Summer 2018 Projects

• 2018 Susan Skeath Projects:

  1. Editing a microeconomic theory textbook (201 level), writing problems, and writing solutions to those problems.
  2. Course preparation for Econ 341 (Industrial Organization)

Requirements: Econ 201.

• 2018 Kartini Shastry projects:

  1. How do people make financial decisions? Prof. Shastry is studying the impact of financial training workshops on the decisions of migrate mineworkers in South African and the impact of similar workshops on the financial decisions of female migrant workers in Singapore.
  2. How do school nutrition programs impact child health? Prof Shastry is studying two school nutrition interventions in India to evaluate the impact of these programs.
  3. Prof. Shasty is also working on a project with Prof. Shurchkov about gender differences in response to feedback for students at community colleges.

• 2018 Joe Joyce projects:

Prof. Joyce’s research deals with financial globalization. His current work looks at the foreign assets and liabilities of nations, and the investment income that these yield in the form of profits, interest and dividends. As capital flows have increased, so has the investment income that they pay out. Prof. Joyce is looking for an assistant to help him finish two papers on investment income flows from emerging and markets and advanced economies.

Requirements: working knowledge of Excel.

• 2018 Baafra Abeberese projects:

Firms under Dictatorship and Democracy: Evidence from Indonesia's Democratic Transition

After the unexpected collapse of President Soeharto’s regime in Indonesia in 1998, the Soeharto-era district mayors were allowed to complete their five-year terms instead of being immediately replaced by democratically-elected mayors. Prof. Abeberese is exploiting the resulting variation in political regimes across districts over time to analyze the behavior of firms in democracies versus autocracies.
The Impact of Trade on Linkages Between the Formal and Informal Sector

This project will analyze the impact of openness to trade on firms in the informal sector in developing economies. The focus will be on the implications of foreign competition for the role of informal firms as suppliers of inputs to formal firms. Prof. Abeberese plans to use data on Indian firms and exploit variation in exposure to trade induced by a trade reform program in India in 1991 and the expansion of Chinese exports in India following China’s accession to the WTO.

• 2018 Dan Fetter project:

Prof. Fetter is looking for a student assistant who will work on projects relating to the expansion of social insurance in the United States. His current and anticipated future projects focus on how social insurance has affected family relationships and the distribution of population and economic activity across space.

• 2018 Pinar Keskin project:

In the past 5 years around 3 million Syrians, fleeing war, have found refuge in Turkey. Using the latest rounds of the Turkish Labour Force Surveys, Prof. Keskin’s work shows that Turkish women experienced a net displacement from the labor market (both in the formal and informal sectors) and declining earning opportunities as a result of refugee influx. She and co-authors are now interested in understanding the potential impacts of this decline on household dynamics and the prevalence of domestic violence in Turkish households.

Requirements: Econ 203

• 2018 Kristin Butcher project:

It is well known that the U.S. population is aging. The Census Bureau predicts that there will be about 19 million Americans aged 85 and up in 2050. Estimates suggest that about 40 percent of 80 year olds are living with some type of disability, and this rises to 80 percent by age 95. Currently, the foreign born are about 18 percent of the workforce overall, but they comprise 22 percent, 26 percent, and 47 percent, respectively, of health service providers (health aides etc.), health diagnosticians (MDs etc.), and home service providers (housekeepers, gardeners etc.). Demand for these services is likely to rise as the population ages. This project will use several different data sources to estimate how many workers in occupations that disproportionately serve the elderly will be needed in the next 30 years, and how many additional foreign-born workers will be needed in the U.S. in the coming years to fill those positions, assuming current trends continue.

Requirements: Econ 203