

Family Economics, Conflict, and Economic Development

Course title – Intitulé du cours	Family Economics, Conflict, and Economic Development
Level / Semester – Niveau /semestre	MRes – S2
School – Composante	Ecole d'Economie de Toulouse
Teacher – Enseignant responsable	Augustin Tapsoba
Other teacher(s) – Autre(s) enseignant(s)	
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Other teacher(s) – Autre(s) enseignant(s)	
Lecture Hours – Volume Horaire CM	
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:

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Course Objectives:

This course aims to provide students with an overview of frontier research in the fields of family economics, conflict studies, and economic history in developing countries. The papers will cover both theory and empirics to characterize and explain how and why agents make certain decisions in developing countries and their economic implications. Most papers will focus on Sub-Saharan Africa, but the issues they raise are relevant to other parts of the developing world, allowing us to draw conclusions that apply beyond. The methodological coverage will be broad, including applied theory, observational data combined with natural experiments, randomized control trials, and structural approaches. We will focus on the analysis conducted in each paper (environment, model, data, and causal inference) so that students can: (i) learn and come up with similarly clever ways to conduct their own research projects in any sub-field of empirical micro, and (ii) evaluate the merits and limitations of work produced by others in these fields.

Prerequisites :

Students should be familiar with the content of the compulsory M2 ETE courses.

Practical information about the sessions:

Students should participate actively to each session. Laptops and tablets are tolerated if used for the sole purpose of following the course.

Grading system :

Students will have a choice between two options:

- (1) Write a short research proposal on a topic related to the content of the course
- (2) Write a referee report on a recent working paper related to the topics discussed in class.

Bibliography/references:

Academic Papers

See references in the next section.

Books for Background Reading

Lundberg, S., & Voena, A. (Eds.). (2023). Handbook of the Economics of the Family (1st ed.). March 23, 2023. Hardback ISBN: 9780323899659. eBook ISBN: 9780323899666.

Blattman, C. (2023). Why we fight: The roots of war and the paths to peace. Penguin.

Michalopoulos, S., & Papaioannou, E. (2017). The long economic and political shadow of history volume II. Africa and Asia. Centre for Economic Policy Research.

Session planning :

I. MATCHING MARKETS AND MARRIAGE PAYMENTS (SESSIONS 1-3)

- Anderson, S., "The economics of dowry and brideprice," *Journal of economic perspectives*, 2007, 21 (4), 151-174.
- Ashraf, N., Bau, N., Nunn, N., & Voena, A. (2020). Bride price and female education. *Journal of Political Economy*, 128(2), 591-641.
- Corno, L., Hildebrandt, N., & Voena, A. (2020). Age of marriage, weather shocks, and the direction of marriage payments. *Econometrica*, 88(3), 879-915.
- Tapsoba, Augustin. (WP 2023). "Polygyny and the Economic Determinants of Family Formation Outcomes in Sub-Saharan Africa"
- André, P. and Y. Dupraz, "Education and polygamy: Evidence from Cameroon," *Journal of Development Economics*, 2023, 162, 103068.
- Corno, L. and A. Voena, "Child marriage as informal insurance: Empirical evidence and policy simulations," *Journal of Development Economics*, 2023, p. 103047.

II. KINSHIP SYSTEMS AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT (SESSIONS 4-5)

- Bau, N. (2021). Can policy change culture? Government pension plans and traditional kinship practices. *American Economic Review*, 111(6), 1880-1917.
- Ferrara, E. L. (2003). Kin groups and reciprocity: A model of credit transactions in Ghana. *American economic review*, 93(5), 1730-1751.
- La Ferrara, E. and A. Milazzo, "Customary norms, inheritance, and human capital: evidence from a reform of the matrilineal system in Ghana," *American Economic Journal: Applied Economics*, 2017, 9 (4), 166-85.

III. CONFLICT (SESSIONS 6-8)

- McGuirk, E. F., & Nunn, N. (2020). Transhumant pastoralism, climate change, and conflict in africa (No. w28243). National Bureau of Economic Research.
- Moscona, J., Nunn, N., & Robinson, J. A. (2020). Segmentary Lineage Organization and Conflict in Sub-Saharan Africa. *Econometrica*, 88(5), 1999-2036.
- McGuirk, E. and M. Burke, "The economic origins of conflict in Africa," *Journal of Political Economy*, 2020, 128 (10), 3940-3997.
- König, M. D., Rohner, D., Thoenig, M., & Zilibotti, F. (2017). Networks in conflict: Theory and evidence from the great war of africa. *Econometrica*, 85(4), 1093-1132.
- Chiovelli, G., Michalopoulos, S., & Papaioannou, E. (2018). Landmines and spatial development (No. w24758). National Bureau of Economic Research.

IV. HISTORICAL LEGACIES AND DEVELOPMENT (SESSIONS 9-10)

- Michalopoulos, S. and E. Papaioannou, "Historical legacies and African development," *Journal of Economic Literature*, 2020, 58 (1), 53-128.
- Lowes, S., & Montero, E. (2021). Concessions, violence, and indirect rule: evidence from the Congo Free State. *The Quarterly Journal of Economics*, 136(4), 2047-2091.
- Michalopoulos, S., & Papaioannou, E. (2016). The long-run effects of the scramble for Africa. *American Economic Review*, 106(7), 1802-1848.
- Lowes, S., Nunn, N., Robinson, J. A., & Weigel, J. L. (2017). The evolution of culture and institutions: Evidence from the Kuba Kingdom. *Econometrica*, 85(4), 1065-1091.

Distance learning :

- Interactive virtual classrooms
- Chatrooms