

# **Global Poverty & Impact Evaluation**

**Learning What Works for the  
World's Poor**

# Agenda

Introductions

Motivation

Course Content

Prerequisites

STATA

Administrative Issues

Questions / Handout

# Who we are:

CEGA

Garret Christensen

Erick Gong

Prof Miguel

Motivation: Are aid programs a  
good idea?

Should we provide textbooks to students?

# Motivation: Are aid programs a good idea?

Should we provide textbooks to students?

Is it a good idea to provide free deworming medication?

# Motivation: Are aid programs a good idea?

Should we provide textbooks to students?

Is it a good idea to provide free deworming medication?

Does microcredit lead people out of poverty?

# Motivation: Are aid programs a good idea?

What if you only had the money to do one of the previous programs? How would you know which one to do?

# What course is about

- Teach methods used to identify the causal effect of a policy or intervention
- Show how the methods work and what assumptions are required (theory)
- Discuss papers using these techniques
- Apply methods using STATA and data

# Prerequisites

Course in Statistics

You have seen or heard about concepts such as:

Regression, standard errors, t-statistics, random variables, conditional expectations

# STATA & Problem Sets

- STATA is statistical software
- Valuable skill to have for an R.A., program evaluation, policy analysis, graduate school, thesis/dissertation
- Problem Sets will teach you how to apply methods using STATA

# How to get STATA?

- Buy it – special price for Berkeley students (\$48)
- Tolman Hall Computer Labs
- Best way to learn is to have it on your own computer so you can play around with it.

# After this course you will

- Understand program evaluation
- Know critical difference between causality and correlation and methods to detect causality
- Understand & Apply 4 methods in STATA  
Randomized evaluation  
Regression Discontinuity  
Matching/Propensity Score  
Difference

# Looking Ahead

- Next Week

(Why impact evaluation?) (1<sup>st</sup> half)

(Overview of Statistics) (2<sup>nd</sup> half)

- Week 3-6

Method 1: Randomized Control

# Administrative

CCN is on website

CEC required to enroll

Interested students should completed handout.

Introductions of students.

Questions?