14.773 Political Economy of Institutions and Development

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The reading list is long, mostly to give you references to build on, if you’re interested. The reading package will only contain the double starred (**) articles. Single starred (*) articles will be discussed in the lecture, but they are somewhat less important, so they are not in the reading package. The non-starred articles are for future reference. None of the book references are in the package.

1 Issues and Evidence

1.1 Institutions and Development: General Issues—3 lectures, DA (Feb. 4 and 6, 11)

1.1.1 What Are Institutions? Institutions, Policies, Political Power and Commitment


1.1.2 Institutions: Efficiency, Inefficiency and Conflict


1.1.3 Institutions, Culture and Cooperation


1.1.4 Conflict between Politicians and the Society


1.2 Institutions and Economic Performance. Some macro evidence—2 lectures, DA and AB (Feb. 13 and 20)


2 Sources of Institutional Failures

2.1 Bureaucracy and Corruption: 4 lectures, AB (Feb. 25 and 27), ED (March 4 and 6)


http://www.gsb.columbia.edu/faculty/rfisman/Conn2.pdf


### 2.2 Lobbying 1 lecture, DA (March 11)


### 2.3 Voting and Policy Determination: 2 lectures DA (March 13 and 18)

#### 2.3.1 Basic voting models


2.3.2 Probabilistic voting models


2.3.3 Dynamic voting


2.4 Do voters know what they want? 1 lecture AB (March 20)


2.5 Do politicians represent voters?: 2 lecture ED (April 1 and 3)


2.6 Conflict and Economic Performance: 4 lectures ED (April 8 and 10) and AB (April 15 and April 17)


4. ** Banerjee, Abhijit and Esther Duflo “Inequality and Growth: What Can the Data Say?” mimeo, MIT


3 Modeling Institutions

3.1 Basic empirical patterns—1 lecture, DA (April 24)


3.2 The emergence of democratic institutions—2 lectures, DA (April 29 and May 1)


3.3 Coups and democratic consolidation—1 lecture, DA (May 6)


3.4 Political development—1 lecture, DA (May 8)


3.5 Institutional Origins and Comparative Development—2 lectures, DA (May 13 and May 15)


