

EDUCATION AND DEVELOPMENT: POLICY AND RESEARCH
April 2015

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This mini-course covers policy issues related to education in developing contexts. We will analyze education policies and reforms, review relevant research on each topic, and examine implications of the findings to policy and practice.

Prior knowledge: Tools of econometric analysis will be used.

Course readings and schedule

Why education?

Duflo, E. (2001). Schooling and labor market consequences of school construction in Indonesia: evidence from an unusual policy experiment. *American Economic Review*, 91(4), 795-813.

Miguel, E. & Kremer, M. (2004). Worms: identifying impacts on education and health in the presence of treatment externalities. *Econometrica*. 72(1), 159-217.

Recommended:

Psacharopoulos, G. (1984). The contribution of education to economic growth: international comparisons. Washington, DC: World Bank.

Becker, G. S. (1962). Investment in human capital: A theoretical analysis. *The Journal of Political Economy*, 70(5), 9-49.

Card, D. (1999). The causal effect of education on earnings. In O. Ashenfelter and D. Card, eds., *Handbook of Labor Economics*, 3A. Elsevier.

Discrimination and inclusion in education

Hanna, R. & Linden, L. (2012). Discrimination in grading. *American Economic Journal: Economic Policy*, 4(4): 146-68.

Rao, G. (2013). Familiarity does not breed contempt: diversity, discrimination, and generosity in Delhi schools. Unpublished manuscript. <http://scholar.harvard.edu/rao/publications/familiarity-does-not-breed-contempt-diversity-discrimination-and-generosity-delhi>

Recommended:

Steele, C. M., & Aronson, J. (1995). Stereotype threat and the intellectual test performance of African Americans. *Journal of personality and social psychology*, 69(5), 797.

Hoff, K. & Pandey, P. (2004). An experimental investigation of Indian caste. <http://sticerd.lse.ac.uk/dps/bpde2004/hoff.pdf>

Behrman, J. (1997). Intrahousehold distribution and the family. In: Mark R. Rosenzweig and Oded Stark, editors, *Handbook of Population and Family Economics*, Elsevier, 1(A)125-187.

Margo, R. (1990). Race and schooling in the South, 1880-1950: an economic history. University of Chicago Press, chapter 2.

Bertrand, M., Hanna, R., & Mullainathan, S. (2010). Affirmative action in education: evidence from engineering college admissions in India. *Journal of Public Economics*. 94, 16-29.

Role of basic needs in educational decisions

*Adukia, A. (2014). Sanitation and education. Unpublished manuscript.

http://harris.uchicago.edu/sites/default/files/Adukia_Sanitation_and_Education.pdf

Kazianga, H., Levy, D., Linden, L. L., & Sloan, M. (2013). The effects of 'girl-friendly' schools: evidence from the BRIGHT school construction program in Burkina Faso. *American Economic Journal: Applied Economics*, 5(3), 41-62.

Bleakley, H. (2007). Disease and development: evidence from hookworm eradication in the American South. *The Quarterly Journal of Economics*. 122(1), 73-117.

Demand-side considerations:

Incentives, reducing the cost of schooling, improving achievement (February 4)

*Glewwe, P. & Kremer, M. (2006). Schools, teachers, and education outcomes in developing countries. *Handbook of the Economics of Education*, 2, 945-1017.

*Banerjee, A. Cole, S., Duflo, E. & Linden, L. (2007). Remediating education: evidence from two randomized experiments in India. *Quarterly Journal of Economics*, 122(3): 1235-1264.

Evans, D., Kremer, M., & Ngatia, M. (2009). The impact of distributing school uniforms on children's education in Kenya. Unpublished manuscript. Abdul Latif Jameel Poverty Action Lab. <http://www.povertyactionlab.org/evaluation/impact-distributing-school-uniforms-childrens-education-kenya>

Kremer, M., Miguel, E. & Thornton, R. (2009). Incentives to learn. *The Review of Economics and Statistics*. 91(3): 437-456

Rawlings, L. & Rubio, G. (2005). Evaluating the impact of conditional cash transfer programs. *World Bank Research Observer*, 20(1): 30-55.

Schultz, P. (2004). School subsidies for the poor: evaluating the Mexican Progresa poverty program. *Journal of Development Economics*. 74(1): 199-250.

Vermeersch, C. & Kremer, M. (2004). School meals, educational achievement and school competition: evidence from a randomized evaluation. *World Bank Policy Research Working Paper*. No. 3523.

Glewwe, P., Kremer, M., & Moulin, S. (2009). Many children left behind? Textbooks and test scores in Kenya. *American Economic Journal: Applied Economics*, 1(1), 112-135.

Glewwe, P., Kremer, M., Moulin, S., & Zitzewitz, E. (2004). Retrospective vs. prospective analyses of school inputs: the case of flip charts in Kenya. *J. of Development Economics*, 74(1), 251-268.

Malamud, O., & Pop-Eleches, C. (2011). Home Computer Use and the Development of Human Capital. *Quarterly Journal of Economics*, 126(2), 987-1027.

Das, J., Dercon, S., Habyarimana, J., Krishnan, P., Muralidharan, K., & Sundararaman, V. (2013). School inputs, household substitution, and test scores. *American Economic Journal: Applied Economics*, 5(2), 29-57.

Supply-side considerations:

Teachers

*Muralidharan, K. & Sundararaman, V. (2011). Teacher performance pay: experimental evidence from India. *Journal of Political Economy*, 119(1), 39-77.

*Duflo, E., Hanna, R., & Ryan, S. (2012). Incentives work: getting teachers to come to school. *The American Economic Review*, 102(4), 1241-1278.

Glewwe, P., Ilias, N., & Kremer, M. (2010). Teacher incentives. *American Economic Journal: Applied Economics*, 2(3), 205-227

Chaudhury, N., Hammer, J., Kremer, M., Muralidharan, K., & Rogers, F. H. (2006). Missing in action: teacher and health worker absence in developing countries. *Journal of Economic Perspectives*, 20(1): 91-116.

Duflo, E., Dupas, P., & Kremer, M. (2012). School governance, teacher incentives, and pupil-teacher ratios: experimental evidence from Kenyan primary schools. National Bureau of Economic Research. Working Paper No. 17939.

Market reforms:

School choice (February 18)

Angrist, J., Bettinger, E., & Kremer, M. (2006). Long-term educational consequences of secondary school vouchers: evidence from administrative records in Colombia. *American Economic Review*, 96(3): 847-62.

*Angrist, J., Bettinger, E., Bloom, E., King, E., & Kremer, M. (2002). Vouchers for private schooling in Colombia: evidence from a randomized natural experiment. *American Economic Review*, 92(5): 1535-58.

Hsieh, C. & Urquiola, M. (2006). The effects of generalized school choice on achievement and stratification: Evidence from Chile's school voucher program. *Journal of Public Economics*, 90: 1477-1503.

*Muralidharan, K. & Sundararaman, V. (2014). The aggregate effect of school choice: evidence from a two-stage experiment in India. National Bureau of Economic Research. w19441.

Early childhood development and education (February 25)

Guest Speaker: Prof. Christina Weiland, University of Michigan

- Cohn, J. (2011, November 9). The Two-Year Window. *New Republic*.
<http://www.newrepublic.com/article/economy/magazine/97268/the-two-year-window>
- *Cunha, F., Heckman, J. J., Lochner, L., & Masterov, D. V. (2006). Interpreting the evidence on life cycle skill formation. *Handbook of the Economics of Education, 1*, 697-812. (but only need to read 709-729)
- *Gertler, P., Heckman, J., Rinto, R., Zanolini, A., Vermeersch, C., Walker, S., Chang, S., & Grantham-McGregor, S. (2013). Labor market returns to early childhood stimulation: A 20-year followup to an experimental intervention in Jamaica. NBER working paper #19185.
- Martinez, S., Naudeau, S., & Pereira, V. (2012). The promise of preschool in Africa: a randomized impact evaluation of early childhood development in Mozambique.
http://siteresources.worldbank.org/INTAFRICA/Resources/The_Promise_of_Preschool_in_Africa_ECD_REPORT.pdf
- Macours, K., Schady, N., & Vakis, R. (2012). Cash transfers, behavioral changes, and cognitive development in early childhood: Evidence from a randomized experiment. *American Economic Journal: Applied Economics, 4*(2), 247-273.
- Bharadwaj, P., Løken, K. V., & Neilson, C. (2013). Early life health interventions and academic achievement. *The American Economic Review, 103*(5), 1862-1891.
- Duncan, G. & Magnuson, K. (2013). Investing in preschool programs. *Journal of Economic Perspectives, 27*(2): 109-32.
- Bleakley, H. (2010). Malaria eradication in the Americas: a retrospective analysis of childhood exposure. *American Economic Journal: Applied Economics, 2*: 1-45.
- Doyle, O., Harmon, C., Heckman, J. & Tremblay, R. (2009). Investing in early human development: timing and economic efficiency. *Economics & Human Biology, 7*(1): 1-6.
- Engle, P., Black, M., Behrman, J., de Mello, M., Gertler, P., Kapiriri, L., Martorell, R., & Young, M. (2007). Strategies to avoid the loss of developmental potential in more than 200 million children in the developing world. *The Lancet, 369*(9557): 229-42.
- Gertler, P., Heckman, J., Rinto, R., Zanolini, A., Vermeersch, C., Walker, S., Chang, S., & Grantham-McGregor, S. (2013). Labor market returns to early childhood stimulation: A 20-year followup to an experimental intervention in Jamaica. NBER working paper #19185.
- Almond, D. & Currie, J. (2011). Chapter 15: Human capital development before age five. In *Handbook of Labor Economics, 4B*: 1315-1486. Elsevier.
- Education in emergency settings: crisis and conflict (March 4)***
Guest Speaker: Alexandra Chen, UN Advisor, Mental Health & Psychosocial on Syria Crisis
- Gladstone, R. (2014, December 8). UNICEF calls 2014 one of worst years on record for world's children. *New York Times*. <http://www.nytimes.com/2014/12/09/world/unicef-calls-2014-one-of-worst-years-on-record-for-worlds-children.html>

- *Blattman, C. & Annan, J. (2010). The consequences of child soldiering. *Review of Economics and Statistics*, 92(4), 882-898.
- Akresh, R. & de Walque, D. (2008). Armed conflict and schooling: evidence from the 1994 Rwandan genocide. *IZA Discussion Paper No. 3516*
- Frankenberg, E., Sikoki, B., Sumantri, C., Suriastini, W., & Thomas, D. (2013). Education, vulnerability, and resilience after a natural disaster. *Ecology and Society*, 18(2): 16.
- *Cas, A., Frankenberg, E., Suriastini, W., & Thomas, D. (2013). The impact of parental death on child well-being: evidence from the Indian Ocean Tsunami, NBER Working Papers No. 19357, <http://EconPapers.repec.org/RePEc:nbr:nberwo:19357>
- *Dryden-Peterson, S. & Mundy, K. E. (2011). Educating children in zones of conflict: an overview and introduction. In *Educating children in conflict zones: Research, policy, and practice for systemic change: a tribute to Jackie Kirk*. New York: Teachers College Press.
- Imberman, S. A., Kugler, A. D., & Sacerdote, B. I. (2012). Katrina's children: evidence on the structure of peer effects from Hurricane Evacuees. *American Economic Review*, 102(5), 2048-2082.
- *Burde, D., Kapit-Spitalny, A., Wahl, R., & Guven, O. (2011). Education and conflict mitigation: What the aid workers say. Washington, DC: US Agency for International Development, Education Quality Improvement Program 1.