Advanced Development Economics – Selected Topics, Summer- 2016

An Outline

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The purpose of this course is to provide a rigorous introduction to certain key factors, historical as well as emerging, that have shaped the general economic and social landscape of the developing world since 1950s. While our main focus will be the set of factors that determine growth and prosperity of the economically disadvantaged, we shall reflect on broader aspects of Development beyond Economic Growth, which deals with poverty and inequality, education, health etc. Our method will be essentially analytical with strong emphasis on theoretical mechanisms and relevant empirical findings. We shall draw from important texts and papers and restructure materials to fit the course requirement. The list of topics we shall cover in this course are as follows.

2. Economic Growth under Ideal and Non-Ideal Conditions (Lecture 2)
3. Convergence, Divergence and Poverty Traps – Role of Imperfect Credit Market (lecture 2 and 3)
4. Behavioural Complexities – Status Effect, Growth and Malnutrition (Lecture 3)
5. Labour Market Issues – Rural-Urban Migration, Informal Sector, Efficiency Wage Hypothesis (Lecture 4 and 5)
6. Open Economy Issues - Trade and Growth, Openness and Inequality (Lecture 5 and 6)
7. Political Economy Perspective – Growth vs. Redistribution, Economic Reform, Corruption and Growth (Lecture 6 and 7)
9. Paper Presentations (9 and 10)

Following are some of the resources we will use along with the lecture notes.

General Readings/Books for an Overview (Exact details can be found in the web)

1. William Easterly – Elusive Quest For Growth
2. Acemoglu and Robinson – Why Nations Fail
3. Banerjee and Duflo – Poor Economics
5. Robert Lucas- Lectures on Economic Growth

Reference Books

Research Articles for Lectures 1, 2 and 3


Research Articles for Lectures 4 and 5

3. David H. Autor - "Lecture Note: Efficiency wages, the Shapiro-Stiglitz Model" MIT and NBER, accessible at http://economics.mit.edu/files/548

Research Articles for Lecture 6 and 7


Research Article for Lecture 8


Research Article for Lecture 9

1. Banerjee and Duflo Chapter in -Annual Review of Economics