HE 210/HE 2010 : Development Economics

Instructor: Maggie Triyana (mtriyana@ntu.edu.sg)

Lecture: Mon. 9:30-11:30am, Location LT24

Tutorials: Mon., Tue., Location TBA

Office hours: Mon. 4-6pm and by appointment, HSS 04-46

Description

Development economics is a large field that includes health, education, market, and institutional failures. We will focus on microeconomic issues in developing countries. The main question will be: what can be done to help the world’s poor to improve their wellbeing? Issues covered here will not be exhaustive, but we will try to cover the major issues.

There will be four main parts to the course. The first and longest part will cover human capital, followed by physical capital, financial capital, and governance. The empirical evidence will come from various developing countries in Africa, South America, and Asia.

Instruction and assessment

Instruction will consist of 2-hour lectures on Mondays and 1-hour tutorials.

Assessment will be based on:

- 60% closed-book final examination
- 30% group assignment
- 10% class participation


Journal articles will be provided on edveNTUre.

Topics and readings

Introduction

What is economic development (or the lack of it)? What are the policy implications?

- Chapter 1.3, 1.4, 1.5
- Chapter 2.2, 2.3
- Chapter 5.4, 5.5
Section 1: Human Capital

How can we improve health outcomes in developing countries? We can all agree that education matters, but how much?

- Chapter 8

Informality and migration

- Chapter 7.4, 7.5, 7.6

Section 2: Physical Capital

Property rights, technology, environment

- Chapter 10.3, 10.4

Section 3: Financial Capital

- Chapter 15.1, 15.3

Section 4: Governance

Corruption

- Chapter 11.9

Service Delivery