Information and Communication Technology for Developing Regions

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Course Overview

Computer science research has traditionally focused on technical challenges that are “agnostic” to the contexts in which technology is eventually used.

In this course, we turn our attention to a relatively new field to explore how information and communication technologies can be leveraged toward addressing large-scale societal problems.

This is an interdisciplinary subject and we will be covering a wide variety of related topics in development, design, and economics.
Course Schedule

• Poverty
• Development
• Technology
• Contexts and Values
• Application Domains
  • Healthcare
  • Education
  • Agriculture
  • Finance
  • Other
• Design
  • Systems
  • Interfaces
  • Interventions
• Data
• Other Related Domains
Course Structure

• Weekly reading assignments
  • 1 page reading responses
• In-class lectures and discussions based on readings
• Course project
  • 3-4 person teams
• In-class work sessions
• Course project presentation
Errata

• Office Hours
  • 721 Broadway #711
  • Thu 7 – 9pm or by appointment

• Website
  • http://cs.nyu.edu/courses/spring16/CSCI-GA.3033-015/
  • Readings, reading response questions, and any notes will be posted on the website
Introductions

• Your name
• A little bit of background – skills/experience
• What are you passionate about?
• Why are you taking this course?
Design Session
Next Time

• Truman’s Inaugural Address – January 20, 1949
• GDP Is a Terrible Way to Measure a Country’s Economy – Bill Gates
• Poor Economics – Banerjee and Duflo