

Syllabus for 172: Case studies in Development Economics. (2007-2008).
Instructor : Gérard Roland

The course this year will not be focusing on a specific continent or specific regions but will be focusing on specific issues. The theme this year will be on the role of institutions in affecting development outcomes. There is indeed a blooming literature arguing that differences in institutions are key to explain differences in development. The course will familiarize students with the economics of institutions and its relevance for development.

Slides used during the lecture will be made available to students after the lectures. For many themes, a written text will be made available to students as they are chapter drafts of a book. These chapter drafts contain references for further reading on the subject. They are based on a book I am writing on Institutions and Development. For other themes where no written chapter exists yet, readings will be indicated.

Lecture 1 **Introduction.**

Lectures 2 and 3 : **What are Institutions and Why do they Matter for Development?**
(chapter will be made available)

Lectures 4 and 5 : **Political Institutions** (chapter will be made available)

Lecture 6 : **Culture and Social Norms** (chapter will be made available)

Lectures 7 and 8 : **Property rights and Contracts** (chapter will be made available)

Lectures 9 and 10: **Provision of public goods: Health**

READINGS:

- [Disease and Development: The Effect of Life Expectancy on Economic Growth](#)
Daron Acemoglu and Simon Johnson
(http://econ-www.mit.edu/faculty/download_pdf.php?id=1354)

- "Health, Nutrition, and Economic Development," Strauss, John, and Duncan Thomas, *Journal of Economic Literature*, Vol. XXXVI, 1998, pp. 766-817

- [Worms: Identifying Impacts on Education and Health in the Presence of Treatment Externalities](#)
Ted Miguel & Michael Kremer
(http://www.econ.berkeley.edu/%7Emiguel/miguel_worms.pdf)
Econometrica, 2004

- "Health care Delivery in Rural Rajasthan", A. Banerjee, A. Deaton, E. Duflo (2003)
(<http://econ-www.mit.edu/files/771>)

"Who benefits from social health insurance in developing countries?", Gertler, Paul and Orville Solon, 2000,

"Governance and Corruption in Public Health care systems" Maureen Lewis
(<http://www.cgdev.org/content/publications/detail/5967>)

Lectures 11 and 12 : **Provision of public goods: Education**

READINGS:

Incentives to Learn Michael Kremer, Edward Miguel, and Rebecca Thornton
(<http://www.cid.harvard.edu/bread/papers/working/086.pdf>)

[Remedying Education: Evidence from Two Randomized Experiments in India](#)

A. Banerjee, S. Cole, E. Duflo and L. Linden

October 2006, forthcoming, QJE

[Monitoring Works: Getting Teachers to Come to School](#)

Esther Duflo and Rema Hanna

May 2006

[Addressing Absence](#)

Esther Duflo and Abhijit Banerjee

May 2005

Lecture 13 : **Provision of public goods: Infrastructure**

READINGS:

"Infrastructure for Growth" Antonio Estache, ABCDE conference 2006.

(http://siteresources.worldbank.org/INTDECABCTOK2006/Resources/Antonio_Estache_Infastructure_for_Growth.pdf)

"Institutions, Infrastructure and Growth", H. Esfahani and M. Ramirez, Journal of Development Economics 2003.

[Dams](#)

Esther Duflo and Rohini Pande

July 2005

Lecture 14 : **Provision of public goods: Environment**

READINGS:

The Stern report.

(http://www.hm-treasury.gov.uk/independent_reviews/stern_review_economics_climate_change/stern_review_report.cfm)

Air Quality and Infant Mortality During Indonesia's Massive Wildfires in 1997 Seema Jayachandran (<http://www.cid.harvard.edu/bread/papers/working/095.pdf>)

[Awareness and the Demand for Environmental Quality: Drinking Water in Urban India](#)
Jyotsna Jalan, E. Somanathan and Saraswata Chaudhuri, September 2003
(<http://www.cid.harvard.edu/bread/papers/working/049.pdf>)

Lectures 15 and 16 : **The Allocation of Credit**

READINGS:

Chapter 14 of Debraj Ray *Development Economics*,
Princeton University Press 1998.

Lecture 17 : **Corruption** (chapter will be made available)

Lecture 18 : **Conflict**

READINGS:

[Economic Shocks and Civil Conflict: An Instrumental Variables Approach](#) Edward Miguel, Shanker Satyanath and Ernest Sergenti, August 2003(<http://www.cid.harvard.edu/bread/papers/working/040.pdf>)

[Poverty and Witch Killing](#) Edward Miguel, August 2003
(<http://www.cid.harvard.edu/bread/papers/working/041.pdf>)

“Bones, Bombs, and Break Points: The Geography of Economic Activity”, Davis, Donald, and David Weinstein. (2002).*American Economic Review*, 92(5), 1269-1289.

“The Long run Impact of Bombing Vietnam”, Edward Miguel and Gérard Roland
(http://www.econ.berkeley.edu/~groland/pubs/vietnam-bombs_19oct05.pdf)

Lecture 19-23 : **Growth** (chapter will be made available)

Lectures 24 and 25: **Inequality and Poverty**

READINGS:

Chapters 6, 7 and 8 of Debraj Ray *Development Economics*,
Princeton University Press 1998.

Lecture 26 : **Property rights reform** (chapter will be made available)

Lecture 27 : **Democratization** (chapter will be made available)

Lecture 28 : **Conclusion.**