Alberto Alesina  
Economics 2412a  
Political Economics  
Catalog Number: 47596  
Room: Sever Hall 213  
Time: Tuesdays 2-4 p.m.  
http://my.harvard.edu/96000

Assistant: Kristen Lynch (klynch@fas.harvard.edu)

Office hours: Alberto Alesina – Thursdays 1:00PM -3:30 PM in Littauer 210. Please make an appointment for OH with Kristen to avoid long waits. If you cannot make OH, we can schedule appointments at other times.

Requirements:

Four “referee reports” during the semester and a final paper. A referee report is a 2-3 page comment/criticism of one of the papers or books on the reading list. I will assign the papers and/or books. The deadline for the final paper is the first day of the exam period; absolutely no exceptions and no incompletes.

Weights: referee reports: 30 percent (total)  
final paper: 70 percent

We will read these books which you may want to buy; they have been ordered at the Coop:


We will also read selected chapters of other books as indicated in the reading list.

**Lectures**

**Sept 3: Institutions and Growth**


Sept 17: Endogenous Choice of Constitutions


Sept 24, Oct. 1: Redistribution and Inequality (2 lectures)


Oct 8, Oct. 15: Ethnic Conflict (2 lectures)

Sept 3, 2013


October 21: Secessions and the Size of Nations


Oct 29, Nov. 5, Nov 12, Nov 19 (4 lectures) Cultural Economics


**November 26: Politics and Fiscal Policy**


Alesina Alberto and Francesco Giavazzi (2013) Fiscal Policy after the Financial Crisis University of Chicago Press and NBERs


**Dec. 3: The Press**


