

Economics of Human Development

Course title – Intitulé du cours	Economics of Human Development
Level / Semester – Niveau /semestre	M2/S2
School – Composante	Ecole d'Economie de Toulouse
Teacher – Enseignant responsable	Augustin Tapsoba
Other teacher(s) – Autre(s) enseignant(s)	
Lecture Hours – Volume Horaire CM	30
TA Hours – Volume horaire TD	
TP Hours – Volume horaire TP	
Course Language – Langue du cours	English
TA and/or TP Language – Langue des TD et/ou TP	

Teaching staff contacts – Coordonnées de l'équipe pédagogique :

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Course Objectives – Objectifs du cours :

A wide range of socio-economic outcomes in both developed and developing countries can be traced back to early life conditions. This course will use standard theoretical and empirical tools to study the importance and determinants of child development. We will study why and how parents invest in their children's health, cognitive and non-cognitive skills and how this affects social mobility and inequality. A special focus will be given to intra-household allocation of resources through the lenses of recent theoretical models and empirical evidence in family economics. We will also discuss the role of public policy and institutions in fostering early childhood development.

Prerequisites – Pré requis :

This is an M2 level course for PPD students that is open to M1 students interested in applied/empirical economics, especially those likely to enroll in programs other than PPD for their M2. Students should be familiar with basic econometrics.

Practical information about the sessions – Modalités pratiques de gestion du cours :

Grading system – Modalités d'évaluation :

Grading will be based on regular assignments and written/oral exams at the end of each chapter of the course. Some of the assignments will be done in small groups and may involve data manipulation and basic programming.

Bibliography/references – Bibliographie/références:

See references in next section. A list of up to 2 papers to read (mandatory) in advance for each session will be published every week.

Session planning – Planification des séances

- I. Early life conditions and adult socio-economic outcomes [1 session]
 - Almond, Douglas, and Janet Currie. "Killing me softly: The fetal origins hypothesis." *Journal of economic perspectives* 25.3 (2011): 153-72.
 - Heckman, James J., and Stefano Mosso. "The economics of human development and social mobility." *Annu. Rev. Econ.* 6.1 (2014): 689-733.
 - Stein, Zena, et al. "Famine and human development: The Dutch hunger winter of 1944-1945." (1975).
 - Maccini, Sharon, and Dean Yang. "Under the weather: Health, schooling, and economic consequences of early-life rainfall." *American Economic Review* 99.3 (2009): 1006-26.
 - Almond, Douglas, Lena Edlund, and Mårten Palme. "Chernobyl's subclinical legacy: prenatal exposure to radioactive fallout and school outcomes in Sweden." *The Quarterly journal of economics* 124.4 (2009): 1729-1772.
 - Behrman, Jere R., and Mark R. Rosenzweig. "Returns to birthweight." *Review of Economics and statistics* 86.2 (2004): 586-601.

- II. Intra-household allocation of resources and child development: [3 sessions]
 - Browning, Martin, Pierre-André Chiappori, and Yoram Weiss. *Economics of the Family*. Cambridge University Press, 2014.
 - Dunbar, Geoffrey R., Arthur Lewbel, and Krishna Pendakur. "Children's resources in collective households: identification, estimation, and an application to child poverty in Malawi." *American Economic Review* 103.1 (2013): 438-71.
 - Lechene, Valérie, Krishna Pendakur, and Alex Wolf. "OLS estimation of the intra-household distribution of consumption." Unpublished Manuscript 18 (2019): 19.
 - Calvi, Rossella. "Why are older women missing in India? The age profile of bargaining power and poverty." (2016).
 - Bargain, Olivier, Guy Lacroix, and Luca Tiberti. "Validating the collective model of household consumption using direct evidence on sharing." *Partnership for Economic Policy Working Paper* 2018-06 (2018).
 - Attanasio, Orazio P., and Valérie Lechene. "Efficient responses to targeted cash transfers." *Journal of political Economy* 122.1 (2014): 178-222.
 - Armand, Alex, et al. "The Effect of Gender-Targeted Conditional Cash Transfers on Household Expenditures: Evidence from a Randomized Experiment." Unpublished Manuscript (2018).

- Almås, Ingvild, et al. "Measuring and changing control: Women's empowerment and targeted transfers." *The Economic Journal* 128.612 (2018): F609-F639.
- Duflo, Esther. "Grandmothers and granddaughters: old-age pensions and intrahousehold allocation in South Africa." *The World Bank Economic Review* 17.1 (2003): 1-25.
- Bau, Natalie. "Can Policy Change Culture? Government Pension Plans and Traditional Kinship Practices." Unpublished Manuscript (2019).

III. Parental Investment and Child Development: human capital production function – measurement issues – parental beliefs [3 sessions]

- Agostinelli, Francesco, and Giuseppe Sorrenti. "Money vs. time: family income, maternal labor supply, and child development." University of Zurich, Department of Economics, Working Paper 273 (2018).
- Bernal, Raquel, and Michael P. Keane. "Quasi-structural estimation of a model of childcare choices and child cognitive ability production." *Journal of Econometrics* 156.1 (2010): 164-189.
- Bernal, Raquel, and Michael P. Keane. "Childcare choices and children's cognitive achievement: The case of single mothers." *Journal of Labor Economics* 29.3 (2011): 459-512.
- Cunha, Flávio. "Recent developments in the identification and estimation of production functions of skills." *Fiscal Studies* 32.2 (2011): 297-316.
- Attanasio, Orazio, et al. "Estimating the production function for human capital: results from a randomized controlled trial in Colombia." *American Economic Review* 110.1 (2020): 48-85.
- Cunha, Flavio, Irma Elo, and Jennifer Culhane. "Eliciting maternal beliefs about the technology of skill formation." NBER Working Paper 19144 (2013).
- Cunha, Flavio, James J. Heckman, and Susanne M. Schennach. "Estimating the technology of cognitive and noncognitive skill formation." *Econometrica* 78.3 (2010): 883-931.
- Griffen, Andrew S. "Height and calories in early childhood." *Economics & Human Biology* 20 (2016): 55-69.
- Cunha, Flávio. "Gaps in early investments in children." Manuscript, Dept. Econ., Univ. Pennsylvania (2014).

IV. Early Childhood Intervention Policy Design and Evaluation: Direct interventions [1 session]

- Attanasio, Orazio P., et al. "Using the infrastructure of a conditional cash transfer program to deliver a scalable integrated early child development program in Colombia: cluster randomized controlled trial." *Bmj* 349 (2014): g5785.
- Armand et al. (2018) "The Effect of Gender-Targeted Conditional Cash Transfers on Household Expenditures: Evidence from a Randomized Experiment"
- Conti et al. (EJ 2016) "The Effects of Two Influential Early Childhood Interventions on Health and Healthy Behaviour"
- Heckman et al (AER 2013): Understanding the Mechanisms Through Which an Influential Early Childhood Program Boosted Adult Outcomes

- Maluccio, John A., et al. "The impact of improving nutrition during early childhood on education among Guatemalan adults." *The Economic Journal* 119.537 (2009): 734-763.
- Gertler, Paul, et al. "Labor market returns to an early childhood stimulation intervention in Jamaica." *Science* 344.6187 (2014): 998-1001.
- List, John A., Fatemeh Momeni, and Yves Zenou. "Are estimates of early education programs too pessimistic? Evidence from a large-scale field experiment that causally measures neighbor effects." (2019).
- Behrman, Jere R., Yingmei Cheng, and Petra E. Todd. "Evaluating preschool programs when length of exposure to the program varies: A nonparametric approach." *Review of economics and statistics* 86.1 (2004): 108-132.

V. Intergenerational transmission of human capital/income and inequality [1 session]

- Gayle, George-Levi, Limor Golan, and Mehmet Soytas. "Intergenerational Mobility and the Effects of Parental Education, Time Investment, and Income on Children's Educational Attainment." (2018): 281-95.
- Alesina, Alberto, et al. *Intergenerational Mobility in Africa*. No. w25534. National Bureau of Economic Research, 2019.
- Lambert, Sylvie, Martin Ravallion, and Dominique Van de Walle. "Intergenerational mobility and interpersonal inequality in an African economy." *Journal of Development Economics* 110 (2014): 327-344.
- Card, David, Ciprian Domnisoru, and Lowell Taylor. *The intergenerational transmission of human capital: Evidence from the golden age of upward mobility*. No. w25000. National Bureau of Economic Research, 2018.
- Chetty, Raj, et al. "Where is the land of opportunity? The geography of intergenerational mobility in the United States." *The Quarterly Journal of Economics* 129.4 (2014): 1553-1623.
- Chetty, Raj, and Nathaniel Hendren. "The impacts of neighborhoods on intergenerational mobility I: Childhood exposure effects." *The Quarterly Journal of Economics* 133.3 (2018): 1107-1162.
- Chetty, Raj, and Nathaniel Hendren. "The impacts of neighborhoods on intergenerational mobility II: County-level estimates." *The Quarterly Journal of Economics* 133.3 (2018): 1163-1228.
- Corak, Miles. "Income inequality, equality of opportunity, and intergenerational mobility." *Journal of Economic Perspectives* 27.3 (2013): 79-102.
- Chetty, Raj, Nathaniel Hendren, and Lawrence F. Katz. "The effects of exposure to better neighborhoods on children: New evidence from the Moving to Opportunity experiment." *American Economic Review* 106.4 (2016): 855-902.
- Chetty, Raj, et al. *Race and economic opportunity in the United States: An intergenerational perspective*. No. w24441. National Bureau of Economic Research, 2018.
- Chetty, Raj, et al. *The opportunity atlas: Mapping the childhood roots of social mobility*. No. w25147. National Bureau of Economic Research, 2018.

VI. Political Economy and Human Development: [1 session]

- Fujiwara, Thomas. "Voting technology, political responsiveness, and infant health: Evidence from Brazil." *Econometrica* 83.2 (2015): 423-464.

- Chattopadhyay, Raghavendra, and Esther Duflo. "Women as policy makers: Evidence from a randomized policy experiment in India." *Econometrica* 72.5 (2004): 1409-1443.
- Kudamatsu, Masayuki. "Has democratization reduced infant mortality in sub-Saharan Africa? Evidence from micro data." *Journal of the European Economic Association* 10.6 (2012): 1294-1317.

Distance learning – Enseignement à distance :

Distance learning can be provided when necessary by implementing:

- *Interactive virtual classrooms*
- *MCQ tests and other online exercises / assignments*
- *Chatrooms*