



Climate change, food security and sustainable rural development with reference to Mexico

Based on contemporary theories of economic development, current knowledge and recent predictions on the effects of climate change in food production and rural migration, the purpose of the course is to present diagnosis of the characteristics and challenges less developed countries as Mexico face to attain food security and sustainable development of agriculture and the rural sector in a warming world. The role of states and markets to meet these challenges will be discussed throughout the course.

The theoretical background considered in the lectures are: Dual growth models (i.e. the role of agriculture in economic development); migration models such as the New Economics of Labor Migration); rural household models; multi-sectoral (multiplier and general equilibrium) models; international trade: and institutional and environmental economics.

The main topics covered during the course are: Poverty and inequality; food security vs food self-sufficiency and trade and policy implications; transaction costs and the functioning of rural households, including their role on natural resources and biodiversity preservation; domestic and international rural out-migration; climate change, food production, adaptation and the role of the rural sector in greenhouse gas emissions; institutions, democracy and corruption; and international accords on climate change and evaluations of their attainment.

The course will be based on selected readings and on class notes and paper presentations provided by the professor in charge.