

Looking for a tutorial for the spring?

A few spaces in tutorials on developing country issues – designed for CDE students – have become available for the spring semester. Undergraduates uniformly report that they greatly enjoy taking classes at the CDE. These courses count towards the 300-level requirement for Economics majors.

Econ 532T. Inclusive Growth: The Role of Social Safety Nets. Designing and implementing effective national strategies to promote inclusive economic growth can require difficult policy reforms, sometimes with adverse short-term impacts for vulnerable groups within society. Social safety nets provide a pro-poor policy instrument that can balance trade and labor market reform, fiscal adjustments (such as reduced general subsidies) and other economic policies aimed at enabling better market performance. In addition, social safety nets help the poor to cope with shocks to their livelihoods, promoting resilience, human capital development and sometimes high-return risk-taking. This tutorial will offer students the opportunity to explore the role of social safety nets in promoting inclusive economic growth, drawing on case studies from Africa, Asia, Latin America and Eastern Europe. The first part of the tutorial will define social safety nets within the broader context of social protection, examining the diversity of instruments and their linkages to economic growth. The second part will delve more deeply into the design and implementation of effective interventions, assessing program choice, affordability, targeting, incentives and other issues. The third part will analyze the role of social safety nets in supporting economic growth strategies, drawing on international lessons of experience. Instructor: Michael Samson

Econ 534T. Long-Term Fiscal Challenges. This tutorial will address the conceptual and theoretical issues that confront policy makers when they face policy challenges that are likely to emerge only over the coming years and that have important budgetary implications. It will explore the strategies and approaches that a number of countries have attempted to develop to bring the long-term into their current policy and budgetary planning processes. Students will be exposed to different long-term challenges that have important budgetary implications, including aging populations, health care, climate change, energy and infrastructure, and water. The course will consider the specific policy challenges that arise for each and the ways in which different industrial and emerging market countries are addressing them. Instructor: Prof. Peter Heller (Visiting Professor) has taught at Hitotsubashi University, the School of Advanced International Studies at Johns Hopkins, the University of Auvergne, University of Maastricht, University of Munich, and the University of Michigan, in addition to a long career in the Fiscal Affairs Dept. of the IMF)

If you wish to be considered please send an email to Prof. Samson (Michael.Samson@williams.edu) for Econ 532 and to Prof. Caprio (Jerry.caprio@williams.edu) (who will forward these on to Prof Heller) for Econ 534. Your email should state:

[1] Any tutorials you have already taken, and indicate if they were taken on campus or at the Williams-Oxford program.

[2] Are you registered for another tutorial in the Spring, 2013?

[3] If you are a SENIOR Economics major: Do you plan to use the tutorial to complete the requirement to take three electives between Econ 350 and 394?

[4] If you are enrolled in this tutorial, will you definitely take it? Or are you uncertain and

weighing this course against other possibilities?

[5] Do you understand that tutorial sessions are VERY hard to reschedule, and that therefore you will need to make every effort to attend all sessions.