

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
<u>Lecture 1</u> 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
<u>Lecture 2</u> 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
<u>Lecture 3</u> 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

<u>Lecture 4</u> 1/8 1:30-3pm	• Psychology and development (Kaur)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Present bias • Cognition and attention • Norms • Psychology of poverty • Mental health
<u>Lecture 5</u> 1/8 3:15- 4:30pm	• Health (Breza) • Education (Kaur)	<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
<u>Lecture 6</u> 1/8 4:45-5:30pm	• Poverty traps (Breza)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ultra-poor programs • Individual poverty traps models • Empirical tests
<u>Lecture 7</u> 1/9 8-9:45am	• Labor markets (Kaur)	<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
<u>Lecture 8</u> 1/9 10-11:15am	• Networks (Breza)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Networks: theory, measurement, empirical applications
<u>Lecture 9</u> 1/9 11:30-12pm	• Separation failures (Breza)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Missing markets: conceptual overview • Other sources of separation failures • Recent empirical applications • Land markets