

Wesley Oliphant

Department of Economics
California State University, Fullerton
Fullerton, CA 92831
woliphant@fullerton.edu

Phone: (949) 502-4184
Cell: (626) 487-1076
Citizenship: United States

EDUCATION

University of California Irvine, Ph.D. in Economics 2011
University of Birmingham (UK), MSc in Economics 2005
University of California Berkeley, B.A. in Economics 1998

FIELDS OF INTEREST

Economic History, Economic Development

RECENT TEACHING EXPERIENCE

PT Lecturer, Cal State University Fullerton
Summer 2013: Intermediate Business Microeconomics
Spring 2013: Economic Development
Intermediate Business Microeconomics
Fall 2012: Economic Development (4 Classes)
Summer 2012: Economic Development
Spring 2012: Economic Development
Intermediate Macroeconomics
Intermediate Business Microeconomics
Fall 2011: Economic Development
Principles of Microeconomics

PT Lecturer, Chapman University
Interterm 2013: Principles of Microeconomics
Spring 2012: Principles of Microeconomics

Instructor, Fall 2009, UCLA Extension
PT Lecturer, 2009, Cal State Polytechnic University Pomona

COURSES PREPARED TO TEACH

Introductory Microeconomics and Macroeconomics
Intermediate Microeconomics and Macroeconomics
Economic Development
International Economics

COURSE INTERESTED IN DEVELOPING

Economy and Economic History of Afghanistan

JOB MARKET PAPER

The Primacy of Geography in Afghanistan: A Look at the Causes of Urbanization across Afghan Provinces

Abstract: To test the conventional wisdom that Afghanistan's lack of development was due to conflict, ethnic diversity and institutions and test the belief among development economists of the primacy of institutions, I examine potential determinants of the urbanization rate and urbanization growth over the past few decades. Specifically, this paper examines new provincial data on urbanization, geography, ethnic diversity, institutions, neighbor country market potential and conflict. I find evidence against the importance of ethnic diversity, institutions or conflict and instead find evidence for geography and neighbor country market potential. The results imply that Afghanistan's urbanization could be improved by increasing its transport infrastructure and thereby improving market access. Theories of the effect of ethnic diversity, institutions and conflict on development should be reconsidered for Afghanistan.

WORKING PAPER

Understanding Afghanistan's Recent Economic Development: A Comparative Analysis with Pakistan

Abstract: Afghanistan's economic problems are often assumed to stem solely from the internal warfare that began in 1978. Is this assumption correct? I consider this question by comparing Afghanistan from 1961 to 2006 with Pakistan (a neighboring country with a similar culture and similarities in institutions) in three statistics: agricultural output growth, agricultural labor productivity growth and agricultural total factor productivity (TFP) growth. I find Afghanistan fell behind Pakistan in all three before 1978 providing evidence that conflict is not the only explanation. This paper is the first to calculate Afghanistan's agricultural labor productivity and agricultural TFP.

PRESENTATIONS

Economic and Business Historical Society Conference, April 2012
All-UC Group in Economic History Graduate Student Workshop, October 2011
Economic and Business Historical Society Conference, April 2011
California Polytechnic State University, Pomona Economics Club, April 2011
UC Institute on Global Conflict and Cooperation Symposium Poster Session, January 2011
UCI Poster Session, November 2010
UCI Theory, History and Development Seminar, October 2010
All-UC Group in Economic History Graduate Student Workshop, October 2010
UCI Poster Session, November 2007

INVITATIONS TO PRESENT

World History and Economics Conference, April 2011
HGSA History and Theory Working Papers Conference & Workshop, June 2010

HONORS AND AWARDS

All-UC Group in Economic History Research Grant, June 2010
UCI Economics Department Fellowship, June 2007
UCI Social Science Merit Fellowship, March 2005

MEMBERSHIPS

American Institute of Afghanistan Studies
American Economic Association

LANGUAGES

Intermediate Proficiency in French and Mandarin Chinese

REFERENCES

Professor David Wong
Department of Economics
California State University, Fullerton
(657) 278-3821
dwong@fullerton.edu

Professor Dan Bogart
Department of Economics
University of California, Irvine
(949) 824-3191
dbogart@uci.edu

Professor Jan Brueckner
Department of Economics
University of California, Irvine
(949) 824-0083
jnbrueck@uci.edu

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