

**Economics 237**  
**Political Economy**  
**Winter 2023**  
**Syllabus – January 10, 2024**

**Time:** Tuesdays and Thursdays, 2:00-3:20pm (PDT)

**Location:** SSB 107

**Canvas:** <https://canvas.ucsd.edu/courses/53306>

**Instructors:** Sara Lowes and Samuel Bazzi

**Email:** [slowes@ucsd.edu](mailto:slowes@ucsd.edu) and [sbazzi@ucsd.edu](mailto:sbazzi@ucsd.edu)

**Lowes Office Hours:**

Tuesdays, 4:30-5:30 pm until Feb. 6; email for appointment after

Sign up: <http://tinyurl.com/2d3tzrup>

Location: SSB 504

**Bazzi Office Hours:**

Thursdays 3:30-4:45pm beginning Feb 8 (email for appointment before then)

Signup: <http://tinyurl.com/yc84ayz5>

Location: Room 1410 of RBC

## Course Description

This course covers topics in political economy. The course will be in two parts, the first half taught by Professor Lowes and the second half taught by Professor Bazzi.

We have two objectives in the course: (1) to get you familiar with topics and questions at the cutting edge of research in the rapidly growing and diverse field of political economy, and (2) to train you through repeated practice to evaluate the quality and significance of research—both others' and your own. We will also devote one class to a writing workshop where we dissect a few high quality papers to understand the formula for writing an excellent introduction (and abstract) and well-structured paper.

### Part 1: Historical Political Economy with Professor Lowes

The course uses a historical and comparative approach to understanding the evolution and development of societies. In particular, we will examine research that asks whether differences in economic development today have historical roots. In addition, we will study different mechanisms and channels through which history matters. Particular attention will be paid to the role of domestic institutions and culture in explaining historical persistence.

The material covered in this portion of the course intersects political economy, economic history, development economics, and cultural economics. Additionally, there is overlap with

other disciplines, such as history, psychology, political science, anthropology, archaeology, and geography.

## **Part 2: Conflict, Diversity, and Nation Building with Professor Bazzi**

This part of the course builds on the first half with greater attention to the causes of conflict and the nation building process. We will explore the political and economic consequences of diversity as well as the role of policy in managing diverse societies. Other topics include the role of migration in facilitating cultural change and the political economy of religion in modernizing societies.

### **Assignments and Grading**

Required assignments for the course (and grading weights) are listed below. The goal of these is to get you working like an academic economist, writing referee reports, presenting and discussing papers, and sharing research ideas. The following website has a wealth of great ‘how to’ material related to some of these tasks:

<https://sites.google.com/site/amandayagan/writingadvice>

**(1) Reading summary for each class (10%):** Prior to the beginning of each class, students are required to write a short summary of one of the required readings for that class and upload the summary to the course website. The summaries are posted under the “assignments” tab. You have the option to upload either a PDF or word document. The summaries are due by 1:00 AM the day of the class and cannot be uploaded after that time. (E.g. class is at 2 PM on T/TH; the reading summaries are due at 1 AM prior to class on T/TH.)

The summary should cover the following: (i) Why is the paper important (or why not)? (ii) An overview of the core contributions of the paper. (iii) What you liked – or did not like – about the paper. (iv) How the paper is connected to other studies in the course. Expect that we may reference what you have written in your response paper during class. This is an important commitment device for engaging with the course material and for being prepared to participate in the class.

**(2) Referee Reports (20%).** You will be responsible for 2 referee reports on recent job market papers in political economy. These will be due on January 25 and March 5 by 8pm. You can submit the assignments on canvas.

You should begin with a one-paragraph summary of the main contribution of the paper. You should then critique the paper, starting with fundamental concerns and concluding with more minor comments. You should include constructive and realistic recommendations for

improvement. Each report should be around 2 and no more than 3 single-spaced pages.

Choose one paper to referee by each date:

- Brown, Gabriel, “The Persistent Effects of Bible Translations in Africa”
- Ortiz, Miguel, “Hate, Fear and Intergroup Conflict: Experimental Evidence from Nigeria”
- Leucht, Lukas, “Jobs for Votes: Patronage and Performance in Tammany Hall’s NYPD”
- Ferlenga, Francesco, “Symbols of Oppression: The Role of Confederate Monuments in the Great Migration”
- Buccione, Giulia, “Religious Messaging and Adaptation to Water Scarcity: Evidence from Jordan”

**(3) Class Participation (20%).** One presentation of a required paper on the reading list, and the quality of classroom participation, will be a factor in assigning grades. Each presentation will last < 15 minutes. It should address: (i) the paper’s motivation (importance of the research question), (ii) data used, (iii) research design (identification strategy), (iv) results, and (v) a few critiques. Papers to present have a † on the reading list below. Sign up for your presentation slot as a presenter here: <http://tinyurl.com/3ar5h2ha>. Please send your slides to Professor Lowes or Bazzi before class.

**(3) Research Ideas (50%).** You will submit two research proposals on February 8 and March 14 at 8 PM. These can be submitted through canvas in the assignment tab.

These proposals should be around 2 pages in length. They should motivate and clearly articulate the research question, describe the empirical strategy including data sources and identification, and offer a brief discussion of next steps. Early results, if available, could be included as well. More generally, we want you to treat these proposals as a chance to kickstart your second year paper with early input from both of us.

## Part 1 Reading List (\* indicates required readings)

### 1 Introduction and overview (January 9)

1. (\*) Nunn, Nathan. 2022. “On the Dynamics of Human Behavior: The Past, Present, and Future of Culture, Conflict, and Cooperation,” *American Economic Association Papers and Proceedings*, 112: 15–37.
2. (\*) Stelios Michalopoulos and Elias Papaioannou. 2020. “Historical Legacies and African Development,” *Journal of Economic Literature*, 58 (1): 53–128.

3. Nunn, Nathan. 2021. “History as Evolution,” *Handbook of Historical Economics*, Alberto Bisin and Giovanni Federico (eds). North Holland: 41–91.
4. Alesina, Alberto and Paola Giuliano. 2015. “Culture and Institutions,” *Journal of Economic Literature*, 53 (4): 898–944.

## 2 Historical Determinants: Slave Trades (January 11)

1. (\*) Nunn, Nathan and Leonard Wantchekon. 2011. “The Slave Trade and the Origins of Mistrust in Africa,” *American Economic Review*, 101(7): 3221–3252.
2. (\*) Nunn, Nathan. 2008. “The Long Term Effects of Africa’s Slave Trades,” *Quarterly Journal of Economics*, 123 (1): 139–176.
3. Nunn, Nathan and Diego Puga. 2012. “Ruggedness: The Blessing of Bad Geography in Africa,” *Review of Economics and Statistics*, 94 (1): 20–36.
4. Teso, Eduardo. 2018. “The Long-Term Effects of Demographic Shocks on the Evolution of Gender Roles: Evidence from the TransAtlantic Slave Trade,” *Journal of the European Economic Association*, 17 (2): 497–534.
5. Inikori, Joseph. 2000. “Africa and the Trans-Atlantic Trade,” In Toyin Falola (ed.) *Africa: Volume I, African History Before 1885*. Durham: Carolina Academic Press.
6. Fenske, James. and Namrata Kala. 2015. “Climate and the Slave Trade,” *Journal of Development Economics*, 112: 19–32.

## 3 Historical Determinants: Colonial Contact (January 16)

1. (\*) Michalopoulos, Stelios and Elias Papaioannou. 2016. “The Long-Run Effects of the Scramble for Africa,” *American Economic Review*, 106 (7), 1802–1848.
2. (\*) Lowes, Sara and Eduardo Montero. 2021. “Concessions, Violence, and Indirect Rule: Evidence from the Congo Free State” *Quarterly Journal of Economics*, Vol. 136, No. 4, pp. 2047-2091.
3. (\*) Wantchekon, Leonard, Marko Klasnja, and Natalija Novta. 2015. “Education and Human Capital Externalities: Evidence from Colonial Benin,” *Quarterly Journal of Economics*, 130: 703–757.
4. Lowes, Sara and Eduardo Montero. 2021. “The Legacy of Colonial Medicine in Central Africa,” *American Economic Review*, Vol. 111, No. 4, pp. 1284-1314.
5. Arthur Blouin. 2022. “Culture and Contracts: The Historical Legacy of Forced Labour,” *Economic Journal*, 132 (641): 89–105.

6. (†) Archibong, Belinda and Nonso Obikili. 2021. “Prison Labor: The Price of Prisons and the Lasting Effects of Incarceration,” Working paper, Columbia University.
7. Michalopoulos, Stelios and Elias Papaioannou. 2014. “National Institutions and Sub-national Development in Africa,” *Quarterly Journal of Economics*, 129 (1): 151–213.
8. Huillery, Elise. 2009. “History Matters: The Long-Term Impact of Colonial Public Investments in French West Africa,” *American Economic Journal: Applied Economics*, 1(2): 176–215.
9. Jedwab, Remi and Alexander Moradi. 2016. “The Permanent Effects of Transportation Revolutions in Poor Countries: Evidence from Africa,” *Review of Economics and Statistics* 98 (2): 268–284.
10. Nunn, Nathan. 2014. “Gender and Missionary Influence in Colonial Africa,” In Emmanuel Akyeampong, Robert H. Bates, Nathan Nunn, and James A. Robinson (eds) *Africa’s Development in Historical Perspective*. Cambridge University Press, pp. 249–512.

## 4 Social Structure and Kinship (January 18)

1. (\*) Moscona, Jacob, Nathan Nunn, and James A. Robinson. 2020. “Segmentary Lineage Organization and Conflict in Sub-Saharan Africa,” *Econometrica*, 88 (5): 1999–2036.
2. (\*) (†) Jakiela, Pamela and Owen Ozier (2015) “Does Africa Need a Rotten Kin Theorem? Experimental Evidence from Village Economies,” *Review of Economic Studies*.
3. (\*) Alsan, Marcella. 2015. “The Effect of the TseTse Fly on African Development,” *American Economic Review*, 105(1), 382–410.
4. Moscona, Jacob and Awa Ambra Seck. 2023. “Age Set vs. Kin: Culture and Financial Ties in East Africa,” Working paper, Harvard University.
5. Squires, Munir. 2019. “Kinship Taxation as a Constraint to Microenterprise Growth: Experimental Evidence from Kenya,” Working paper, University of British Columbia.
6. Michalopoulos, Stelios and Elias Papaioannou. 2013. “Pre-colonial Ethnic Institutions and Contemporary African Development,” *Econometrica*, 81 (1), 113–152.
7. Gneezy, Uri, Kenneth L. Leonard and John A. List (2009) “Gender Differences in Competition: Evidence from a Matrilineal and a Patriarchal Society,” *Econometrica*, 77(5), 1637–1666.

8. Gennaioli, Nicola, and Ilia Rainer. 2007. "The Modern Impact of Precolonial Centralization in Africa," *Journal of Economic Growth*, 12 (3), 185–234.
9. Moscona, Jacob, Nathan Nunn, and James A. Robinson. 2017. "Keeping It in the Family: Lineage Organization and the Scope of Trust in Sub-Saharan Africa," *American Economic Review Papers and Proceedings*, 107 (5), 565–571.
10. Jack Goody. 1969. "Inheritance, Property and Marriage in Africa and Eurasia," *Sociology*, 3(1), 55–76.

## 5 Individualism and WEIRD Psychology (January 23)

1. (\*) Schulz, Jonathan, Duman Bahrami-Rad, Jonathan P. Beauchamp, and Joseph Henrich. 2019. "The Church, Intensive Kinship, and Global Psychological Variation," *Science*, 366(6466): eaau5141.
2. (\*) (†) Enke, Benjamin. 2019. "Kinship, Cooperation, and the Evolution of Moral Systems," *Quarterly Journal of Economics*, 134(2): 953–1019.
3. (\*) Bahrami-Rad, Duman, Jonathan Beauchamp, Joseph Henrich, and Jonathan Schulz. 2022. "Kin-based Institutions and Economic Development" Working Paper.
4. (\*) Gorodnichenko, Yuriy and Gerard Roland. 2017. "Culture, Institutions, and the Wealth of Nations," *Review of Economics and Statistics*, 99(3): 402–416.
5. Goody, Jack. 1983. *The European Family*. Oxford: Blackwell Publishers.
6. Goody, Jack. 1983. *The Development of the Family and Marriage in Europe*. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, Chapter 3.
7. Todd, Emmanuel. 1989. *The Explanation of Ideology: Family Structure and Social Systems*. New York: Blackwell Publishers.
8. Nisbett, Richard E. 2003. *The Geography of Thought: How Asians and Westerns Think Differently... and Why*. New York: Free Press.
9. MacFarlane, Alan. 1978. *The Origins of English Individualism*. New York: Cambridge University Press.
10. Matsuda, T., and R. Nisbett. 2001. "Attending Holistically vs. Analytically: Comparing the Context Sensitivity of Japanese Americans," *Journal of Personality and Social Psychology*, 81: 922–934.
11. Nisbett, Richard. 2003. *The Geography of Thought*. New York: The Free Press.

12. Gorodnichenko, Yuriy and Gerard Roland. 2013. "Individualism, Innovation, and Long-Run Growth," *Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences*, 108, 21316–21319.
13. Greif, Avner and Guido Tabellini. 2010. "Cultural and Institutional Bifurcation: China and Europe Compared," *American Economic Review Papers and Proceedings*, 100 (2), 135–140.
14. Schulz, Jonathan. 2016. "Kin Networks and Institutional Development. *The Economic Journal*, Volume 132, Issue 647, October 2022, Pages 2578–2613.
15. Akbari, Mahsa, Duman Bahrami-Rad, and Erik Kimbrough. 2016. "Kinship, Fractionalization, and Corruption," Working paper.

## 6 Geography and Institutional Development (January 25)

1. (\*) (†) Fernandez-Villaverde, Jesus, Mark Koyama, Youhong Lin, and Tuan-Hwee Sng. 2023. "The Fractured-Land Hypothesis," *Quarterly Journal of Economics*, forthcoming.
2. (\*) Michalopoulos, Stelios. 2012. "The Origins of Ethnolinguistic Diversity," *American Economic Review*, 102 (4): 1508–1539.
3. Allen, Robert, Mattia C. Bertazzini, and Leander Heldring. 2020. "The Economic Origins of Government," Working Paper.
4. Le Rossignol, Etienne, Sara Lowes, and Eduardo Montero. 2023. Fallow Lengths and the Structure of Property Rights. Working Paper.
5. Alsan, Marcella. 2015. "The Effect of the TseTse Fly on African Development," *American Economic Review*, 105 (1): 382–410.
6. Mayshar, Joram, Omer Moav, and Luigi Pascali. 2022. "The Origin of the State: Land Productivity or Appropriability," *Journal of Political Economy*, 130 (4): 1091–1144.
7. Diamond, Jared. 1997. *Guns, Germs and Steel*. New York: WW Norton.
8. Matranga, Andrea. 2019. "The Ant and the Grasshopper: Seasonality and the Invention of Agriculture," Working paper, Chapman University.
9. Talhelm, T., X. Zhang, S. Oishi, C. Shimin, D. Duan, X. Lan, and S. Kitayama. 2014. "Large-Scale Psychological Differences Within China Explained by Rice Versus Wheat Agriculture," *Science*, 344: 603–608.
10. Jia, Ruixue. 2014. "Weather Shocks, Sweet Potatoes and Peasant Revolts in Historical China," *Economic Journal*, 2014 (575): 92–118.

11. Acemoglu, Daron, Simon Johnson, and James A Robinson. (2002). “Reversal of Fortune: Geography and Institutions in the Making of the Modern World Income Distribution,” *Quarterly Journal of Economics*, 117 (4): 1231–1294.
12. Vernon Henderson, Adam Storeygard, Tim Squires, and David Weil. 2018. “The Global Spatial Distribution of Economic Activity: Nature, History, and the Role of Trade,” *Quarterly Journal of Economics*, 133 (1): 357–406.
13. Belloc, Marianna, Francesco Drago, and Roberto Galbiati. 2016. “Earthquakes, Religion, and Transition to Self-Government in Italian Cities,” *Quarterly Journal of Economics*, 131 (4), 1875–1926.
14. Hruschka, Daniel J. and Joseph Henrich. 2013. “Institutions, Parasites and the Persistence of In-Group Preferences,” *PLoS ONE*, 8 (5).
15. Nunn, Nathan and Nancy Qian. 2011. “The Potato’s Contribution to Population and Urbanization: Evidence from a Historical Experiment,” *Quarterly Journal of Economics*, 126 (2), 593–650.
16. Fenske, James. 2014. “Ecology, Trade, and States in Pre-Colonial Africa,” *Journal of the European Economic Association*, 12(3), 612–640.

## 7 Culture: Concept and Definition (January 30)

1. (\*) Henrich, Joseph. 2015. *The Secret our Our Success: How Culture is Driving Human Evolution, Domesticating our Species, and Making us Smarter*, Princeton: Princeton University Press. Chapters 2 & 3.
2. (\*) Giuliano, Paola and Nathan Nunn. 2021. “Understanding Cultural Persistence and Change,” *Review of Economic Studies*, 88 (4): 1541-1581.
3. Boyd, Robert and Peter J. Richerson. 2005. *The Origin and Evolution of Cultures*. Oxford: Oxford University Press. Chapters 1, 2, 5.
4. Nisbett, Richard. 2003. *The Geography of Thought*. New York: The Free Press.
5. Rogers, Alan. 1988. “Does Biology Constrain Culture?” *American Anthropologist*, 90(4): 819–831.
6. Katz et al. 1974. “Traditional Maize Processing Techniques in the New World: Traditional Alkali Processing Enhances the Nutritional Quality of Maize,” *Science*, 184: 765–773.



7. Gorodnichenko, Yuriy and Gerard Roland. 2013. “Individualism, Innovation, and Long-Run Growth,” *Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences*, 108, 21316–21319.
8. Gorodnichenko, Yuriy and Gerard Roland. 2017. “Culture, Institutions, and the Wealth of Nations,” *Review of Economics and Statistics*, 99 (3), 402–416.
9. Guiso, Luigi, Paola Sapienza, and Luigi Zingales. 2008. “Long-Term Persistence,” *Journal of the European Economic Association*, 14 (6), 1401–1436.
10. Henrich, Joseph, Robert Boyd, Sam Bowles, Colin Camerer, Herbert Gintis, Richard McElreath and Ernst Fehr. 2001. “In Search of Homo Economicus: Experiments in 15 Small-Scale Societies,” *American Economic Review*, 91(2), 73–79.
11. (†) Michalopoulos, Stelios and Melanie Meng Xue. 2021. “Folklore,” *Quarterly Journal of Economics*, 136 (4): 1993–2046.

## 8 Cultural Persistence and Change (February 1)

1. (\*) Giuliano, Paola and Nathan Nunn. 2021. “Understanding Cultural Persistence and Change,” *Review of Economic Studies*, 88 (4): 1541–1581.
2. (\*) Bursztyn, Leonardo, Alessandra Gonzalez, and David Yanagizawa-Drott. 2020. “Misperceived Social Norms: Women Working Outside the Home in Saudi Arabia,” *American Economic Review*, 110 (10): 2997–3029.
3. (\*) Nunn, Nathan. 2022. “On the Dynamics of Human Behavior,” *American Economic Association Papers and Proceedings*.
4. Bau, Natalie. 2021. “Can Policy Change Culture? Government Pension Plans and Traditional Kinship Practices,” *American Economic Review*, 111 (6): 1880–1917.
5. Rogers, Alan. 1988. “Does Biology Constrain Culture?” *American Anthropologist*, 90(4): 819–831.
6. Boyd, Robert and Peter J. Richerson. 2005. *The Origin and Evolution of Cultures*. Oxford: Oxford University Press. Chapters 1, 2, 5.
7. Fouka, Vasiliki, Soumyajit Mazumder, and Marco Tabellini. 2018. “From Immigrants to Americans: Race and Assimilation During the Great Migration,” Working paper.
8. Fouka, Vasiliki. 2020. “Backlash: The Unintended Effects of Language Prohibition in U.S. Schools after World War I,” *Review of Economic Studies*, 87 (1): 204–239.

9. Grosjean, Pauline. 2014. “A History of Violence: The Culture of Honor as a Determinant of Homicide in the US South,” *Journal of the European Economic Association*, 12(5), 1285–1316.
10. Voth, Hans Joachim and Nico Voigtlaender. 2012. “Persecution Perpetuated: The Medieval Origins of Anti-Semitic Violence in Nazi Germany,” *Quarterly Journal of Economics*, 127: 1339–1392.
11. Madestam, Andreas and David Yanagizawa-Drott. 2011. “Shaping the Nation: The Effect of the Fourth of July on Political Preferences and Behavior in the United States,” Working paper, Bocconi University.
12. (†) Rao, Gautam. 2019. “Familiarity Does Not Breed Contempt: Diversity, Discrimination, and Generosity in Delhi Schools,” *American Economic Review*: 109 (3), 774–809.

## 9 Gender and Family (February 6)

1. (\*) Alesina, Alberto, Paola Giuliano, and Nathan Nunn 2013. “On the Origins of Gender Roles: Women and the Plough,” *Quarterly Journal of Economics*, 128(2): 469–530.
2. (\*) Becker, Anke. 2021. “On the Origins of Restrictions on Women’s Sexuality,” Working paper, Harvard University.
3. (\*) Lowes, Sara. 2022. “Kinship Structure and the Family: Evidence from the Matrilineal Belt,” Working paper, UCSD.
4. Anderson, Siwan. “Legal Origins and Female HIV” *American Economic Review*, 2018, Volume 108(6), 1407-39.
5. (†) Xue, Melanie. 2020. “High-Value Work and the Rise of Women: The Cotton Revolution and Gender Equality in China,” Working paper.
6. Voigtlaender, Nico and Hans-Joachim Voth. 2013. “How the West “Invented” Fertility Restriction,” *American Economic Review*, 103(6): 2227–2264.
7. Lowes, Sara. 2021. “Matrilineal Kinship and Gender Differences in Competition,” *Journal of Economic Behavior and Organization*, Vol. 192, pp. 36-57.
8. Ben Yishay, Ariel and Pauline Grosjean. 2017. “The Fish is the Friend of Matriliny: Reef Density and Matrilineal Inheritance,” *Journal of Development Economics*, 127: 234–249.

9. Grosjean, Pauline and Rose Khattar. 2018. “It’s Raining Men! Hallelujah? The Long-Run Consequences of Male-Biased Sex Ratios,” *Review of Economic Studies*, 86: 723–754.
10. Teso, Eduardo. 2018. “The Long-Term Effects of Demographic Shocks on the Evolution of Gender Roles: Evidence from the TransAtlantic Slave Trade,” *Journal of the European Economic Association*, 17 (2): 497–534.

## 10 Religion and the State (February 8; Professor Bazzi lecture)

- (\*) Michalopoulos, Stelios, Alireza Naghavi, and Giovanni Prarolo. 2018. “Trade and Geography in the Spread of Islam,” *Economic Journal*, 128 (616): 3210-3241.
- (\*) Meyersson, Erik. 2014. “Islamic Rule and the Empowerment of the Poor and Pious,” *Econometrica*, 82 (1): 229-269.
- (\*) (†) Cantoni, Davide, Jeremiah Dittmar, and Noam Yuchtman. 2018. “Religious competition and reallocation: The political economy of secularization in the protestant reformation,” *Quarterly Journal of Economics*, 133 (4): 2037-2096.
- Chaney, Eric. 2013. “Revolt on the Nile: Economic shocks, religion, and political power,” *Econometrica*, 81 (5): 2033-2053.
- Becker, Sascha and Ludger Woessmann. 2009. “Was Weber wrong? A human capital theory of Protestant economic history,” *Quarterly Journal of Economics*, 124 (2): 531-596.
- Barro, Robert J. and Rachel M. McCleary. 2005. “Which countries have state religions?” *Quarterly Journal of Economics*, 120 (4): 1331-1370.
- Bazzi, Samuel, Gabriel Koehler-Derrick, and Benjamin Marx. 2020. “The Institutional Foundations of Religious Politics: Evidence from Indonesia,” *Quarterly Journal of Economics*, 135 (2): 845-911.
- Squicciarini, Mara P. 2020. “Devotion and development: religiosity, education, and economic progress in nineteenth-century France,” *American Economic Review*, 110 (11): 3454-91.
- Rubin, Jared. 2011. “Institutions, the rise of commerce and the persistence of laws: Interest restrictions in Islam and Christianity,” *Economic Journal*, 121 (557): 1310-1339.

- Bisin, Alberto, Jared Rubin, Avner Seror, and Thierry Verdier. 2014. “Culture, Institutions and the Long Divergence,” *NBER Working Paper*.
- Carvalho, Jean-Paul. 2013. “Veiling,” *Quarterly Journal of Economics*, 128 (1): 337-370.
- Abdelgadir, Aala and Fouka, Vasiliki. 2020. “Political Secularism and Muslim Integration in the West: Assessing the Effects of the French Headscarf Ban,” *American Political Science Review*, 114 (3): 707-723.
- Recent survey articles: Iyer (2016 JEL, “The new economics of religion”), Kuran (2018 JEL, “Islam and economic performance: Historical and contemporary links”), Becker et al (2021 Handbook of Historical Economics, “Religion in economic history: A survey”)

## Part 2 Reading List (\* indicates required readings)

### 11 Economic Shocks and Conflict (February 13, 15)

- (\*) Miguel, Edward, Shanker Satyanath, and Ernest Sergenti. 2004. “Economic shocks and civil conflict: An instrumental variables approach,” *Journal of Political Economy*, 2004, 112 (4), 725–753.
- (\*) Dube, Oeindrila and Juan Vargas. 2013. “Commodity Price Shocks and Civil Conflict: Evidence from Colombia,” *The Review of Economic Studies*, 80 (4): 1384-1421.
- (\*) Nicolas Berman, Dominic Rohner, and Mathias Thoenig. 2017. “This mine is mine! How minerals fuel conflicts in Africa,” *American Economic Review*, 107 (6): 1564–1610.
- (\*) McGuirk and Burke. 2020. “The Economic Origins of Conflict in Africa,” *Journal of Political Economy*, 128 (10): 3940-3997.
- (\*) (†) Konig, Michael, Dominic Rohner, Mathias Thoenig, and Fabrizio Zilibotti. 2017. “Networks in conflict: Theory and evidence from the great war of Africa,” *Econometrica*, 85 (4): 1093-1132.
- (\*) (†) Guarnieri, Eleonora and Ana Tur-Prats. 2023. “Cultural Distance and Conflict-Related Sexual Violence,” *Quarterly Journal of Economics*, 138 (3): 1817-1861.
- Bazzi, Samuel and Christopher Blattman. 2014. “Economic Shocks and Conflict: Evidence from Commodity Prices,” *American Economic Journal: Macroeconomics*, 6 (4): 1-38.

- Berman, Nicolas and Mathieu Couttenier. 2015. “External shocks, internal shots: the geography of civil conflicts,” *Review of Economics and Statistics*, 97 (4): 758–776.
- Dell, Melissa, Benjamin Feigenberg, and Kensuke Teshima. 2019. “The Violent Consequences of Trade-Induced Worker Displacement in Mexico,” *American Economic Review: Insights*, 1 (1): 43–58.
- Miguel, Edward and Shanker Satyanath. 2011. “Re-examining economic shocks and civil conflict,” *American Economic Journal: Applied Economics*, 3 (4): 228–232.
- Ciccone, Antonio, “Economic shocks and civil conflict: A comment,” *American Economic Journal: Applied Economics*, 3 (4): 215–227.
- Dube, Oeindrila, Omar Garcia-Ponce, and Kevin Thom. 2016. “From Maize to Haze: Agricultural Shocks and the Growth of the Mexican Drug Sector,” *Journal of the European Economic Association*, 14 (5): 1181–1224.
- Harari, Mariaflavia and Eliana La Ferrara. 2018. “Conflict, Climate and Cells: A disaggregated analysis,” *Review of Economics and Statistics*, 100 (4): 594–608.
- Nunn, Nathan and Nancy Qian. 2014. “Aiding conflict: the impact of US food aid on civil war,” *American Economic Review*, 104 (6): 1630–1666.
- de la Sierra, Raul Sanchez. 2020. “On the origin of states: Stationary Bandits and Taxation in Eastern Congo,” *Journal of Political Economy*, 128 (1): 32–74.

## 12 Diversity and Conflict (February 20, 27; NB: Professor Lowes lecture February 22, see below)

- (\*) Esteban, Joan and Debraj Ray. 2011. “Linking conflict to inequality and polarization,” *American Economic Review*, 101 (4): 1345–1374.
- (\*) Esteban, Joan, Laura Mayoral, and Debraj Ray. 2012. “Ethnicity and conflict: An empirical study,” *American Economic Review*, 102 (4), 1310–1342.
- (\*) Michalopoulos, Stelios and Elias Pappaioannou. 2016. “The Long-Run Effects of the Scramble for Africa,” *American Economic Review*, 106 (7), 1802–1848.
- (\*) Desmet, Klaus, Ignacio Ortuno-Ortin, and Romain Wacziarg. 2017. “Culture, Ethnicity, and Diversity,” *American Economic Review*, 107 (9), 2479–2513.
- (†) Mueller, Hannes, Dominic Rohner, and David Schonholzer. 2021. “Ethnic Violence Across Space,” *Economic Journal*.

- Arbatl, Cemal Eren, Quamrul H. Ashraf, Oded Galor, and Marc Klemp. 2020. “Diversity and Conflict,” *Econometrica*, 88 (2): 727-797.
- Amodio, Francesco and Chiovelli, Giorgio. 2018. “Ethnicity and violence during democratic transitions: Evidence from South Africa,” *Journal of the European Economic Association*, 16 (4): 1234-1280.
- Guariso, Andrea and Rogall, Thorsten. 2021. “Rainfall Inequality, Political Power, and Ethnic Conflict in Africa,” Working Paper.
- Alesina, Alberto, William Easterly, and Janina Matuszeski. 2011. “Artificial States,” *Journal of the European Economic Association*, 9 (2): 246-277.
- Alesina, Alberto, Stelios Michalopoulos, and Elias Pappaioannou. 2016. “Ethnic Inequality,” *Journal of Political Economy*, 124 (2): 424-488.
- Esteban, Joan and Debraj Ray. 2008. “On the salience of ethnic conflict,” *American Economic Review*, 98 (5), 2185–2202.
- Mitra, Anirban and Debraj Ray. 2014. “Implications of an economic theory of conflict: Hindu-Muslim violence in India,” *Journal of Political Economy*, 122 (4): 719–765.

### 13 How Culture Matters for Policy (February 22; Professor Lowes lecture)

1. (\*) Lowes, Sara and Eduardo Montero. 2021. “The Legacy of Colonial Medicine in Central Africa,” *American Economic Review*, 111 (4): 1284–1314.
2. (\*) Ashraf, Nava, Natalie Bau, Nathan Nunn, and Alessandra Voena. 2020. “Bride Price and Female Education,” *Journal of Political Economy*, 128 (2): 591–641.
3. Le Rossignol, Etienne, Sara Lowes and Eduardo Montero. 2023. Fallow Lengths and the Structure of Property Rights. Working Paper.
4. Alsan, Marcella and Marianne Wanamaker. 2018. “Tuskegee and the Health of Black Men,” *Quarterly Journal of Economics*, 133 (1), 407–455.
5. Alsan, Marcella, Owen Garrick, and Grant Graziani. 2020. “Does Diversity Matter for Health? Experimental Evidence from Oakland,” *American Economic Review*, 109 (12), 4071–4111.
6. Jayachandran, Seema and Rohini Pande. 2017. “Why are Indian Children So Short? The Role of Birth Order and Son Preference,” *American Economic Review*, 107 (9): 2600–2629.

7. Nunn, Nathan. 2019. “Innis Lecture: Rethinking Economic Development,” *Canadian Journal of Economics*, 52 (4): 1349–1373.
8. Bahrami-Rad, Duman. 2021. “Keeping It in the Family: Female Inheritance, Inmarriage, and the Status of Women,” *Journal of Development Economics*, 153: 102714.
9. Enke, Benjamin, Ricardo Rodriguez-Padilla, and Florian Zimmermann. 2023. “Moral Universalism and the Structure of Ideology,” *Review of Economic Studies*, forthcoming.
10. (†) Enke, Benjamin. 2020. “Moral Values and Voting,” *Journal of Political Economy*, 128 (10): 3679–3729.

## 14 Conflict Policy Solutions? (February 29)

- (\*) Bazzi, Samuel and Matthew Gudgeon. 2021. “The Political Boundaries of Ethnic Divisions,” *American Economic Journal: Applied Economics*, 13 (1): 235-66.
- (\*) (†) Fetzer, Thiemo. 2020. “Can workfare programs moderate conflict? Evidence from India,” *Journal of the European Economic Association*, 18 (6): 3337-3375.
- Mueller, Hannes and Rauh, Christopher. forthcoming. “The Hard Problem of Conflict Prediction,” *Journal of the European Economic Association*.
- Mueller, Hannes and Rauh, Christopher. 2018. “Reading between the lines: Prediction of political violence using newspaper text,” *American Political Science Review*, 112 (2): 358-375.
- Bazzi, Samuel, Robert A. Blair, Christopher Blattman, Oeindrila Dube, Matthew Gudgeon, and Richard Peck. forthcoming. “The promise and pitfalls of conflict prediction: evidence from Colombia and Indonesia.” *Review of Economics and Statistics*.

## 15 Migration, Schools, and Nation Building (March 5, 7, 12)

- (\*) Bazzi, Samuel, Arya Gaduh, Alexander D. Rothenberg, and Maisy Wong. 2019. “Unity in diversity? How intergroup contact can foster nation building,” *American Economic Review*, 109 (11), 3978-4025.
- (\*) (†) Atkin, David, Eve Colson-Sihra, and Moses Shayo. 2021. “How Do We Choose Our Identity? A Revealed Preference Approach Using Food Consumption,” *Journal of Political Economy*, 129 (4): 1193-1251.
- (\*) Bazzi, Samuel, Martin Fiszbein, and Mesay Gebresilasse. 2020. “Frontier culture: The roots and persistence of ‘rugged individualism’ in the United States,” *Econometrica*, 88 (6): 2329-2368.

—→ when discussing this paper, we will go through the publication process from start to finish to give a sense of how the review process works

- (\*) Fouka, Vasiliki, Soumyajit Mazumder, and Marco Tabellini. forthcoming. “From Immigrants to Americans: Race and Assimilation During the Great Migration.” *Review of Economic Studies*.
- (\*) Sequeira, Sandra, Nathan Nunn, and Nancy Qian. 2020. “Immigrants and the Making of America,” *Review of Economic Studies*, 87 (1): 382-419.
- (\*) Abramitzky, Ran, Leah Boustan, and Katherine Eriksson. 2021. “Do immigrants assimilate more slowly today than in the past?” *American Economic Review: Insights*, 2 (1): 125-41.
- (†) Fouka, Vasiliki. 2020. “Backlash: The unintended effects of language prohibition in US schools after World War I.” *Review of Economic Studies*, 87 (1): 204-239.
- (†) Blanc, Guillaume and Masahiro Kubo. 2023. “French.” Working Paper.
- Bazzi, Samuel, Masyhur Hilmy, and Benjamin Marx. 2023. “Religion, Education, and the State,” *NBER Working Paper*.
- Calderon, Alvaro, Vasiliki Fouka, and Marco Tabellini. 2021. “Racial Diversity and Racial Policy Preferences: The Great Migration and Civil Rights.” *Working Paper*.
- Cantoni, Davide, Yuyu Chen, David Y. Yang, Noam Yuchtman, and Y. Jane Zhang. 2017. “Curriculum and Ideology,” *Journal of Political Economy*, 125 (21): 338-392.
- Bandiera, Oriana, Myra Mohnen, Imran Rasul, and Martina Viarengo. 2019. “Nation-building through compulsory schooling during the age of mass migration,” *The Economic Journal*, 129 (617): 62-109.
- Alesina, Alberto, Paola Giuliano, and Bryony Reich. 2021. “Nation-building and education,” *The Economic Journal*, 131 (638): 2273-2303.
- Alesina, Alberto, Bryony Reich, and Alessandro Riboni. 2020. “Nation-building, nationalism, and wars,” *Journal of Economic Growth*, 25 (4): 381-430.
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- Alesina, Alberto and Marco Tabellini. forthcoming. “The Political Effects of Immigration: Culture or Economics?” *Journal of Economic Literature*.
- Atkin, David. 2016. “The caloric costs of culture: evidence from Indian migrants,” *American Economic Review*, 106 (4): 1144–81.



## 16 Writing Workshop (March 14)

Papers TBD.