

ESSAY QUESTIONS

Please summarize your reaction to this course focusing on the aspects that were most important to you.

Comments
Best course i've taken at Northwestern. While the time spent on the assignments is not an overstatement (it really takes around 10 hours to write a good analysis), it's a great opportunity to learn about development economics in Africa, some econometrics, lots of work with Stata, and more. In terms of content, the country of focus changes from one year to another, so it's hard to suggest anything, but professor Udry does a great job at covering many aspects of development policy and research in the developing world. Definitely recommend.
This is one of the best classes I have taken at NU but I would not recommend this to someone who is just taking it because the class does not have any exams. So, weekly assignments are VERY time consuming. I had a background in using LaTeX and STATA a lot so I did not have much hard time in terms of coding and progressed a lot but if you don't know any of these, time commitment might increase even further despite provided tutorial sessions. Also, Udry is a great lecturer, very helpful and having one lecture devoted to presentation is a good way to see what your peers did. Having taken ECON381-1,2 and ECON383, this class is a great way to actually DO econometrics
Very disappointed with this course. Expected to learn more from the professor but he barely gave any new insights through his lectures. That being said, it was fun working with real data and hone in Stata skills. Your experience is also very dependent on your groupmate.
This was an great course where you really felt like you were uncovering economic trends about Nigeria through the stata problem sets.
This class really improves your Stata skills and was very fun and interesting. It is challenging and you will spend a good chunk of the weekend working on the weekly projects. The only slightly annoying this is you get a random partner every week. If you have a good partner its fun but some people don't really do their share of the work.
An excellent class! Professor Udry introduces a new development-related topic every week, randomly assigns partners, and has groups answer a specific empirical question on that topic given raw data. I would recommend holding off on taking this class until you have a solid grasp of Stata — it brings down the time spent outside of class on each week's project significantly. This course would probably be good to take if you want to write a thesis your senior year — each week felt like a mini thesis. The random partners really are the luck of the draw; I had excellent ones and I had some truly awful ones.
Probably my favorite econ course. Professor Udry is very knowledgeable and the course provides you with a unique way to learn about the topics by being able to work with the data first hand
An excellent Econ course, especially if you are not a fan of exams. Lots of work, but regular every week.
This is a must-take course for an econ major. The hands on work is really useful. You will become proficient in Stata by the end and have a better idea on how to conduct research. There are no exams in the class. Every Monday you have a project due on a question assigned the previous week, which includes your stata code and a project narrative/report. It is a lot of work but the assignments are really interesting.
Amazing class!!! One of the best Econ classes at Northwestern. Learned a lot about how to use STATA and econometric theory. Also an easy A if you do the work