



INFRASTRUCTURE AND DEVELOPMENT

Course title – Intitulé du cours	INFRASTRUCTURE AND DEVELOPMENT
Level / Semester – Niveau /semestre	M2 / S1
School – Composante	Ecole d'Economie de Toulouse
Teacher – Enseignant responsable	STRAUB Stéphane
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	Anglais
TA and/or TP Language – Langue des TD et/ou TP	Anglais

Teaching staff contacts – Coordonnées de l'équipe pédagogique :

Stéphane Straub, office T.355.

Meeting by appointment. Preferred mean of interaction: by email (stephane.straub@tse-fr.eu) or after the classes.

Course's Objectives – Objectifs du cours :

The course will focus on infrastructure, defined here to encompass physical infrastructure in the four main sectors, energy, transport, water and sanitation, and information and communication technology (ICT). The objectives of the course are to introduce students to the main issues surrounding these topics, to familiarize them with the policy literature and discussion, and the analytical tools that applied researchers use to address these issues. At the end of the course, students should be able to understand and replicate good quality empirical research in this area, and to produce policy oriented synthesis on topics related to infrastructure.

<u> Prerequisites – Pré requis :</u>

Familiarity with basic econometrics, and especially panel data techniques, will be helpful. A useful and accessible reference is:

Angrist, Joshua D, and Pischke, Jorn-Steffen, *Mostly Harmless Econometrics*, Princeton University Press

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

While this is a lecture course, students are expected to thoroughly read all the mandatory readings (marked by a star) prior to each session and actively participate in class. Readings with no star attached are optional. Laptops are accepted in the class.

Distance learning – Enseignement à distance :

Classes will be held in person until further notice.

The instructor will be available for online and face-to-face office hours (please send an email to make an appointment).

Confidentiality – Confidentialité :

If classes are to be held online, recording Zoom sessions in any form, including taking screenshots, is prohibited. Redistributing any class materials (such as articles and slides uploaded on Moodle) is also prohibited.

Bibliography/references – Bibliographie/références :

All required articles and chapters will become available on Moodle.

Grading system – Modalités d'évaluation :

There are two written assignments. The first one is a paper that discusses what has been covered in the first half of the course, due October 28, 6pm (up to 5 double-spaced pages). This exercise requires students to provide a brief analytical synthesis of the material, and point out what are the most important aspects and the main unresolved issues.

The second assignment is a final paper that is due at 6pm on December 10 (up to 10 double-spaced pages). This exercise consists of a policy note on a topic related to infrastructure, to be chosen among a menu provided by the instructor The topic should be approved by the instructor beforehand.

All written assignments should be submitted via email. Late assignments will be discounted by 50% if they are less than a week late. No home assignment will be accepted more than 1 week after the due date.

The final grade is a weighted average: 25% midterm paper, 60% final paper, 15% class participation.

Session planning – Planification des séances :

Classes will be a mix of lectures and group discussions, and will rely on a mix of research and policy work. Each week, from the second week (of September 13) one of the two sessions will be devoted mostly to the discussion of the paper or material assigned.

The material to be used each week (usually one policy report or one applied research paper) will be announced in advance the week before. One or more class participants will make a brief presentation of the material as part of the class participation evaluation.

The course will follow the following sequence (some topics may take more or less than one week, so there is not necessary a direct correspondence between weeks and topics):

Part A: The state of affairs

- 1. Introduction: course organization, review of issues, definitions.
- 2. Historical overview: from the Bronze Age to the Digital Age.
- 3. The empirics of infrastructure: data and measurement challenges.
- 4. Access around the world: a world of inequality.
- 5. Panel data econometrics and impact evaluation: the benefits of infrastructure and the cost of unequal access.

Part B: Infrastructure policies

- 6. Funding and financing infrastructure.
- 7. The public vs. private debate: privatization and public-private partnerships (PPPs). Regulatory and governance issues.
- 8. The environmental impact of infrastructure, and its role in tackling climate change.
- 9. Infrastructure in the digital era, sectors overview (energy, water and sanitation, transport, information and communication technology–ICT).

Finally, interventions by development practitioners (from the World Bank or similar type of organizations) will be organized if possible.

Bibliography/references – Bibliographie/références :

Introduction

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- Straub, S. (2011), "Infrastructure and Development: A Critical Appraisal of the Macro-Level Literature", The Journal of Development Studies, vol. 47, n°5, p. 683-708.

- Straub, S. (2008), "Infrastructure and Growth in Developing Countries: Recent Advances and Research Challenges", World Bank Policy Research Working Paper No.4460.

Historical Overview

- Smil, V. 2017. Energy and Civilization. A History. MIT Press.

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- Mithen, Steven. 2012. Thirst: For Water and Power in the Ancient World. Harvard University Press.

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- Bogart, D. 2005. Turnpike trusts and the transportation revolution in 18th century England. Explorations in Economic History, 42 (4), 479-508.

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Funding and Financing

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- Eichengreen, B. 1995. Financing infrastructure in developing countries: lessons from the railway age. The World Bank Research Observer, 10 (1), 75-91.

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- Martimort, D., and S. Straub. 2009. "Infrastructure Privatization and Changes in Corruption Patterns: The Roots of Public Discontent". Journal of Development Economics 90: 69–84.

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Access and Inequality

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- Hallegatte, Stephane, Adrien Vogt-Schilb, Mook Bangalore, and Julie Rozenberg. 2017.

Unbreakable: Building the Resilience of the Poor in the Face of Natural Disasters. Climate Change and Development Series. Washington, DC: World Bank.

- Kahn, Matthew. 2021. Adapting to climate change. Markets and the management of an uncertain future. Yale University Press.

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- Rema Hanna, Gabriel Kreindler and Ben Olken, "Citywide effects of high-occupancy vehicle restrictions: Evidence from "three-in-one" in Jakarta", Science, Vol. 357 (6346), 2017.

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Session planning – Planification des séances

At this stage, it is planned that all sessions will be held in physical presence. Hybrid mode will be used in case of necessity.