Assignment 1

ECO324H5: Economic Development

1 World Bank Development Indicators [30 points]

The point of this exercise is to help you understand the faces of poverty on the one hand, and acquaint you with Stata or R on the other.

You will need to download either the Stata data set or the .csv file (wb_dev_ind.dta or web_dev_ind.csv; this data set contains data from the World Bank Development Indicators, with each variable taking on its latest available value) from Quercus.

Hand in your do-file or R-script with the problem set. No need to hand in the log file, although you can hand in the parts that are directly relevant for answering questions below.

1. What are the mean and standard deviation of GDP per capita, average illiteracy rate and infant mortality across countries? [2 points]

2. Compare the average male illiteracy rate to the female illiteracy rate. Why might they be different? [4 points]

Restrict your data set to countries for which we have GDP per capita.