# ECO311: The Political Economy of Development in Africa

Smith College, Fall 2016

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Permissions: Permission of the instructor is required to take this course

"The principal enemy is orthodoxy: to use the same recipe, administer the same therapy, to resolve the most various types of problems; never to admit complexity and try to reduce it as much as possible, while ignoring that things are always more complicated in reality."

Hirschman, Albert O, 2001, 'Trespassing: Places and Ideas in the Course of a life', p. 110, in *Crossing Boundaries: Selected Writings*, Zone Books, New York.

"Economists cannot make use of controlled experiments to settle their differences; they have to appeal to historical evidence, and evidence can always be read both ways. The laboratory sciences proceed by isolating a question and testing hypotheses about possible answers to it, one by one. In economics, questions cannot be isolated because every aspect of human society interacts with every other; hypotheses can be put forward only in the form of a "model" of the whole economy."

Robinson, Joan, 1977, 'What are the Questions?' Journal of Economic Literature, Vol.15:4, 1318-1339

"All too often development policy is based on fads, and randomized evaluation could allow it to be based on evidence."

Duflo, Esther and Michael Kremer, 2005, 'Use of Randomization in the Assessment of Development Effectiveness,' pp. 205-231 in Evaluating Development Effectiveness, Pittman, Feinstein and Ingram (eds.), World Bank Series on Evaluation and Development, Vol. 7, Transaction Publishers, NJ.

"The dramatic growth rates of China, India, and the rest of the Asian countries from the 1970s meant that the incomes of three to four billion people started to converge to those of the OECD. This reduced worldwide income inequality for the first time in centuries because it more than offset the divergent incomes of 608 million Africans. The problem now is, therefore, that unless the incomes of these African citizens start growing fast, world income inequality will start rising again."

Sala-i-Martin, 2006, '<u>The World Distribution of Income: Falling Poverty and...</u>
Convergence. Period.' *The Quarterly Journal of Economics*, Vol. 121:2, pp. 351-397

#### Where ECO311 Fits at Smith

ECO311 complements Smith College's other offerings in economics, development economics and African Studies. It requires a student to have taken Intermediate Microeconomics (ECO250) and Macroeconomics (ECO253). A student must be either a senior or a junior to qualify to take the course. Courses such as The World Food System (ECO 213) and Development Economics (ECO211) will be especially useful when completing ECO311, but they are not required. ECO/MTH/SDS220, which covers basic statistics and regression analysis, is required else you may struggle to understand some of the papers. Also, having taken Econometrics (ECO240) or Multiple Regression (MTH/SDS214) would be very beneficial.

# My evolution teaching ECO311

I have taught ECO311 twice at Smith. The first time, I had an idea of what I wanted to teach, covering some 'big questions' in African development. However, I realized while teaching that course how ill-equipped some students were to answer empirical questions in economics by themselves (call this the "transition to a new country and new education system" syndrome). So I substantially revised the course and added Stata Labs to supplement the materials we dealt with in class, though maintaining a similar reading list to the initial iteration. The second time, many students produced much better research papers because of the Stata labs, but they were still not sure about some of the motivation for the microeconometric work they wanted to do. Also, many weren't sure about what a good econometric method was for them to try to replicate. So, I have tried to update the course again as I continue to learn what students need most to write a research paper linked to African Political Economy and Development and so they are able to do the best work that it is feasible for them to do.

#### Your contribution

You'll notice that the end of the course does not having any readings prescribed. I intended this. The idea is that you and I will collaborate to decide on readings based on topics that you are interested in. I'll provide suggestions of both topics and papers we can read, but I'll want your input. Do you want to spend a session taking about ethnic differences and whether they promote or undermine productivity? Are you interested in infrastructure, such as cell phone networks, mobile money and how they affect poverty and productivity? Maybe you want to know about technology adoption and agriculture, such as the pretty important innovations that happened in fertilizer use and how the innovations affect power and institutions. There are many, many topics that cannot be fit into one course, so I ask you to help me in guiding the course towards its conclusion.

#### **Method of Instruction**

The course is a seminar based on collaborative discussions between all students and facilitated by the professor. Students are expected to prepare the readings for each session and to be able to answer questions about the readings to produce a high quality discussion. Each student is expected to contribute to the discussion. Every so often, furthermore, you will need to *lead* the discussion with a partner. That is, you and another person in the class will guide the class as a whole in the discussion of the papers (as someone leading the discussion, you will also meet with me beforehand to check in about your having read the paper). You will need to sign up with me (on a Google Spreadsheet) to confirm your leadership of different discussions.

If you do not contribute, I shall encourage you to do so; if you contribute substantially more than anyone else, then I may ask you rather to encourage the engagement of others. The course will also incorporate pairing up and discussing in groups. We shall also employ peer evaluation, though the professor will award grades.

# The Point of the Course

There are many approaches to development economics. First, there are many attempts to explain international differences in economic development – the 'macro' development problem. Second, there are many differences between the ways in which individuals, firms and states can respond to the challenges of development – the 'micro' development problem. The microeconomics of development informs the macroeconomics of development. From micro work we may gain insight into the specific individual-, family-, village- and firm-level institutions and constraints that shape decisions. As we try to

understand how micro-level results permeate through an economy, that is, we try to understand the general equilibrium effects of a policy, so may we gain insight into macro-level differences. Micro and macro tie together closely.

# **Assessment**

There is no written exam for this course. The course assessment is based on the following breakdown. You will have approximately one assignment due every two weeks.

- 10% Participation in class participation, contributions to discussion, consultation with professor
- 10% Response papers 200-300 word responses to readings. You will write 3 and be graded on the best 2 of 3
- 10% Book report
- 5% Country fact sheet a building block for your term paper
- 10% Term paper proposal research question, problem statement, preliminary reference list; presented in class
- 15% Term paper draft
- 35% Term paper & response to draft report

# **Provisional Course Calendar (subject to change)**

Dates	Topic	Assignment Due
9/08	1.1: Intro	Lab
9/13-15	1.2: Methods 1	Lab
9/20-22	1.3: Methods & Development	Lab & Response Paper 1
9/27-29	2.1: Micro: Anti-poverty	Lab
	policy	
10/4-6	2.2: Micro: Education	Lab & Book Report & Fact Sheet
10/8-11	Autumn Recess	
10/11-13	2.3: Micro: Health & Worm	Lab & Response Paper 2
	Wars	
10/18-20	2.4: Micro: Gender and	
	Household decisions	
10/25-27	Presentations	Term paper proposal & 3-slide-3-
		minute presentations with discussion
11/1-3	3.1: Macro: The Slave Trades	Lit Review
	& Colonial History	
11/8-10	3.2: Macro: Geography vs.	
	Institutions	
11/15-17	3.3: Macro: Aid &	Initial Draft Due
	Development	
11/22	4.1 TBD	
11/23-27	Thanksgiving Break	
11/29-12/1	4.2: TBD	Response Paper 3
12/6-8	4.3: TBD & Presentations on	
	Thurs	
12/13-15	Presentations Tues & Thurs	Potluck at Prof. Halliday's Home
12/22	Seminar Paper Due	

#### Moodle

We have a Moodle site for the course that should be available through your Smith Moodle Login details. Specific readings, the course outline, gradebook and other resources will be available on Moodle.

# **Five Colleges African Studies Certificate**

By taking this course, you have fulfilled one course requirement for the Five Colleges African Studies Certificate. Find out more about the certificate and other Five College African Studies courses, events, and programs at: <a href="https://www.fivecolleges.edu/african">https://www.fivecolleges.edu/african</a>. To register to receive more information on the certificate and Africa themed events please go to: <a href="https://www.fivecolleges.edu/african/certificate">https://www.fivecolleges.edu/african/certificate</a>

# **Tardiness and Conduct in Class**

Please do not arrive late. I shall do my best always to arrive early enough to answer questions before we begin the seminar. If you must arrive late, please alert me in advance. If you cannot let me know, then please do your best not to make a fuss when you do arrive tardily. You are permitted to use laptops and tablets in class. I expect you to use them to take notes or for other class functions. Please refrain from using them for social media, email, etc.

#### Readings

Each week, you will have required readings and others that are recommended. You should also read the core text. The recommended texts are for you to consult for reference.

#### **Core Text:**

 Moss, Todd, 2011, <u>African Development: Making Sense of the Issues and Actors</u>, Lynne Riener Publishers, ISBN 978-1588267696 (abbreviation: AD)

# Recommended Texts for your reference only

- Angrist, Joshua D. and Jörn-Steffen Pischke, 2015, *Mastering 'Metrics: The Path from Cause to Effect*, Princeton University Press, Princeton, NJ.
- Ravallion, Martin, 2016, The Economics of Poverty: History, Measurement, and Policy, Oxford University Press, NY, NY.

# **Course Outline**

We deal with a variety of topics in the course. In particular we examine the microeconometric evidence from household surveys, randomized controlled trials, and carefully collected economic history data. To do this, though, we need to review some basics of *methodology* to make sure that everyone is on the same page with *how* to understand economic evidence. We shall deal broadly with the following ideas:

- 1. Intro & Methods for understanding economic development
- 2. Micro development
- 3. Macro development
- 4. To be decided
- 5. Where to from here? Africa's future development

# Labs

During the first half of the course we will work on cross-sectional data during the Thursday sessions. During these labs we will deal with basic commands in Stata that you will use for your term papers.

# **Provisional Outline**

#### Week 1

# Thursday:

• Lab: Intro to Stata

[I recommend you start reading Moss's African Development as soon as possible to get yourself up to speed]

# Week 2: Intro & Methods 1.1 Tuesday:

- Wainaina, Binyavanga, 'How to write about Africa', Granta Vol. 92
- Ferguson, J. with L. Lohmann (1994). "The anti-politics machine: 'development' and bureaucratic power in Lesotho." *The Ecologist* 24(5).
- Sen, Amartya, 1988, Chapter 1: The Concept of Development, in The Handbook of Development Economics, H. Chenery and T.N. Srinivasan (eds), Vol. 1, Edward Elgar.
- Deaton, Angus, 2016: Nobel Lecture: Measuring and Understanding Behavior,
   Welfare, and Poverty, American Economic Review, 106(6): 1221–1243

[Self-study] AD Chs 1 to 7 (to be discussed during week 2 and subsequently when relevant).

# Thursday:

• Lab: Stata Basics

# Week 3: Intro & Methods 1.2

# Tuesday:

- Duflo, Esther and Michael Kremer, 2008, 'Use of Randomization in the Evaluation of Development Effectiveness,' in William Easterly (ed), Reinventing Foreign Aid, MIT University Press.
- Joshua D. Angrist and Jörn-Steffen Pischke, 2010, The Credibility Revolution in Empirical Economics: How Better Research Design is Taking the Con out of Econometrics, Journal of Economic Perspectives, 24 (2): 3–30

# [Self-study] AD Chs 8 to 14

#### Recommended

• Martin Ravallion, 2007, Chapter 59: Evaluating Anti-Poverty Programs in *The Handbook of Development Economics*, Volume 4, Pages 3787–3846.

Suggestion: Read the Angrist & Pischke BEFORE you read the Ravallion. The Ravallion piece takes a lot of the ideas that come up in the A&P article and shows the methods behind them (including math) as well as providing a variety of examples from development. DO NOT READ THE RAVALLION FIRST – it's also not compulsory, though I strongly recommend it.

# Thursday:

Lab: Regressions and Visualization in Stata

# Topic 2 – Microeconomics of Development – Weeks 4-7 Week 4: Micro 2.1: Anti-poverty policy

# Tuesday

Brief discussion of Moss's African Development

• Case, Anne and Angus Deaton, 1998, Large Cash Transfers to the Elderly in South Africa, The Economic Journal, 108 (September), 1330-1361.

- Keswell, Malcolm and Michael Carter, 2014, Poverty and Land Redistribution, Journal of Development Economics 110, 250–261
- Faye, Paul, Michael Niehaus and Christopher Blattman, 2014, ....

# **Thursday**

Lab: Weights and Survey Commands

# Week 5: Micro 2.2: Education Tuesday

- Rosenzweig, Mark R., 2010, Microeconomic Approaches to Development: Schooling, Learning, and Growth, Journal of Economic Perspectives, Volume 24, Number 3: 81– 96
- Duflo, Esther, Pascaline Dupas and Michael Kremer. 2011. "Peer Effects, Teacher Incentives, and the Impact of Tracking: Evidence from a Randomized Evaluation in Kenya." *American Economic Review*, 101(5): 1739-74.
- Michael Kremer, Edward Miguel and Rebecca Thornton, 2009, Incentives to Learn, The Review of Economics and Statistics, Vol. 91, No. 3 (August 2009), pp. 437-456

Note: Everyone will read the Rosensweig, but then half of you will read the Duflo et al and half the Kremer et al. We'll split them up in class or on Moodle.

#### Recommended

- T. Paul Schultz, 2004, Evidence of Returns to Schooling in Africa from Household Surveys: Monitoring and Restructuring the Market for Education, J African Economies 13 (suppl 2): ii95-ii148
- Hertz, Thomas. 2003. "Upward Bias in the Estimated Returns to Education: Evidence from South Africa." *American Economic Review*, 93(4): 1354-1368.
- Duflo, Esther, Pascaline Dupas, Michael Kremer, 2015, School governance, teacher incentives, and pupil—teacher ratios: Experimental evidence from Kenyan primary schools, Journal of Public Economics, Volume 123, Pages 92-110

# **Thursday**

Lab: Analysis of Poverty and Inequality in Stata

# Week 6: Micro 2.3: Health: The Worm Wars Tuesday

- Miguel, Ted and Michael Kremer, 2004, Worms: Identifying Impacts on Education and Health in the Presence of Treatment Externalities, Econometrica, Vol. 72, No. 1 (January, 2004), 159-217
- Then look here: <a href="http://blogs.worldbank.org/impactevaluations/worm-wars-anthology">http://blogs.worldbank.org/impactevaluations/worm-wars-anthology</a> and read some of the blog posts on the replication (we'll assign who reads which blog post before this class)

Recommended (and could be a TBD day as "Health 2" or even over two TBD sessions):

- Strauss, John and Duncan Thomas, 1998, Health, Nutrition, and Economic Development, Journal of Economic Literature, Vol. 36, No. 2, pp. 766-817
- Kremer, Michael and Rachel Glennerster, 2011, Chapter Four Improving Health in Developing Countries: Evidence from Randomized Evaluations, in Handbook of Health Economics, Volume 2, 2011, pages 201–315
- Case, Anne and Christina Paxson, 2013, HIV Risk and Adolescent Behaviors in Africa, American Economic Review, Vol. 103 (3)

 Field, Erica, Omar Robles and Maximo Torero. 2009. "Iodine Deficiency and Schooling Attainment in Tanzania." American Economic Journal: Applied Economics, 1(4): 140-69.

# **Thursday**

Lab: Transparency in Research: Reproducing Case and Deaton, 1998.

# Week 7: Micro 2.4: Gender and intra-household bargaining Tuesday

- Duflo, Esther, 2003, Grandmothers and Granddaughters, World Bank Economic Review, Vol 17 (1): 1 - 25
- Ashraf, Nava, Erica Field and Jean Lee. 2014. "Household Bargaining and Excess Fertility: An Experimental Study in Zambia." *American Economic Review*, 104(7): 2210-37.

#### Recommended:

- Mammen, Kristin and Christina Paxson. 2000. "Women's Work and Economic Development." *Journal of Economic Perspectives*, 14(4): 141-164.
- Castilla, Carolina and Thomas Walker. 2013. "Is Ignorance Bliss? The Effect of Asymmetric Information between Spouses on Intra-household Allocations." American Economic Review, 103(3): 263-68.

#### **Thursday**

• Lab: Working on your paper

# Week 8: Macro 3.1: The Slave Trades and Colonialism Tuesday

- Acemoglu, Daron, Simon Johnson, and James A. Robinson. 2001. The Colonial Origins of Comparative Development: An Empirical Investigation. *American Economic Review* 91 (5): 1369–401.
- Nunn, Nathan. 2008. The Long-term Effects of Africa's Slave Trades. *Quarterly Journal of Economics* 123 (1): 139–76.

#### Recommended

- Nathan Nunn and Diego Puga, 2012, Ruggedness: The Blessing of Bad Geography in Africa, Review of Economics and Statistics, Vol. 94, No. 1, Pages 20-36
- Robinson, James, Institutions and Development in Sub-Saharan Africa, Oxford Companion to the Economics of Africa, pp. 201-207
- Bardhan, Pranab, 2013, 'Little, Big: Two Ideas About Fighting Global Poverty', The
   Boston Review, May 20, 2013, accessed at <a href="http://www.bostonreview.net/world-books-ideas/pranab-bardhan-little-big">http://www.bostonreview.net/world-books-ideas/pranab-bardhan-little-big</a> accessed on 5 July 2013

# Week 9: Macro 3.2: Geography and Institutions

- Sachs, Jeffrey, Andrew D. Mellinger, and John L. Gallup, 2001, The Geography of Poverty and Wealth, Scientific American, March, pp 70-75
- Alsan, Marcella. 2015. The Effect of the TseTse Fly on African Development.
   American Economic Review, 105(1): 382-410.
- Acemoglu, Daron, Simon Johnson and James Robinson, '<u>Disease and Development in Historical Perspective</u>,' Journal of the European Economic Association, 1(2-3), 397-405

#### Recommended:

- Matthias M. Cinyabuguma and Louis Putterman, 2010, Sub-Saharan Growth Surprises: Being Heterogeneous, Inland and Close to the Equator Does not Slow Growth Within Africa, Journal of African Economies, Vol. 20, number 2, pp. 217–262
- Sachs, Jeffrey, 2012, Government, Geography, and Growth, The True Drivers of Economic Development, Foreign Affairs, September/October, <a href="https://www.foreignaffairs.com/reviews/review-essay/government-geography-and-growth">https://www.foreignaffairs.com/reviews/review-essay/government-geography-and-growth</a>

#### Week 10: Macro 3.3: Aid

- Easterly, William, 2009, '<u>Can the West Save Africa?</u>', Journal of Economic Literature,
   Vol. 47:2, pp. 373-447
- Birdsall, Nancy, 2008, 'Seven Deadly Sins: Reflections on Donor Failings,' in Reinventing Foreign Aid, William Easterly (ed), MIT Press, Cambridge, MA

Week 11: TBD1

Week 12: TBD2

Week 13: TBD3

Week 14: TBD4 & Presentations

Week 15: Presentations

#### Concluding thoughts?

- Fisher, Max, 2013, '<u>The amazing, surprising, Africa-driven demographic future of the Earth in 9 charts</u>,' *The Washington Post*, published 07/16/2013, accessed 07/29/2013
- <u>'Seeing Africa as Business Partner, Not Charity'</u>, Lawrence MacDonald interviews
   Todd Moss and Scott Morris on Obama's Trip to Africa, 06/25/2013, *The Global Prosperity Wonkcast*, The Center for Global Development, accessed on 07/30/2013

# **Potential To Be Decided Topics**

plus whatever you suggest, these are just ideas I'm throwing out

# **TBD? Structural Adjustment and Trade**

- Easterly, William, 2005, 'What did structural adjustment adjust? The association of
  policies and growth with repeated IMF and World Bank adjustment loans,' Journal of
  Development Economics, Vol. 76:1, pp. 1-22
- Rodrik Dani, 1997, Why is trade reform so difficult in Africa?

# **TBD? Prescribing Policy and Scaling Up:**

- Acemoglu, Daron and James Robinson, 2013, 'Economics vs. Politics: Pitfalls of Policy Advice,' Journal of Economic Perspectives, Vol 27: 2, pp. 173-92.
- Development Drums Podcast, Interview with Rachel Glennerster 'Randomized Evaluation,' 20 April 2010.
- 'One Size Doesn't Fit All,' Lawrence MacDonald interviews Lant Pritchett, 08/13/2012, The Global Prosperity Wonkcast, The Center for Global Development, accessed on 07/30/2013

- 'The Challenge of Scaling Up Proven Interventions,' Lawrence MacDonald interviews
  Justin Sandefur, 04/10/2012, The Global Prosperity Wonkcast, The Center for Global
  Development, accessed on 07/30/2013
- Green, Duncan, 2013, '10 Killer facts on Democracy and Elections,' blog post at From
   Poverty to Power Blog, published on 07/12/2013, accessed at
   http://www.oxfamblogs.org/fp2p/?p=15207 accessed on 07/30/2013

# **TBD? Land and Agriculture:**

- Duflo, Esther, Michael Kremer and Jonathan Robinson. 2008. "How High Are Rates of Return to Fertilizer? Evidence from Field Experiments in Kenya." American Economic Review, 98(2): 482-88.
  - https://www.aeaweb.org/articles?id=10.1257/aer.98.2.482
- Aryeetey, Ernest and Christopher Udry. 2010. "Creating Property Rights: Land Banks in Ghana." *American Economic Review*, 100(2): 130-34. https://www.aeaweb.org/articles?id=10.1257/aer.100.2.130

# **TBD? Infrastructure and Mobile Tech**

- Dinkelman, Taryn. 2011. "The Effects of Rural Electrification on Employment: New Evidence from South Africa." American Economic Review, 101(7): 3078-3108. https://www.aeaweb.org/articles?id=10.1257/aer.101.7.3078
- Jack, B. Kelsey and Grant Smith. 2015. "Pay as You Go: Prepaid Metering and Electricity Expenditures in South Africa." *American Economic Review*, 105(5): 237-41. https://www.aeaweb.org/articles?id=10.1257/aer.p20151096
- Jack, William and Tavneet Suri. 2014. "Risk Sharing and Transactions Costs: Evidence from Kenya's Mobile Money Revolution." American Economic Review, 104(1): 183-223. https://www.aeaweb.org/articles?id=10.1257/aer.104.1.183
- Aker, Jenny C. and Isaac M. Mbiti. 2010. "Mobile Phones and Economic Development in Africa." *Journal of Economic Perspectives*, 24(3): 207-32. https://www.aeaweb.org/articles?id=10.1257/jep.24.3.207

# **TBD? Credit and Finance**

- Karlan, D. and Zinman, J. (2009), Observing Unobservables: Identifying Information Asymmetries With a Consumer Credit Field Experiment. Econometrica, 77: 1993–2008. doi:10.3982/ECTA5781
- Tarozzi, Alessandro, Jaikishan Desai and Kristin Johnson. 2015. "The Impacts of Microcredit: Evidence from Ethiopia." *American Economic Journal: Applied Economics*, 7(1): 54-89.
- Crépon, Bruno, Florencia Devoto, Esther Duflo and William
  Parienté. 2015. "Estimating the Impact of Microcredit on Those Who Take It Up:
  Evidence from a Randomized Experiment in Morocco." American Economic Journal:
  Applied Economics, 7(1): 123-50.

# **TBD? Firms and Markets**

- Casaburi, Lorenzo and Rocco Macchiavello. 2015. "Loyalty, Exit, and Enforcement: Evidence from a Kenya Dairy Cooperative." American Economic Review, 105(5): 286-90. https://www.aeaweb.org/articles?id=10.1257/aer.p20151076
- Macchiavello, Rocco and Ameet Morjaria, 2015, Competition and Relational Contracts: Evidence from Rwanda's Coffee Mills, Working Paper, available at: https://economics.nd.edu/assets/156880/morjaria\_ameet\_jmp.pdf
- Rahul Deb, Tavneet Suri, Endogenous emergence of credit markets: Contracting in response to a new technology in Ghana, Journal of Development Economics, Volume

# **Illness and Family Emergencies**

If you are ill and must miss a class or if you have a family emergency, please email me, send me a text message or call on +1413-570-3031 (Google). Please only use this number for emergencies.

# **Additional Resources**

# **Open Data for Africa**

A recent project that gathers open data sources for a variety of African countries: http://opendataforafrica.org/

#### **World Bank**

Each year the World Bank issues a World Development Report. Below I link to the most recent few reports.

- World Development Report 2012: Gender Equality and Development
- World Development Report 2013: Jobs and Development
- World Development Report 2014: Risk and Opportunity
- World Development Report 2015: Mind, Society and Behavior

Independently of the WDRs, the World Bank is a valuable resource for a variety of data on African countries. Though we discuss in the course how poor African data is, even from 'official' sources, it might be the case that using some of this data helps us to understand particular cases within countries, rather than for cross country analysis.

# **African Politics**

If you have no background in African politics, I recommend using some political science texts to check the country-specific or regional aspects of your research. The following books might be a good place to start.

- Richard Dowden, 2009, Africa: Altered States, Ordinary Miracles.
- Jeffrey Herbst, 2014, States and Power in Africa.
- Goran Hyden, 2006, African Politics in Comparative Perspective.

# Acknowledgments

I owe a debt to several people who unknowingly helped while I designed this course. I liberally pilfered ideas for the reading list from Christopher Blattman, Kim Dionne, Morten Jerven, Debraj Ray, Jorge Agüero, Léonce Ndikumana, Nicoli Nattrass, Malcolm Keswell, Justine Burns and Daron Acemoglu. I greatly appreciate their sharing course outlines on African development online. Alternatively, my records of some instructors' courses from when I took them provided many ideas for ECO311.

This course outline is preliminary and subject to change.