

Development Economics

Pierluigi Conzo

6 Credits, 36h

Wed-Fri 10-12

Tentative Schedule

Class #	Topic	Material
<i>PART 1: ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT</i>		
1	Introduction to the course and to development economics	TS, ch.: 1-2
2	Comparative economic development (1)	TS, ch.: 1-2 BD, ch.: 1
3	Comparative economic development (2)	
4	Poverty, inequality and development (1)	TS, ch.: 5
5	Poverty, inequality and development (2)	
6	Poverty, inequality and development (3)	
7	Growth theories (1)	TS, ch.: 3
8	Growth theories (2)	
9	Growth theories (3)	
10	Population and development	TS, ch.: 6 BD, ch.: 5
11	Migration and development	TS, ch.: 7.5-7.7
<i>PART 2: MICROFINANCE + PROJECT EVALUATION</i>		
12	Financial exclusion and microfinance in developing countries	TS, pp.: 760-763; BD, ch.: 7-8;
13	Credit market failures	
14	How microfinance kicks in to the credit market failures	AM, ch: 1.1-1.4; 2; 4; 5; 6.1-6.7, 9; RAY, ch: 14.1.1-14.2.2; 14.3; 14.5.2
15	General methods for impact evaluation (applied to microfinance) (1)	
16	General methods for impact evaluation (applied to microfinance) (2)	
17	Behavioural/experimental methods (social preferences and lab experiments)	AP, ch.: 2; 5.2
18	<i>Case studies:</i> Foundations of human sociality / Microfinance and Trust in Buenos Aires suburbs / Tsunami and altruism	

Compulsory readings

TS = Todaro, M. P., & Smith, S. C. (2011). *Economic development*. Boston: Pearson Addison Wesley.

AM = Armendáriz, B., & Morduch, J. (2010). *The Economics of Microfinance*. MIT Press.

BD = Banerjee, A. V., & Duflo, E. (2012). *Poor Economics: Barefoot Hedge-fund Managers, DIY Doctors and the Surprising Truth about Life on Less Than 1 Dollar a Day*. Penguin Books.

Additional readings*

Textbooks:

RAY = Ray, D. (1998). *Development Economics*. Princeton University Press.

AP = J. Angrist & JS Pischke, *Mostly Harmless Econometrics*. Princeton press.

Journal Articles:

B. Armendáriz, *On the design of a credit agreement with peer monitoring*, Journal of Development Economics, Volume 60, Issue 1, October 1999, Pages 79-104

Banerjee, A., Karlan, D., and Zinman, J. (2015), *Six Randomized Evaluations of Microcredit*, American Economic Journal: Applied Economics, 7(1):1-21

Banerjee, A., Duflo, E., Glennerster, R., and Kinnan, C. (2015), *The Miracle of Microfinance? Evidence from a Randomized Evaluation*, American Economic Journal: Applied Economics, 7(1):22-53

Tarozzi, A., Desai, T., and Johnson, J. (2015), *The Impacts of Microcredit: Evidence from Ethiopia*, American Economic Journal: Applied Economics, 7(1):54-89

Attanasio, O., Augsburg, B., De Haas, R., Fitzsimons, E., and Harmgart, H. (2015), *The Impacts of Microfinance: Evidence from Joint-Liability Lending in Mongolia*, American Economic Journal: Applied Economics, 7(1):90-122

Becchetti L., Conzo P. (2011), *Enhancing capabilities through credit access: Creditworthiness as a signal of trustworthiness under asymmetric information*, Journal of Public Economics, Volume 95, Issues 3-4, pp 265-278

Duflo, E., Kremer, M., and Robinson, J. (2011), *Nudging Farmers to Use Fertilizer: Theory and Experimental Evidence from Kenya*, American Economic Review 101: 2350–2390

*Additional readings might be added at the end of each lecture (see slides in teaching materials of the course website).

Notes

Make sure you all sign up for the course at the following links:

- All students: <https://elearning.unito.it/scuolacle/course/view.php?id=1497>
- Surname A-L: <https://www.didattica-cps.unito.it/do/corsi.pl/Show?id=g73h>
- Surname M-Z: <https://www.didattica-cps.unito.it/do/corsi.pl/Show?id=kx0r>