

# Reading List for Econ 300 - Institutions and Development

This bibliography contains readings relevant for Econ 300. The bibliography is divided into two main sections, one for books and one for articles and excerpts of larger works. The section for articles is divided into subsections corresponding to the outline of topics given in the syllabus. Readings that are required are designated with a  $\diamond$ . Readings designated with a  $\star$  are those that relate to our various in-class games and experiments. Often we simply draw an experimental setup or a set of empirical values from these papers rather than covering them in detail. Note that this is a dynamic document. It may be updated throughout the semester adding some readings and removing others as I adapt to students' experiences with the course material. You will receive updates in lecture as to which readings are required for the upcoming lectures.

## 1 Recommended books for general reading

- North, D. (1990). *Institutions, Institutional Change and Economic Performance*. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press
- Robinson, J., & Acemoglu, R. (2012). *Why Nations Fail*. New York: Crown Publishing Group
- North, D. C., Wallis, J. J., Weingast, B. R., et al. (2009). *Violence and Social Orders: A Conceptual Framework for Interpreting Recorded Human History*. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press
- Cameron, R. E. (1993). *A Concise Economic History of the World: from Paleolithic Times to the Present*. Oxford University Press

## 2 Articles and book excerpts for class

### 2.1 A Motivating Case Study: Externalities, Property Rights and Efficiency

- Harper, R. F. (1999). *The Code of Hammurabi, King of Babylon: About 2250 BC: Autographed Text, Transliteration, Translation, Glossary Index of Subjects, Lists of Proper Names, Signs, Numueral....* The Lawbook Exchange, Ltd
- Coase, R. (2013). The Problem of Social Cost. *Journal of Law & Economics*, 56(4), 837–877

- ◇ Barro, J. (2014). Don't Want Me to Recline my Airline Seat? You Can Pay Me. *New York Times*
- ◇ Darlin, D. (2014). In Defense of the Knee Defender. *New York Times*

## 2.2 What are Institutions?

- ◇ North, D. C. (1991). Institutions. *Journal of Economic Perspectives*, 5(1), 97–112
- ◇ North, D. (1993). Economic Performance Through Time. Nobel Prize Lecture by Douglass North.  
 URL <https://www.nobelprize.org/prizes/economics/1993/north/lecture/>
- Williamson, O. E. (2000). The New Institutional Economics: Taking stock, Looking Ahead. *Journal of Economic Literature*, 38(3), 595–613

## 2.3 The Origins of Institutions

- Greif, A., Milgrom, P., & Weingast, B. R. (1994). Coordination, Commitment, and Enforcement: The Case of the Merchant Guild. *Journal of Political Economy*, 102(4), 745–776
- ★ Darai, D., & Grätz, S. (2010). Golden Balls: A Prisoner's Dilemma Experiment. Tech. rep., Working paper
- Greif, A. (2005). Commitment, Coercion, and Markets: The Nature and Dynamics of Institutions Supporting Exchange. In *Handbook of New Institutional Economics*, (pp. 727–786). Springer
- Greif, A. (2002). Economic History and Game Theory. *Handbook of Game Theory with Economic Applications*, 3, 1989–2024
- Ostrom, E. (2000). Collective Action and the Evolution of Social Norms. *Journal of Economic Perspectives*, 14(3), 137–158
- Besley, T., & Ghatak, M. (2010). Property Rights and Economic Development. In *Handbook of Development Economics*, vol. 5, (pp. 4525–4595). Elsevier
- Malthus, T. (1798). *An Essay on the Principle of Population, as it Affects the Future of Society with Remarks on the Speculations of Mr. Godwin, M. Condorcet, and Other Writers*. London: Printed for J. Johnson in St. Paul's Church-Yard

- ★ Allegranzi, B., Memish, Z. A., Donaldson, L., Pittet, D., Safety, W. H. O. G. P., on Religious, C. T. F., et al. (2009). Religion and Culture: Potential Undercurrents Influencing Hand Hygiene Promotion in Health Care. *American Journal of Infection Control*, 37(1), 28–34
- ★ Pew Research Center (2014). Religious Landscape Study. <https://www.pewforum.org/religious-landscape-study/>
- ◇ North, D. C., & Thomas, R. P. (1970). An Economic Theory of the Growth of the Western World. *Economic History Review*, 23(1), 1–17
- Moser, P. (2005). How do Patent Laws Influence Innovation? Evidence from Nineteenth-Century World's Fairs. *American Economic Review*, 95(4), 1214–1236

## 2.4 Evidence on Institutions and Economic Development

- Kaufmann, D., Kraay, A., & Mastruzzi, M. (2005). *Governance Matters IV: Governance Indicators for 1996-2004*. The World Bank
- Bai, J., Jayachandran, S., Malesky, E., & Olken, B. (2013). Growing Out of Corruption. <https://voxeu.org/article/growing-out-corruption>. Accessed: 2010-09-30
- Easterly, W. (2003). Can Foreign Aid Buy Growth? *Journal of Economic Perspectives*, 17(3), 23–48
- Rosenzweig, M. R., & Wolpin, K. I. (2000). Natural “natural experiments” in economics. *Journal of Economic Literature*, 38(4), 827–874
- Sovey, A. J., & Green, D. P. (2011). Instrumental Variables Estimation in Political Science: A Readers Guide. *American Journal of Political Science*, 55(1), 188–200
- Acemoglu, D., Johnson, S., & Robinson, J. A. (2005). Institutions as a Fundamental Cause of Long-run Growth. *Handbook of Economic Growth*, 1, 385–472
- ◇ Acemoglu, D., Johnson, S., & Robinson, J. A. (2001). The Colonial Origins of Comparative Development: An Empirical Investigation. *American Economic Review*, 91(5), 1369–1401
- Acemoglu, D., Johnson, S., & Robinson, J. A. (2002). Reversal of Fortune: Geography and Institutions in the Making of the Modern World Income Distribution. *Quarterly Journal of Economics*, 117(4), 1231–1294
- Dittmar, J. E., & Meisenzahl, R. R. (2017). Public Goods Institutions, Human Capital, and Growth: Evidence from German History. *Review of Economic Studies*

## 2.5 The Persistent Impacts of Institutions

- Voigtländer, N., & Voth, H.-J. (2012). Persecution Perpetuated: The Medieval Origins of Anti-Semitic Violence in Nazi Germany. *Quarterly Journal of Economics*, 127(3), 1339–1392
- Guiso, L., Sapienza, P., & Zingales, L. (2016). Long-term Persistence. *Journal of the European Economic Association*, 14(6), 1401–1436
- Alesina, A., & Ferrara, E. L. (2005). Ethnic Diversity and Economic Performance. *Journal of Economic Literature*, 43(3), 762–800
- ◇ Nunn, N. (2008). The Long-Term Effects of Africa’s Slave Trades. *Quarterly Journal of Economics*, 123(1), 139–176
- Nunn, N., & Wantchekon, L. (2011). The Slave Trade and the Origins of Mistrust in Africa. *American Economic Review*, 101(7), 3221–52
- Becker, S. O., Boeckh, K., Hainz, C., & Woessmann, L. (2015). The Empire is Dead, Long Live the Empire! Long-run Persistence of Trust and Corruption in the Bureaucracy. *Economic Journal*, 126(590), 40–74
- Schindler, D., & Westcott, M. (2017). Shocking Racial Attitudes: The Cultural Legacy of Black GIs in Europe. *CESifo Working Papers*
- Alsan, M., & Wanamaker, M. (2017). Tuskegee and the Health of Black Men. *Quarterly Journal of Economics*, 133(1), 407–455

## 2.6 Customs, Traditions and Social Norms

- Jha, S. (2013). Trade, Institutions, and Ethnic Tolerance: Evidence from South Asia. *American Political Science Review*, 107(4), 806–832
- Iannaccone, L. R. (1998). Introduction to the Economics of Religion. *Journal of Economic Literature*, 36(3), 1465–1495
- ◇ Iyer, S. (2016). The New Economics of Religion. *Journal of Economic Literature*, 54(2), 395–441
- ★ Noussair, C. N., Trautmann, S. T., Van de Kuilen, G., & Vellekoop, N. (2013). Risk Aversion and Religion. *Journal of Risk and Uncertainty*, 47(2), 165–183

- Guiso, L., Sapienza, P., & Zingales, L. (2003). People's Opium? Religion and Economic Attitudes. *Journal of Monetary Economics*, 50(1), 225–282
- Weber, M. (2013). *The Protestant Ethic and the Spirit of Capitalism*. Routledge
- Basten, C., & Betz, F. (2013). Beyond Work Ethic: Religion, Individual, and Political Preferences. *American Economic Journal: Economic Policy*, 5(3), 67–91
- Rubin, J. (2014). Printing and Protestants: An Empirical Test of the Role of Printing in the Reformation. *Review of Economics and Statistics*, 96(2), 270–286
- Dittmar, J. E. (2011). Information Technology and Economic Change: The Impact of the Printing Press. *Quarterly Journal of Economics*, 126(3), 1133–1172
- Rubin, J. (2011). Institutions, the Rise of Commerce and the Persistence of Laws: Interest Restrictions in Islam and Christianity. *Economic Journal*, 121(557), 1310–1339
- Kuran, T. (1995). Islamic Economics and the Islamic Subeconomy. *Journal of Economic Perspectives*, 9(4), 155–173
- ♦ Kuran, T. (2004). Why the Middle East is Economically Underdeveloped: Historical Mechanisms of Institutional Stagnation. *Journal of Economic Perspectives*, 18(3), 71–90
- Kuran, T. (2003). The Islamic Commercial Crisis: Institutional Roots of Economic Underdevelopment in the Middle East. *Journal of Economic History*, 63(2), 414–446

## 2.7 The Economics of Ceremony

*This section of the reading list will be constructed by the students as they work on their group projects in preparation for the COLL 300 academic festival.*

## References

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- Ostrom, E. (2000). Collective Action and the Evolution of Social Norms. *Journal of Economic Perspectives*, 14(3), 137–158.



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- Pew Research Center (2014). Religious Landscape Study. <https://www.pewforum.org/religious-landscape-study/>.
- Robinson, J., & Acemoglu, R. (2012). *Why Nations Fail*. New York: Crown Publishing Group.
- Rosenzweig, M. R., & Wolpin, K. I. (2000). Natural “natural experiments” in economics. *Journal of Economic Literature*, 38(4), 827–874.
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