

SYLLABUS

Tutor:

Anastasia Litina

Homepage: <http://natlitina.webs.com>

Lecturer

Department of Economics

University of Ioannina

Greece

Extramural Research Fellow

University of Luxembourg

Faculty of Law, Economics and Finance

Luxembourg

Email: alitina.uoi@gmail.com

Course Description:

The aim of the course is three-fold:

First, it aims to expose students to a novel field of economics, i.e., that of cultural economics. We will identify several factors beyond the standard economic factors that cast a long-shadow on current economic outcomes. Topics include the role of geography, religion, genetic diversity, interpersonal trust, inequality, family ties, institutions and several other topics.

The second objective of the course is to familiarize students with the process of “reading” and comprehending a research paper. We will learn how a paper is structured, how we isolate the main research question, how to interpret the findings of the research paper and how to start thinking about the mechanism operating behind the results of a paper.

The third objective is to expose the recent wealth of historical and cultural data that are nowadays abundant and that allow for the study of diverse topics. We will go through a list of micro (individual) level data and macro (aggregate) level data. A list of sources will be illustrated and we will see how we can work with online modules to obtain in a simple and quick way data that can support any presentation or brief policy report. This data can be used for any purpose beyond research papers to highlight and uncover the impact of culture on modern economies and entrepreneurship.

We will be exposed to several layers of analysis, i.e., we will study the impact of culture on individuals, firms and even countries.

Structure of the Course:

Day 1:

-An introduction to the literature of cultural economics

* Review Paper: Spolaore and Wacziarg 2013, How deep are the roots of economic development? *Journal of Economic Literature*

* Review Paper: Nunn 2009, The Importance of History for Economic Development. *Annual Review of Economics*

* Review Paper: Nunn 2014, Historical Development *Handbook of Economic Growth*
An introduction to reading a research paper (Structure of a research paper)

-An introduction to research papers in the field of economics

* REPEC

* Google Scholar

* Econlit

Day 2:

-Geography and Comparative Development

* The Origins of Ethnolinguistic Diversity. *The American Economic Review*

* Galor Oded and Ozak Omer, 2016. "The Agricultural Origins of Time Preference", *American Economic Review*, 106 (10): 3064-3103.

Day 3:

-Genetic Diversity and Comparative Development

* Review Paper: Quamrul Ashraf & Oded Galor, 2019. "The Macrogenoeconomics of Comparative Development. *Journal of Economic Literature*, 56 (4): 1119-1155.

* Ashraf and Galor 2013, The Out of Africa hypothesis, Human Genetic Diversity, and Comparative Economic Development. *American Economic Review*

* Delis et al, 2016, The Effect of Board Directors from Countries with Different Genetic Diversity Levels on Corporate Performance, *Management Science*, 63, p. 231-249.

Day 4:

-Dimensions of Culture

Gender:

* Alesina, Giuliano and Nunn 2013, On the Origins of Gender Roles: Women and the Plough. *Quarterly Journal of Economics*

* Naci Mocan and Han Yu "Can Superstition Create a Self-Fulfilling Prophecy? School Outcomes of Dragon Children of China," (NBER Working Paper No: 23709).

Day 5:

-Presentation of Data Sources-Online Use of Data--Discussion about Measurement Issues

- WVS (World Values Survey)
- ESS (European Social Survey)
- WBI (World Bank Indicators)
- WGI (World Governance Indicators)

* Voigt, Stefan. "How (Not) to Measure Institutions. " *Journal of Institutional Economics* 9 (2013): 1-26.

Extensive Reading

1. Introductory

Review Paper: Spolaore and Wacziarg 2013, How deep are the roots of economic development? *Journal of Economic Literature*

Review Paper: Nunn 2009, The Importance of History for Economic Development. *Annual Review of Economics*

Review Paper: Nunn 2014, Historical Development *Handbook of Economic Growth*

2. Geography

Review Paper: Dell, Jones and Olken 2014, What do we learn from the weather? The new climate-economy literature. *Journal of Economic Literature*

Feyrer Sacerdote, 2009, Colonialism and Modern Income: Islands as Natural Experiments. *The Review of Economics and Statistics*

Bai, Ying, Kung, James Kai-sing, 2011a. Climate shocks and sino-nomadic conflict. *Review of Economics and Statistics* 93 (3), 970–981.

Chaney 2013, Revolt on the Nile: Economic Shocks, Religion and Political Power. *Econometrica*

Alsan 2014, The Effect of the TseTse Fly on African Development. *American Economic Review*

Galor Oded and Ozak Omer, 2016. "The Agricultural Origins of Time Preference", *American Economic Review*, 106 (10): 3064-3103.

Galor, Oded & Savitskiy, Viacheslav, 2018. "[Climatic Roots of Loss Aversion](#)," *IZA Discussion Papers* 11816, Institute for the Study of Labor (IZA).

3. Institutions

Review Paper: Ogilvie and Carus 2014. Institutions and Economic Growth in Historical Perspective *Handbook of Economic Growth*

Blume, Lorenz, Müller, J., & Voigt, S.. "The Economic Effects of Direct Democracy – A First Global Assessment." *Public Choice*, 140, (2009): 431–461.

Voigt, Stefan. "How (Not) to Measure Institutions. " *Journal of Institutional Economics* 9 (2013): 1-26.

Vidal-Robert, Jordi: Long-run effects of the Spanish Inquisition, CAGE Online Working Paper Series, Competitive Advantage in the Global Economy (CAGE) 192 2014

Depetris-Chauvin, Emilio, 2015. "State History and Contemporary Conflict: Evidence from Sub-Saharan Africa". *Working Paper*.

Acemoglu, Daron, Hassan, Tarek and Tahoun Ahmed, 2017. The Power of the Street: Evidence from Egypt's Arab Spring. *Review of Financial Studies*, 31(1), pp. 1-42.

Acemoglu, Daron, De Feo, Giuseppe and De Luca, Giacomo, 2018. Weak States: Causes and Consequences of the Sicilian Mafia. *Review of Economic Studies forthcoming*.

Acemoglu, Daron, Naidu, Suresh, Restrepo, Pascual and Robinson, A., James, 2018. Democracy Does Cause Growth *Journal of Political Economy*, 127(1), pp. 47-100

Valencia Caicedo, F (2018) "The Mission: Human Capital Transmission, Economic Persistence and Culture in South America", *The Quarterly Journal of Economics*, forthcoming.

Depetris-Chauvin, Emilio, Durante, Ruben, and Campante, Filipe, 2018. "Building Nations Through Shared Experiences: Evidence from African Football". *NBER Working Paper No 24666*.

4. Culture

Review Paper: Alesina and Giuliano 2015, Culture and Institutions" *Journal of Economic Literature*.

Review Paper: Guiso Sapienza and Zingales 2006, Does culture affect economic outcomes? *Journal of Economic Perspectives*

Review Paper: Nunn 2012, Culture and the Historical Process. *Economic History of Developing Regions*

Review Paper: Iyer 2015 The New Economics of Religion *Journal of Economic Literature*

Felbermayr, Gabriel J., and Farid Toubal. 2010. "Cultural Proximity and Trade." *European Economic Review* 54 (2): 279–93.

Miguel and Fisman 2007 Corruption, norms and legal enforcement: evidence from diplomatic parking tickets *Journal of Political Economy*

Voigtländer, Nico, and Hans-Joachim Voth. 2012. "Persecution Perpetuated: The Medieval Origins of Anti-Semitic Violence in Nazi Germany." *Quarterly Journal of Economics* 127 (3): 1339–92.

Ochsner Christian and Roesel Felix, 2016. Migrating Extremists. *CESifo Working Paper No 6586*

Campante, Filipe and Yanagizawa-Drott, David, 2016. "The Intergenerational Transmission of War". *Working Paper*.

Gershman, Boris , 2016. "Witchcraft Beliefs and the Erosion of Social Capital: Evidence from Sub-Saharan Africa and Beyond", *Journal of Development Economics* 120.

Ochsner Christian and Roesel Felix, 2017. Activated History – The Case of the Turkish Sieges of Vienna. *CESifo Working Paper No 5799*.

Ochsner Christian, 2017. Dismantled once, diverged forever? A quasi-natural experiment of Red Army misdeeds in post-WWII Europe. *CESifo Working Paper No 240*.

Alesina Alberto, Murard, Elie and Rapoport, Hillel, 2018. Immigration and Attitudes toward Redistribution in Europe. *Working Paper*.

Costa-Font, Joan, Giuliano, Paola and Ozcan, Berkay, 2018. The Cultural Origin of Saving Behaviour. *Plos One forthcoming*.

Mihalopoulos, Stylianos and Meng Xue Melanie, 2019. Folklore. *Working Paper*

Fouka, Vasiliki, 2019. Reprisals Remembered: German-Greek Conflict and Car Sales during the Euro Crisis. *Working Paper*.

Dinas, Elias, Fouka Vasiliki and Schaeffer Alain, 2019. Family History and Attitudes Toward Outgroups: Evidence from the European Refugee Crisis. *Working Paper*.

5. Genetics

Review Paper: Quamrul Ashraf & Oded Galor, 2019. "The Macrogenoeconomics of Comparative Development. *Journal of Economic Literature*, 56 (4): 1119-1155.

Spolaore, Enrico, and Romain Wacziarg. 2012b. "War and Relatedness." Tufts University and UCLA Working Paper.

Charney, Evan, and William English. 2012. "Candidate Genes and Political Behavior." *American Political Science Review* 106 (1): 1-34.

Cook, C. Justin, 2013a. The Long Run Health Effects of the Neolithic Revolution: The Natural Selection of Infectious Disease Resistance Yale University, Mimeo.

Cook 2015, The Natural Selection of Infectious Disease Resistance and Its Effect on Contemporary Health. *Review of Economics and Statistics*

Delis et al, 2016, The Effect of Board Directors from Countries with Different Genetic Diversity Levels on Corporate Performance

Arbatli Eren, Ashraf Quamrul, Galor Oded, and Marc Klemp, 2019. "Diversity and Conflict," *Econometrica forthcoming*.

6. Technical Progress

Comin, Diego, William Easterly, and Erick Gong. 2010. "Was the Wealth of Nations Determined in 1000 BC?" *American Economic Journal: Macroeconomics* 2 (3): 65–97.

7. Religion

Murat Iyigun, 2008. "Luther and Suleyman", *The Quarterly Journal of Economics* 123.

Benito Arrunada, 2010. "Protestants and Catholics: Similar Work Ethic, Different Social Ethic", *Economic Journal* 120.

Cantoni, Davide, 2012. Adopting a new religion: the case of Protestantism in 16th century Germany. *Economic Journal* 122 (560), 502–531.

Nico Voigtländer and Hans-Joachim Voth, 2012. "Persecution Perpetuated: The Medieval Origins of Anti-Semitic violence in Nazi Germany", *Quarterly Journal of Economics* 127.

Rubin, Jared, 2014. "Printing and Protestants: Reforming the Economics of the Reformation", *Review of Economics and Statistics* 96, Nr. 2.

Pascali, Luigi: Banks and Development: Jewish Communities in the Italian Renaissance and Current Economic Performance, *Review of Economics and Statistics* 98, Nr. 1 2016, 140–158.

8. Language

Chen, Keith, 2013. The Effect of Language on Economic Behavior: Evidence from Savings Rates, Health Behaviors, and Retirement Assets. *American Economic Review* (103), 690-731.

Galor, Oded & Özak, Ömer & Sarid, Assaf, 2018. "Geographical Roots of the Coevolution of Cultural and Linguistic Traits," IZA Discussion Papers 11982, Institute for the Study of Labor (IZA).

Galor, Oded & Özak, Ömer & Sarid, Assaf, 2018. "Geographical Origins of Language Structures". *Working Paper*.

9. Inequality

Alesina, Alberto, Michalopoulos Stelios and Papaioannou, Elias, 2014. Ethnic Inequality. *Journal of Political Economy*, 2016, 124 (2): 428-488.

10. Assimilation-Integration

Fouka Vasiliki, 2019. How do immigrants respond to discrimination? The case of Germans in the US during World War I. *American Political Science Review*, forthcoming.

Fouka Vasiliki, 2019. Backlash: The Unintended Effects of Language Prohibition in US Schools after World War I. *Working Paper*.

Fouka Vasiliki, Mazumder Soymayajit and Tabellini, Marco, 2019. From Immigrants to Americans: Race and Assimilation during the Great Migration. *Working Paper*.

Abdelgadir, Aala and Fouka, Vasiliki, 2019. Political Secularism and Muslim Integration in the West: Assessing the Effects of the French Headscarf Ban. *Working Paper*.