

## **Tentative Schedule & Reading List (Revised November 16, 2021)**

*Dates, topics, and assignments are subject to change over the course of the semester.*

*Please check Canvas for an updated Course Outline*

*All required readings, including the textbook's chapters can be accessed via Canvas.*

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### **MODULE 1 – INTRODUCTION**

**September 10**

#### **L1 Introduction**

##### Required Readings:

- Essentials of Development Economics, Chapter 1

##### Activities and Assignments:

- Math Preparedness Assessment (due 9/11 at 11:59pm, non-graded)
- Baseline Learning Assessment (due 9/11 at 11:59pm, non-graded)
- Video and Quiz (due 9/11 at 11:59pm, non-graded)  
[https://www.ted.com/talks/hans\\_rosling\\_shows\\_the\\_best\\_stats\\_you\\_ve\\_ever\\_seen/transcript](https://www.ted.com/talks/hans_rosling_shows_the_best_stats_you_ve_ever_seen/transcript)

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### **MODULE 2 – INCOME & EXCEL TUTORING**

**September 13-19**

**September 14**

#### **L2 Income**

##### Required Readings:

Essentials of Development Economics, Chapter 3

**September 17 – CLASS ON ZOOM: PLEASE CONNECT THROUGH CANVAS**

#### **L3 Excel tutoring**

##### Required Material:

Material provided by NULab (and posted in Canvas)

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### **MODULE 3 – POVERTY, INEQUALITY, AND HUMAN DEVELOPMENT**

**September 20-26**

**September 21**

#### **L4 Poverty**

##### Required Readings:

- Essentials of Development Economics, Chapter 4
- “The Economic Lives of the Poor,” by Banerjee and Duflo

##### Activities and Assignments:

- In-Class Activity 1 on Tuesday (must be submitted by 9/21 at 11:59pm)
- Reading Quiz 1 (due 9/21 at 11:59pm)

**September 24**

#### **L5 Inequality and Human Development**

##### Required Readings:

- Essentials of Development Economics, Chapter 5
- Essentials of Development Economics, Chapter 6, pp. 132-140

Activities and Assignments:

- In-Class Activity 2 on Friday (must be submitted by 9/25 at 11:59pm)
- Problem Set 1 (due 9/25 at 11:59pm)

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**MODULE 4 – GEOGRAPHY**

**September 27-October 3**

**September 28**

**L6 Geography**

Required Readings:

- “Tropics, Germs, and Crops,” by Easterly and Levine

**October 1**

**L7 Geography and review session**

Activities and Assignments:

- In-Class Activity 3 (must be submitted by 10/2 at 11:59pm)
- Problem Set 2 (due 10/2 at 11:59pm)
- Reading Quiz 2 (due 10/2 at 11:59pm)

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**October 5 – Test 1 on Modules 1-4**

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**MODULE 5 - Growth**

**October 4-10**

**October 8**

**L8 Growth**

Required Readings:

- Essentials of Development Economics, Chapter 7
- “The elusive quest for growth,” Ch3, Easterly

Activities and Assignments:

- Problem Set 3 (due 10/9 at 11:59pm)
- Reading Quiz 3 (due 10/9 at 11:59pm)

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**MODULE 6 – IMPACT EVALUATION, part A**

**October 11-17**

**October 12 and 15**

**L9 and L10 Impact evaluation – causal inference**

Required Readings:

- “Mastering Metrics,” Ch1 - Angrist and Pischke
- “Impact Evaluation in Practice,” Ch3 - Causal Inference and Counterfactuals

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**MODULE 7 – IMPACT EVALUATION, part B**

**October 18-24**

**October 19 and 22**

**L11 and L12 Impact evaluation – RCTs**

Required Readings:

- “Impact Evaluation in Practice,” Ch 4 - Randomized Assignment
- Use of Randomization in the Evaluation of Development Effectiveness, by Duflo and Kremer (ONLY pp. 93-98 and 107-113)

Activities and Assignments:

- Non-Graded Exercise on Tuesday
- In-Class Activity 4 on Friday (must be submitted by 10/23 at 11:59pm)
- Problem Set 4 (due 10/23 at 11:59pm)
- Reading Quiz 4 (due 10/23 at 11:59pm)

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**MODULE 8 – HEALTH, part A**

**October 25-October 31**

**October 26**

**L13 Health facts and health in early childhood**

Required Readings:

- Essentials of Development Economics, Ch6 (ONLY pp. 148-164)
- “Deworming: A Best Buy for Development,” JPAL Policy Brief

**October 29**

**L14 Health in early childhood**

Required Readings:

- “Do Infants Benefit When Older Siblings are Dewormed?,” World Bank

Activities and Assignments:

- In-Class Activity 5 on Tuesday (must be submitted by 10/30 at 11:59pm)

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**MODULE 9 – HEALTH, part B**

**November 1-7**

**L15 Health: the demand for prevention**

**November 2**

Required Readings:

- “Global Health Systems: Pricing and User Fees,” by Dupas
- “The Price Is Wrong,” JPAL Policy Brief
- “Incentives for Immunization,” JPAL Policy Brief

Activities and Assignments:

- In-Class Activity 6 on Tuesday (must be submitted by 11/2 at 11:59pm)
- Problem Set 5 (due 11/2 at 11:59pm)

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**November 5 – Test 2 on Modules 5-9**

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**MODULE 10 – HEALTH & EDUCATION, part A**

**November 8-14**

**November 9**

**L16 Health, AIDS/HIV and behavioral economics**

Required Readings:

- To Mate – The Naked Truth (pp. 253-267 Karlan-Appel)
- How behavioral economics is promoting better health around the world.pdf

**November 12**

**L17 Education: facts and returns to education**

Required Readings:

- Essentials of Development Economics, Ch6, ONLY pp. 140-148

Activities and Assignments:

- Problem Set 6 (due 11/13 at 11:59pm)
- Reading Quiz 5 (due 11/13 at 11:59pm)
- Reading Quiz 6 about the video “Educating Yaprak” (due 11/13 at 11:59pm)  
*<http://tve.org/film/educating-yaprak/>*

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**MODULE 11 – EDUCATION, part B**

**November 15-28**

**November 16**

**Class canceled**

**November 19**

**L18 Education: returns to education**

Required Readings:

- “See Tomorrow’s Jobs, Invest in Girls Today,” JPAL Policy Brief
- “The Challenge of Education and Learning in the Developing World,” Kremer et al.
- “Improving Education Outcomes in Developing Countries: Evidence, Knowledge Gaps, and Policy Implications,” Glewwe and Muralidharan, ONLY pp. 673-701

**November 23**

**L19 Education: improving school quality**

Required Readings:

- “Field Experiments in Education in Developing Countries,” Muralidharan, ONLY Sections 3.2-3.4

**November 26 – No class: Thanksgiving**

Activities and Assignments:

- Problem Set 7 (due 11/24 at 11:59pm)
- Reading Quiz 7 (due 11/24 at 11:59pm)

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**MODULE 12 – MICROCREDIT**

**November 29-December 5**

**November 30**

**L20 Microcredit**

Required Readings:

- Essentials of Development Economics, Chapter 12
- Group Lending and Individual Lending, pp. 112-122 by Karlan and Appel

### **December 3**

#### **L21 Empirical evidence on microcredit**

##### Required Readings:

- “Where Credit Is Due,” JPAL Policy Brief
- Evaluating Microcredit, pp. 66-83 by Karlan and Appel

##### Activities and Assignments:

- Reading Quiz 8 (due 12/4 at 11:59pm)
- Reading Quiz 9 (due 12/4 at 11:59pm)
- In-Class Activity 7 on Friday (must be submitted by 12/4 at 11:59pm)

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## **MODULE 13 – SAVINGS**

### **December 6-8**

#### **December 7**

#### **L22 Savings**

##### Required Readings:

- The Economics of Microfinance, Ch6 Savings, pp.169-194
- “Helping the Poor Save More,” by Karlan
- To Save

##### Activities and Assignments:

- Problem Set 8 (due 12/8 at 11:59pm)
- Reading Quiz 10 (due 12/8 at 11:59pm)

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### **December 14 (West Village G 102) – Test 3 on Modules 10-13**

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