

## **Economics 8784: Economic Development 2**

Fall 2023

T/Th 11:00AM-12:15PM

Room: ECON 5

Class Website through Canvas: <https://canvas.colorado.edu/>

No Class: Nov 20-24 (Fall Break)

Professor Francisca Antman

Office: Economics 222

Office Hours: T/Th 12:20PM-1:20PM and by appointment

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### **Course Description & Objectives**

This course offers a Ph.D.-level migration, poverty traps, political economy, and gender issues relevant for developing countries. The objective of the course is to provide an overview of the microeconomics of development and to prepare students for doing original research in the field.

**Prerequisites:** Ph.D. Microeconomic Theory and Econometrics. See me if you have not taken these courses.

**Textbook:** There are no required texts for this course. Consult the reading list for texts that may be useful supplementary material for understanding the articles we will discuss.

### **Assignments & Grading:**

1. You will write one referee report (3-4 pages long double spaced) on an unpublished paper selected from a set of recent job market candidates in the field. The referee report should briefly summarize the work, critique the article, and provide suggestions for improvement. I will provide some guidance on writing referee reports and assign the paper you will review. You should upload an electronic copy to the course website by the due date listed below.
- 2.

3. You will make one in-class, computer-based, presentation of an assigned article from the reading list. Your presentation should last 25-30 minutes and should both summarize the article focusing primarily on the research question, methodology, and results, along with any background information you think necessary. Your presentation should also raise questions, critiques, and extensions, and thus provide the basis for a critical discussion of the article in class. While you may consult with other classmates regarding the article you will present, I expect that the presentation slides will be your work alone. If you have presented or are planning to present a similar presentation to another class, you must discuss this with me first to determine whether it will be eligible for credit in this class. You should plan to email the class your slides (as a PDF file) before your presentation and upload your slides to the course website. *Please also bring a hard copy of your slides with you to class on the day of your presentation so that I can take notes during your presentation and provide you with feedback.*
4. You will make one in-class computer-based presentation on the research idea you are pursuing for your research proposal (see more information below). This presentation should emphasize the preliminary research question you are pursuing and the methodology you propose to answer it. Your presentation should last 5 minutes with no interruptions and will be followed by a class discussion to provide you with feedback on your proposed research. I will also meet with you individually to provide

presentation. *Please also bring a hard copy of your slides with you to class on the day of your presentation so that I can take notes during your presentation.*

7. There will be a final exam based on the articles on the reading list and the material we cover in class. You may consult your notes and assigned readings during the exam, but you should not consult with other people in or outside the class for formulating your responses. It is

## Requirements for Infectious Diseases

Members of the CU Boulder community and visitors to campus must follow university, department, and building health and safety requirements and all public health orders to reduce the risk of spreading infectious diseases.

The CU Boulder campus is currently mask optional. However, if masks are again required in classrooms, students who fail to adhere to masking requirements will be asked to leave class. Students who do not leave class when asked or who refuse to comply with these requirements will be referred to Student Conduct & Conflict Resolution. Students who require accommodation because a disability prevents them from fulfilling safety measures related to infectious disease will be asked to follow the steps in the “Accommodation for Disabilities” statement on this syllabus.

For those who feel ill and think you might have COVID-19 or if you have tested positive for COVID-19, please stay home and follow the [further guidance of the Public Health Office](#). For those who have been in close contact with someone who has COVID-19 but do not have any symptoms and have not tested positive for COVID-19, you do not need to stay home.

## Accommodation for Disabilities, Temporary Medical Conditions, and Medical Isolation

[Disability Serva Me](#)

## Sexual Misconduct, Discrimination, Harassment and/or Related Retaliation

CU Boulder is committed to fostering an inclusive and welcoming learning, working, and living environment. University policy prohibits [protected-class](#) discrimination and harassment, sexual misconduct (harassment, exploitation, and assault), intimate partner violence (dating or domestic

**Economics 8784: Economic Development**  
**Reading List**  
**Professor Francisca Antman**

Lectures and discussions will primarily be drawn from journal articles and working papers. Although there is no required textbook for the course, the textbooks and methods articles listed below may be useful for you to consult for a more thorough presentation of the theory and methods used in the articles we will review.

Useful Books

- Bardhan, Pranab and Christopher Udry. 1999. *Development Microeconomics*. New York: Oxford University Press.
- Deaton, Angus. 1997. *The Analysis of Household Surveys: A Microeconometric Approach to Development Policy*. Baltimore, Maryland: The World Bank.
- H. Chenery, T.N. Srinivasan, J. Behrman, T. Schultz, and J. Strauss, eds. *Handbook of Development Economics*, Vol. 1-4. Published by Elsevier.
- Ray, Debraj. 1998. *Development Economics*. Princeton, N.J.: Princeton University Press.
- Angrist, Joshua D. and Jorn-Steffen Pischke. 2009. *Mostly Harmless Econometrics*. Princeton, N.J.: Princeton University Press.
- Wooldridge, Jeffrey M. 2001. *Economic Analysis of Cross Section and Panel Data*. Cambridge, MA: The MIT Press.

Useful Methods Articles

- Deaton, Angus. 1993. "Data and Econometric Tools for Development Analysis." *Handbook of Development Economics*, Vol. 3, Ch. 33, Ed. J. Berhman and T.N. Srinivasan.
- Angrist, Joshua D. and Alan B. Krueger. 1999. "Empirical Strategies in Labor Economics" *Handbook of Labor Economics*, Vol. 4, Ed. O. Ashenfelter and D. Card, pp. 615-751. Amsterdam: North-Holland.

- Imbens, Guido and Thomas Lemieux. 2007. "Regression Discontinuity Designs: A Guide to Practice." NBER Technical Working Paper No. 337.
- Callaway, Brantley, and Pedro H. C. Sant'Anna. 2021. "Difference-in-differences with multiple time periods." *Journal of Econometrics*, 225(2): 200-230.
- de Chaisemartin, Clément, and Xavier D'Haultfoeuille. 2020. "Two-Way Fixed Effects Estimators with Heterogeneous Treatment Effects." *American Economic Review*, 110 (9): 2964-96.
- Goodman-Bacon, Andrew. 2021. "Difference-in-differences with Variation in Treatment Timing." *Journal of Econometrics*, 225(2): 254-277.
- Sant'Anna, P.H.C and Zhao, J. 2020. "Doubly Robust Difference-in-Differences Estimators." *Journal of Econometrics*, 219(1): 101-122.
- Sun, Liyang, Abraham, Sarah. 2021. "Estimating Dynamic Treatment Effects in Event Studies with Heterogeneous Treatment Effects," *Journal of Econometrics*, 225(2): 175-199.

### **Preliminary Course Outline**

The articles under the topic headings below are required reading for everyone in the class. Some of these papers will be presented by a student (denoted with \*\*\*), but everyone should read those articles for class discussion as well. Articles under the Background& Further Reading sections may be useful and of interest



**19-Sep \*\*\***Bazzi, Samuel, Abel Brodeur, Martin Fiszbein, and Joanne Haddad. 2023. "Frontier History and Gender Norms in the United States." NBER Working Paper No. 31079. DOI 10.3386/w31079.

Background & Further Reading

Deaton (1997), Ch. 4.

Bardhan & Udry (1999), Ch. 1-2.

Bobonis, Gustavo J. 2009. "Is the Allocation of Resources within the Household Efficient? New Evidence from a Randomized Experiment." *Journal of Political Economy*, 117(3): 453-503.

Browning, M. and P. A. Chiappori. 1998. "Efficient Intra-Household Allocations: A General Characterization and Empirical Tests." *Econometrica* 66(6): 1241-1278.

Benjamin, Dwayne. 1992. "Household Composition, Labor Markets, and Labor Demand: Testing for Separation in Agricultural Household Models." *Econometrica*. 60(2): 287-322.

Deaton, Angus and Christina Paxson. 1998. "Economies of Scale, Household Size, and the Demand for Food." *The Journal of Political Economy*, Vol. 106, No. 5 (Oct., 1998), pp. 897-930.

Deaton, Angus. 1989. "Looking for Boy-Girl Discrimination in Household Expenditure Data." *The World Bank Economic Review*. 3 (1): 1-15.

Duflo, Esther and Christopher Udry. 2004. "Intrahousehold Resource Allocation in Cote d'Ivoire: Social Norms,







- Paxson, Christina H. 1992. "Using Weather Variability to Estimate the Response of Savings to Transitory Income in Thailand." *The American Economic Review*, 82(1): 15-33.
- Townsend, Robert M. 1994. "Risk and Insurance in Village India." *Econometrica*. 62(3): 539-591.

## VII. Political Economy and Conflict

Lowes, Sara, Nathan Nunn, James A. Robinson, Jonathan L. Weigel. 2017. "The Evolution of Culture and Institutions: Evidence from the Kuba Kingdom." *Econometrica*, 85(4): 1065-1091.

**9-Nov \*\*\*** Almås, Ingvild, Maximilian Auffhammer, Tessa Bold, Ian Bolliger, Aluma Dembo, Solomon M. Hsiang, Shuhei Kitamura, Edward Miguel and Robert Pickmans. 2020. "Destructive Behavior, Judgment, and Economic Decision-making under Thermal Stress." NBER Working Paper No. 25785.

Blouin, Arthur, and Sharun W. Mukand. 2019. "Erasing Ethnicity? Propaganda, Nation Building and Identity in Rwanda", *Journal of Political Economy*, 127(3): 1008-62.

Hjort, Jonas. 2014. "Ethnic Divisions and Production in Firms", *Quarterly Journal of Economics*, 1899-1946.

Rao, Gautam. 2019. "Familiarity does not breed contempt: Diversity, Discrimination and Generosity in Delhi Schools", *American Economic Review*, 109(3): 774-809.

### Background & Further Reading

Albouy, David Y. 2012. "The Colonial Origins of Comparative Development: An Empirical Investigation: Comment." *American Economic Review*, 102(6): 3059-76.

Aidt, Toke S. "Economic Analysis of Corruption: A survey" *The Economic Journal*, 113(491): F632-F652.

Alesina, Alberto, Paola Giuliano and Nathan Nunn. 2013. "On the Origins of Gender Roles: Women and the Plough." *The Quarterly Journal of Economics*, Vol 128(2).

Beaman, Lori, Raghavendra Chattopadhyay, Esther Duflo, Rohini Pande and Petia Topalova. 2009. "Powerful Women: Does Exposure Reduce Bias?" *The Quarterly Journal of Economics*, 124(4): 1497-1540.

Chattopadhyay, Raghavendra and Esther Duflo. 2004. "Women as Policy Makers: Evidence from a Randomized Policy Experiment in India." *Econometrica*, 72(5): 1409-1443.

Fisman, Raymond and Edward Miguel. 2007. "Corruption, Norms, and Legal Enforcement: Evidence from Diplomatic Parking Tickets." *The Journal of Political Economy*, 115(6): 1020-1048

## VIII. Course Review and Critiques

Banerjee, Abhijit V. and Esther Duflo. 2008. "The Experimental Approach to Development Economics." NBER Working Paper No. 14467. Published in 2009 Annual Review of Economics, Annual Reviews, vol. 1(1), pages 151-178.

Deaton, Angus. 2010. "Instruments, Randomization, and Learning about Development." *Journal of Economic Literature*, 48(2): 424-55.

Articles from the popular press. Consult course website.

### Background & Further Reading

Banerjee, Abhijit, Pranab Bardhan, Kaushik Basu, Ravi Kanbur (editor), and Dilip Mookherjee. 2005. "New Directions in Development Economics: Theory or Empirics? A Symposium in *Economic and Political Weekly*." Boston University Working Paper No.28.

Available at <http://www.arts.cornell.edu/poverty/kanbur/NewDirectionsDevEcon.pdf>

Deaton, Angus and Nancy Cartwright. 2018. "Understanding and Misunderstanding Randomized Controlled Trials." *Social Science and Medicine*, 201:2-21.

Heckman, James J. and Jeffrey A. Smith. 1995. "Assessing the Case for Social Experiments." *The Journal of Economic Perspectives*, 9(2): 85-110.

Heckman, James. 1991. "Randomization and Social Policy Evaluation." NBER Technical Working Paper No. 107.

Rosenzweig, Mark R. and Kenneth I. Wolpin, 2000. "Natural 'Natural Experiments' in Economics." *Journal of Economic Literature*, 38(4): 827-874.

### **Economics 8784 Tentative Course Outline, Fall 2023**

Week	Dates	Material
1	Aug 29-31	Introduction --What is economic development? --Global Poverty and the Economic Development Agenda
2	Sep 5-7	Poverty traps and income mobility --Theory and Measurement