COURSE INFORMATION
This is a half-semester spring course (Spring 1) that provides analytical frameworks to aid the design and implementation of development policy. The course will start by examining different diagnostic approaches for policy design and then provide a deep-dive analysis into diagnostics and policy design in a few specific areas such as education, finance, health, and governance.

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Office Hours
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Please take the time to register (using your OFFICIAL Harvard email address) for our participation tracking program, Teachly.
COURSE REQUIREMENTS AND GRADING

The course grade will be based on the following components, with weights in parentheses:

- Class Participation (20%)
- Four Problem Sets (40%)
- Final paper (40%)

At four regularly spaced intervals during the module students will submit problem sets based on identified readings and lecture content. The final paper will be approximately four to five pages in length. Details on the format and content will provided during the semester. The problem sets and final paper will provide students with complementary skills for evaluating development issues and designing policy responses.

Students are required to attend two lectures and one review section each week. These sections will review and provide materials that complement lectures and provide theory and econometric guidance for a better understanding of course material.

Students will be expected to have read the required readings before class. Lecture and class discussion will draw heavily on the key concepts and findings reported in these required readings. Students should come to class prepared.

READING LIST INFORMATION

The reading list below indicates the URLs for those papers that can be downloaded from the internet. The majority of the papers and articles for this course are available online and are easily accessible through these links. If the links become broken then you can find the articles by searching Harvard library’s E-Journals using the following link: http://sfx.hul.harvard.edu/sfx_local/az/, which can also be reached by the following steps: http://www.harvard.edu/ → “Resources & Offices” → “Library and Academic Resources” → “Find E-Journals”. Type in the journal name and select a database that has issues for the year of the article. Each database is set up differently, but the citation will have all the information necessary to obtain the article.

All further reading that is not available online will be placed on reserve in the HKS library and can be found in the “Course Reserves” file on Canvas. Please check the class page frequently for announcements and other information.

ELIGIBILITY

The class is a core requirement for students in the MPA/ID program. Students not in the MPA/ID program will be admitted only with the permission of the instructor.

ACADEMIC INTEGRITY

Students are encouraged to work together and discuss class material and assignments. What is important is the eventual understanding of material achieved, and less about how that is achieved. Any exam, paper, or assignment you submit is presumed to be your own original work, so if you do – as you will – use words or ideas written by other people, please make sure to cite these appropriately, and to indicate other students with whom you have collaborated. More information about Harvard’s policies on academic integrity may be found in the Student Handbook.
# Important Dates and Course Structure

*Note: There will be two classes on Thursday 15th February given by Dr. Jishnu Das (Georgetown)*

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Day</th>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Topic</th>
<th>Professor</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>Mon</td>
<td>22-Jan Course overview &amp; Education I: Setting up the problem</td>
<td>Khwaja</td>
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<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>Wed</td>
<td>24-Jan Education II: Applications</td>
<td>Khwaja</td>
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<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>Fri</td>
<td>26-Jan No Review</td>
<td>Khwaja</td>
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<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>Mon</td>
<td>29-Jan Education III: Applications</td>
<td>Khwaja</td>
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<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td>Wed</td>
<td>31-Jan Education IV: Applications</td>
<td>Khwaja</td>
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<tr>
<td>R1</td>
<td>Fri</td>
<td>2-Feb Review Session (Pset 1: Due 5pm Friday Feb 9th)</td>
<td>Wakhidah</td>
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<tr>
<td>6</td>
<td>Mon</td>
<td>5-Feb Finance I</td>
<td>Khwaja</td>
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<tr>
<td>7</td>
<td>Wed</td>
<td>7-Feb Finance II</td>
<td>Khwaja</td>
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<tr>
<td>R2</td>
<td>Fri</td>
<td>9-Feb Review Session (Pset 2: Due 5pm Friday Feb 16th)</td>
<td>Wakhidah</td>
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<tr>
<td>8</td>
<td>Mon</td>
<td>12-Feb No Class (due to additional classes on Thursday)</td>
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<tr>
<td>7</td>
<td>Wed</td>
<td>14-Feb Health I</td>
<td>Das</td>
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<tr>
<td>8</td>
<td>Thurs</td>
<td>15-Feb Health II at 3.00-4.15 pm (Room W436)</td>
<td>Das</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9</td>
<td>Thurs</td>
<td>15-Feb Health III at 4.30-5.45 pm (Room R304)</td>
<td>Das</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>R3</td>
<td>Fri</td>
<td>16-Feb Review Session (pset 3: Due 5pm Friday Feb 23rd)</td>
<td>Wakhidah</td>
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<tr>
<td>10</td>
<td>Wed</td>
<td>21-Feb HOLIDAY (President's Day)</td>
<td>Khwaja</td>
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<tr>
<td>11</td>
<td>Mon</td>
<td>26-Feb Political Economy I: Accountability</td>
<td>Khwaja</td>
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<tr>
<td>R4</td>
<td>Fri</td>
<td>23-Feb Review Session (pset 4: Due 5pm Friday Mar 1st)</td>
<td>Wakhidah</td>
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<tr>
<td>12</td>
<td>Wed</td>
<td>28-Feb SPDI Framework: Revisiting Education &amp; Wrap-Up</td>
<td>Khwaja</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>R5</td>
<td>Fri</td>
<td>1-Mar Review Session (Final paper: Due March 22nd 5pm)</td>
<td>Wakhidah</td>
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<tr>
<td>13</td>
<td>Mon</td>
<td>4-Mar No Class (Midterm week)</td>
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<tr>
<td>14</td>
<td>Wed</td>
<td>6-Mar No Class (Midterm week)</td>
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<tr>
<td>15</td>
<td>Fri</td>
<td>8-Mar No Class (Midterm week)</td>
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<tr>
<td>16</td>
<td>Fri</td>
<td>22-Mar Final paper due 5pm</td>
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</table>
Required readings are marked with a star (*), recommended readings are not starred. Most readings are available online (by clicking on the title). Readings not available online can be found on reserve at the HKS library. See above description for more detailed instructions.

A. Education Policy (AK: Jan 22, 24, 29, 31)

- Setting up the problem

*HKS Case. Primary Education in Pakistan: Show Me the Evidence

*Andrabi, Tahir, Jishnu Das, Asim Khwaja, Tara Vishwanath, Tristan Zajonc & the LEAPS Team. 2007. Learning and Educational Achievements in Punjab Schools (LEAPS): Insights to Inform the Policy Debate, Executive Summary

- Applications


B. Finance (AK: Feb 5, 7)

- Finance I


**Finance II**


**C. Health (Jishnu Das: Feb 14, 15)**

- **Health I: Conditional money meets Unconditional Love**


- **Health II: The naïve patient and the altruistic doctor**


Sohini Chattopahdyay. I can’t take it anymore. Sights and awful sounds from the labour room of an Indian public hospital.


- Health III: Policy in Health Markets


Further readings not covered in the lecture:

Health Insurance:


Information:

Das, Jishnu, Abhijit Chowdhury, Reshmaan Hussam, and Abhijit V. Banerjee. "The impact of training informal health care providers in India: A randomized controlled trial." *Science* 354, no. 6308 (2016): aaf7384. (This is the original experiment)


Reallocation:


Innovation:


*** No Class Feb 19

**D. Political Economy (AK: Feb 21, 26)**

- **Political Economy I: Political Accountability**


- **Political Economy II: Bureaucrat Performance**


E. SPDI Framework: Revisiting Education & Wrap-Up (AK : Feb 28)

*** No Class Mar 4, 6