

Development Economics: Course Overview

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Development Economics
Universidad del Rosario
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Welcome to Development Economics!

- This course offers an introduction to development economics to undergraduates with basic statistics background
- What is development economics?

Development economics uses economic theory and empirical methods to study one of the fundamental questions of the social sciences: why some countries are poor and what it can be done to overcome economic backwardness?

- Who are using it?
 - Governments
 - Development practitioners
 - Businesses
 - Academics

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You are next!!!



What we want to achieve in this class?

- Develop solid analytical and theoretical skills regarding the application of economic analysis in conceptual and policy issues related to development.
- Develop quantitative skills to be able to read, produce and critique existing academic research on development issues.

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Pedagogical Approach: Critical thinking



Pedagogical Approach: Work with empirical data



Grading

- 1 Exams (50%):** The class will have a midterm and a final, 25% each. Exams will be based on the class readings.
- 2 Empirical Homeworks (40%):** Students will solve 4 empirical problem sets (10%) each.
- 3 Class Participation (10%):** Class participation and attendance will be an essential component of the course grade.

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Class website

Inbox (4:485) - stanislao | Development Economics | https://stanislao.maldonado.org/development-economics/

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Development Economics

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ABOUT
CV
RESEARCH
PUBLICATIONS
POLICY
TEACHING
LINKS
PICTURES

Overview

Whereas the world have experienced an impressive process of wealth accumulation during the past two centuries, significant parts of it remain in poverty. Economic and social progress is substantially lower in developing countries despite international aid and governments' efforts. Why these countries are still poor? What factors affect the ability of these countries (and their people) to catch up with the developed world? What kind of interventions are more effective in helping people in the developing world to escape poverty?

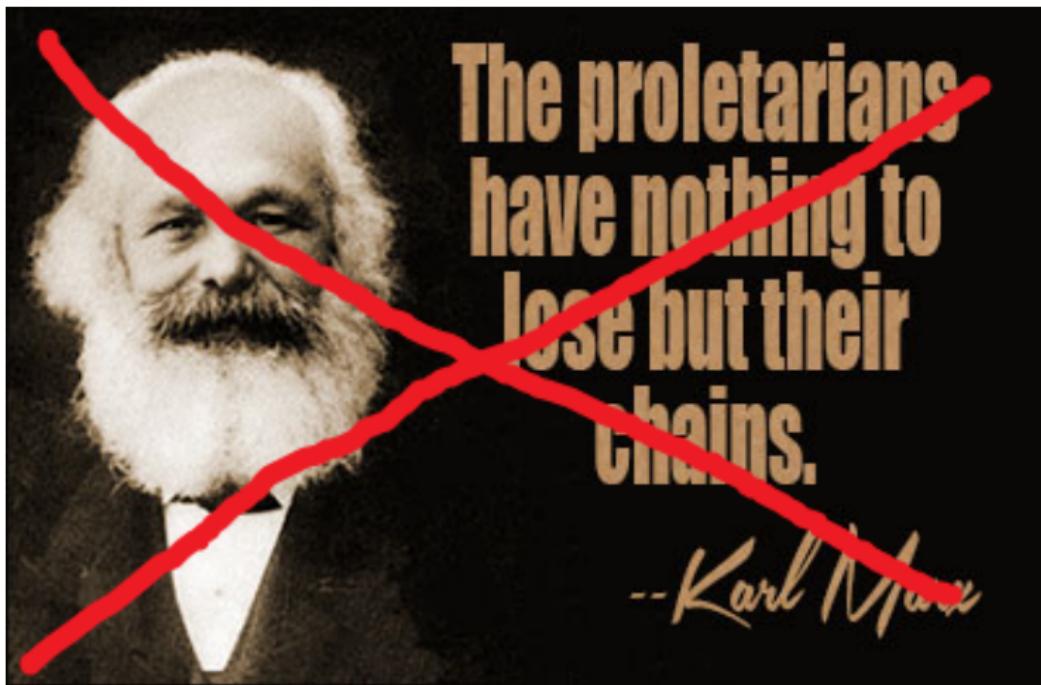
This course will provide tools to answer these questions and discuss the existing evidence with regard of why poverty is so persistent in the developing world. It will offer a quantitative-based introduction to the field of development economics for undergraduates. Development economics uses economic theory and empirical methods to study one of the fundamental questions of the social sciences: why some countries are poor and what can be done to overcome economic backwardness? Consequently, this course will cover economic models to understand development problems as well as the use of econometric techniques to provide empirical evidence to quantify the magnitude of economic underdevelopment or to evaluate what works and what does not work in terms of policies and programs to combat poverty.

Syllabus

Customize Edit Stats ***
Desktop

What this class is NOT about?

- Marxism/Radical School



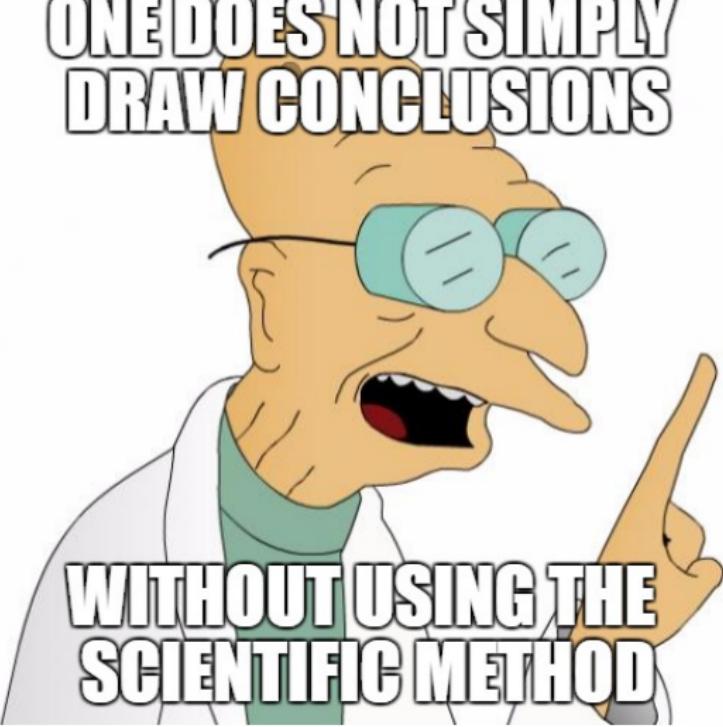
What this class is NOT about?

- Dependency theory (Structuralist School/ECLAC)



This is a class based on rigorous scientific methods!!

**ONE DOES NOT SIMPLY
DRAW CONCLUSIONS**

A cartoon illustration of Homer Simpson as a scientist. He is wearing a white lab coat over a green shirt and blue safety goggles. He has a wide-open mouth as if shouting or speaking loudly. His right hand is raised, pointing his index finger upwards. The background is plain white.

imgflip.com

**WITHOUT USING THE
SCIENTIFIC METHOD**

..but I do have my red heart



Who am I?

- Assistant Professor at the Department of Economics
- Ph.D. from University of California at Berkeley-USA
- Research interests on development economics and political economy
- Currently managing experimental evaluations of social service providers' performance in the education and health sectors
- Previous experience: consultant for the Ministry of Social Inclusion in Peru, Instructor on impact evaluation for JPAL-MIT, Innovations for Poverty Action, and Center for Effective Global Action (CEGA)
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Teaching assistants: Camila Valencia



Teaching assistants: Jose Bran



Introduce yourself!!



quickmeme.com

Questions?



Let's get started!

