

DEVELOPMENT ECONOMICS

2024 AEA Continuing Education

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Location: Salon Del Ray A, Hilton Palacio Del Rio - San Antonio, Texas

Syllabus version: January 7, 2024

Description: This course will review core micro-development economics topics, with an emphasis on recent research.

	Topic(s)	Details
Lecture 1 1/7 4-6pm	<ul style="list-style-type: none">● Introduction (Kaur)● Consumption Smoothing (Kaur)	<ul style="list-style-type: none">● Introduction (some stylized facts)● Consumption smoothing framework● Volatility: precautionary savings, buffer stocks, investments● Consumption smoothing tests● Savings constraints: institutional● Savings constraints: psychological
Lecture 2 1/8 8:15-10:15am	<ul style="list-style-type: none">● Risk (Kaur)● Insurance (Kaur)● Mobile money (Breza)● Credit I (Breza)	<ul style="list-style-type: none">● Empirical applications● Formal insurance● Informal insurance● Limits to informal insurance, social/kin tax● Mobile money: risk sharing● Digital payments and transparency● Credit: introduction● Credit market frictions
Lecture 3 1/8 10:30-12pm	<ul style="list-style-type: none">● Credit II (Breza)● Cash Transfers & GE effects (Breza)	<ul style="list-style-type: none">● Microfinance● Returns to credit● How to improve credit contract design● Digital credit● Cash transfers● GE effects: fiscal multiplier, empirical applications

<p><u>Lecture 4</u> 1/8 1:30-3pm</p>	<p>● Psychology and development (Kaur)</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Present bias ● Cognition and attention ● Norms ● Psychology of poverty ● Mental health
<p><u>Lecture 5</u> 1/8 3:15- 4:30pm</p>	<p>● Health (Breza)</p> <p>● Education (Kaur)</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Health and Productivity ● Demand for Health ● Supply of Health Care ● Education: stylized facts, conceptions of human capital ● Returns to education ● Teacher performance: moral hazard, adverse selection, beliefs ● Policy approaches to education production function (TARL) ● Socioeconomic differences in educational delivery: cognition
<p><u>Lecture 6</u> 1/8 4:45-5:30pm</p>	<p>● Poverty traps (Breza)</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Ultra-poor programs ● Individual poverty traps models ● Empirical tests
<p><u>Lecture 7</u> 1/9 8-9:45am</p>	<p>● Labor markets (Kaur)</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Unique features of developing country labor markets ● Empirical tests: surplus labor, wage rigidity, labor rationing ● Social capital ● Spatial frictions and mobility ● Labor supply features: levels, absenteeism, turnover ● Contracting frictions ● Empirical applications: Active labor market policies
<p><u>Lecture 8</u> 1/9 10-11:15am</p>	<p>● Networks (Breza)</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Networks: theory, measurement, empirical applications
<p><u>Lecture 9</u> 1/9 11:30-12pm</p>	<p>● Separation failures (Breza)</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Missing markets: conceptual overview ● Other sources of separation failures ● Recent empirical applications ● Land markets