



The Hebrew University of Jerusalem

Syllabus

Econometrics of Policy Evaluation - 57318

Last update 20-09-2024

HU Credits: 2

Degree/Cycle: 1st degree (Bachelor)

Responsible Department: Economics

Academic year: 0

Semester: 1st Semester

Teaching Languages: English

Campus: Mt. Scopus

Course/Module Coordinator: Naomi Feldman

Coordinator Email: naomi.feldman@mail.huji.ac.il

Coordinator Office Hours: As needed

Teaching Staff:

Prof. Naomi Feldman

Course/Module description:

This course introduces modern applied econometric methods used in policy evaluation. Topics include randomized trials, regression, differences-in-differences, instrumental variables, and regression discontinuity designs.

Course/Module aims:

Students will use R or Stata to approach empirical problems and answer causal research questions.

Learning outcomes - On successful completion of this module, students should be able to:

Read economics articles and evaluate the outcomes. Understand how to design a research project to study the treatment effect of government (or other) policy.

Attendance requirements(%):
5%

Teaching arrangement and method of instruction: frontal lessons, homework and take home quiz

Course/Module Content:

- Randomization and Random Control Trials (RCTs)*
- 2. Brief refresher on regression (if needed)*
- 3. Matching and subclassification*
- 4. Fixed Effects*
- 5. Difference-in-Differences, Event studies*
- 6. Synthetic control*
- 7. Regression Discontinuity*
- 8. Instrumental Variables (pending time)*

Required Reading:

Angrist, J. D., & Pischke, J. P. (2014). Mastering Metrics: The Path from Cause to Effect. Princeton University Press. (Highly recommended)

□ *Cunningham, S. (2021). Causal Inference. Yale University Press.*

□ *Huntington-Klein, N. (2021). The Effect: An Introduction to Research Design and Causality. Chapman and Hall.*

□ *Imai, K. (2018). Quantitative Social Science: An Introduction. Princeton University Press.*

□ *Kohavi, R., Tang, D., & Xu, Y. (2020). Trustworthy Online Controlled Experiments: A Practical Guide to A/B Testing. Cambridge University Press.*

Additional Reading Material:
Economics papers

Grading Scheme:
Essay / Project / Final Assignment / Home Exam / Referat 45 %
Submission assignments during the semester: Exercises / Essays / Audits / Reports / Forum / Simulation / others 50 %
Attendance / Participation in Field Excursion 5 %

Additional information: