

Political Economy Essay Assignment

1. What are the key differences between the Engerman-Sokoloff and Acemoglu, Johnson, Robinson hypotheses about long-run development?
2. Discuss the fundamental underlying assumption(s) in Engerman and Sokoloff's explanation of income differences between Latin America and the United States. Do you find the assumption(s) plausible? (Hint: The introduction to this [paper](#) may be helpful:
3. Scholars, most notably Jeff Sachs and David Albouy, have criticized the instrument used by Acemoglu, Johnson, and Robinson in their paper on the colonial origins of development. Describe what is meant by the "exclusion restriction." What is a weak instrument? Do these pose concerns for the settler mortality instrument?

MIT OpenCourseWare
<http://ocw.mit.edu>

14.73 The Challenge of World Poverty
Spring 2011

For information about citing these materials or our Terms of Use, visit: <http://ocw.mit.edu/terms>.