, S., Hernandez, M., & Kettle, S. (2019). Casting a Wider Tax Net: Experimental Evidence from Costa Rica. *American Economic Journal: Economic Policy*, 11(3), 55–87. <https://doi.org/10.1257/pol.20160589>

Brockmeyer, A., Smith, S., Hernandez, M., & Kettle, S. (2019). Casting a wider tax net: Experimental evidence from costa rica. *American Economic Journal: Economic Policy*, 11(3), 55-87.

Fisman Ray and Shang-Jin Wei (2004) "Tax Rates and Tax Evasion: Evidence from Missing Imports in China", *Journal of Political Economy*, vol. 112(2), pp. 471-500.

Jensen, A. (2022). Employment structure and the rise of the modern tax system. *American Economic Review*, 112(1), 213-34.

Liu, Y., & Mao, J. (2019). How Do Tax Incentives Affect Investment and Productivity? Firm-Level Evidence from China. *American Economic Journal: Economic Policy*, 11(3), 261–291.

Piketty, T. and N. Qian, 'Income Inequality and Progressive Income Taxation in China and India 1986-2010', *American Economic Journal: Applied Economics* 1(2) 2009, pp.53–63.

Kleven, H. J., Knudsen, M. B., Kreiner, C. T., Pedersen, S. and E. Saez, 'Unwilling or unable to cheat? Evidence from a tax audit experiment in Denmark', *Econometrica* 79(3) 2011, pp.651-692.

Kleven, H. J., C. T. Kreiner, and E. Saez, 'Why can modern governments tax so much? An agency model of firms as fiscal intermediaries', National Bureau of Economic Research, Working Paper No. w15218, 2009.

Kleven, H. J. 'How can Scandinavians tax so much?', *Journal of Economic Perspectives* (2014): 77-98.

Olken, B. A. and M. Singhal, 'Informal Taxation', *American Economic Journal: Applied Economics* 3(4) 2011, pp.1-28.

Class 13

Khan, Adnan Q., Asim I. Khwaja, and Benjamin A. Olken. "Tax farming redux: Experimental evidence on performance pay for tax collectors." *The Quarterly Journal of Economics* 131.1 (2015): 219-271.

Topic 14: Corruption

*Roland (2014), Chapter 19.

*Bandiera, Oriana, Andrea Prat, and Tommaso Valletti. "Active and passive waste in government spending: evidence from a policy experiment." *American Economic Review* 99.4 (2009): 1278-1308.

*Ferraz, Claudio, and Frederico Finan. "Electoral accountability and corruption: Evidence from the audits of local governments." *American Economic Review* 101.4 (2011): 1274-1311.

Ferraz, Claudio, and Frederico Finan. "Exposing corrupt politicians: the effects of Brazil's publicly released audits on electoral outcomes." *The Quarterly Journal of Economics* 123.2 (2008): 703-745.

Ferraz, Claudio, Frederico Finan, and Dimitri Szerman. Procuring firm growth: the effects of government purchases on firm dynamics. No. w21219. National Bureau of Economic Research, 2015.

Olken, Benjamin and Rohini Pande. "Corruption in Developing Countries," *Annual Review of Economics* 4, pp. 479-505, July 2012

Olken, Benjamin A. "Monitoring Corruption: Evidence from a Field Experiment in Indonesia." *Journal of Political Economy* 115, no. 2 (2007).

Fisman, Ray (2001). "Estimating the Value of Political Connections", *American Economic Review*, 91: 1095- 1102.

Khwaja, Asim, and Atif Mian. (2005). "Do Lenders Favor Politically Connected Firms? Rent Provision in an Emerging Financial Market", *Quarterly Journal of Economics*, 120(4).

Banerjee, Abhijit, Sendhil Mullainathan, and Rema Hanna. Corruption. No. w17968. National Bureau of Economic Research, 2012.

Fan, C. Simon, Chen Lin, and Daniel Treisman. "Embezzlement Versus Bribery. No. w16542. National Bureau of Economic Research, 2010.

Wilkinson, Steven I. (2006). "The Politics of Infrastructural Spending in India," Typescript. University of Chicago

Khwaja, Asim Ijaz. "Can good projects succeed in bad communities?", *Journal of Public Economics* 93.7 (2009): 899-916.

Class 14

Banerjee, Abhijit, et al. "E-governance, Accountability, and Leakage in Public Programs: Experimental Evidence from a Financial Management Reform in India." (2017).

Topic 15: International aid

*Burnside, C. and D. Dollar, 'Aid, Policies, and Growth', *American Economic Review* 90(4) 2000, pp.847-868.

*Burnside, C. and D. Dollar, 'Aid, policies, and growth: reply', *American Economic Review* 94(3) 2004, pp.781-784.

*Easterly, W., Levine, R. and D. Roodman, 'Aid, Policies, and Growth: Comment', *American Economic Review* 94(3) 2004, pp.774-780.

*Kuziemko, I. and E. Werker, 'How Much Is a Seat on the Security Council Worth? Foreign Aid and Bribery at the United Nations', *Journal of Political Economy* 114(5) 2006, pp.905-30.

Easterly, W., 'Can the West Save Africa?', *Journal of Economic Literature* 47(2) 2009, pp.373-447.

Frazer, G., 'Used Clothing Donations and Apparel Production in Africa', *The Economic Journal* 118(532) 2008, pp.1764-84.

Nunn, N. and N. Qian, 'U.S. Food Aid and Civil Conflict', *American Economic Review* (forthcoming).

Berger, D., Easterly, W., Nunn, N. and S. Satyanath, 'Commercial Imperialism? Political Influence and Trade during the Cold War', *American Economic Review*, 103(2) 2013, pp.863-96.

Collier, P. *The Bottom Billion*. (Oxford: Oxford University Press, 2007)

Easterly, W., 'Can Foreign Aid Buy Growth?', *Journal of Economic Perspectives* 17(3) 2003, pp.23-48.

Easterly, W. *The White Man's Burden: Why the West's Efforts to Aid the Rest Have Done So Much Ill and So Little Good*. (New York: Penguin Books, 2006)

Sachs, J. *The End of Poverty: Economic Possibilities for Our Time*. (New York: Penguin Books, 2005)

Class 15

Olken, Benjamin A., Junko Onishi, and Susan Wong. 'Should Aid Reward Performance? Evidence from a Field Experiment on Health and Education in Indonesia', *American Economic Journal: Applied Economics* 6.4 (2014): 1-34.

Topics for future

Topic X: Labor Market

Besley, T., & Burgess, R. (2004). Can labor regulation hinder economic performance? Evidence from India. *The Quarterly journal of economics*, 119(1), 91-134.

Bandiera, O., Goldstein, M., Rasul, I., Burgess, R., Gulesci, S., & Sulaiman, M. (2010). Intentions to participate in adolescent training programs: evidence from Uganda. *Journal of the European Economic Association*, 8(2-3), 548-560.

Jayachandran, S. (2006). Selling labor low: Wage responses to productivity shocks in developing countries. *Journal of political Economy*, 114(3), 538-575.

Topic X: Political Economy of development

Burgess, R., Jedwab, R., Miguel, E., Morjaria, A., & Padró i Miquel, G. (2015). The value of democracy: evidence from road building in Kenya. *American Economic Review*, 105(6), 1817-51.

Informality

McCaig, B., & Pavcnik, N. (2018). Export markets and labor allocation in a low-income country. *American Economic Review*, 108(7), 1899-1941.

Dix-Carneiro, R., & Kovak, B. K. (2017). Trade liberalization and regional dynamics. *American Economic Review*, 107(10), 2908-46.

Dix-Carneiro, R., Goldberg, P. K., Meghir, C., & Ulyssea, G. (2021). *Trade and informality in the presence of labor market frictions and regulations* (No. w28391). National Bureau of Economic Research.

