PhD Course

Behavioral & Experimental Economics

Dates: The course takes place on four days. Sessions are scheduled in both the winter term and the summer term, such that participants have sufficient time to develop and run their experiments:

November 22\textsuperscript{nd}, 2019; November 27\textsuperscript{th}, 2019; March 27\textsuperscript{th}, 2020.

The last session will take place either in May or June 2020, and will be scheduled in the second meeting.

Time 10am—4pm

Place Universität Hamburg, Moorweidenstr. 18, room 0005.1

Instructor Prof. Dr. Markus Nöth and Prof. Dr. Guido Voigt (both UHH)

Teaching language English

Credit Points 2 SWS/5 LP

Registration kathrin.marina.heim@uni-hamburg.de (first come, first-served)

Objectives:
The main goal of this course is to introduce the design and implementation of both laboratory and field experiments in various fields of Economics and Business Administration. PhD students who have some experience with or who consider to set up an experiment are welcome to participate in this course.

First, we will identify different research questions for a laboratory or a field experiment. We start with discussing critical theory assumptions. We then show how research hypotheses can be inferred from behavioral models and how these hypotheses may be tested in lab or field studies.

Second, participants will present and discuss an experimental paper (either provided by us or self-selected) that is instructive for their own research field.

Third, participants will develop an experimental design and conduct a pilot experiment that is run in class. We introduce basic statistics along with a discussion how they relate to the experimental design. Alternatively, for participants who do not plan to conduct their own experiments, a second paper will be reviewed.

Participants have the option to take a research ethics training (https://about.citiprogram.org/en/homepage/) that becomes increasingly important to conduct research projects with colleagues from the United States and in the European Union. All students will learn the basic requirements of a human subjects committee.
Some topics:
- Identify a suitable research question for an experiment
- Ethical and scientific standards: historical and scientific reasons, consent requirements, human subjects committee, special requirements (children, elderly people, inmates, ...), data collection and evaluation
- Individual and group experiments in the laboratory
- Surveys and internet experiments
- Field experiments in cooperation with a company

Prerequisites:
Basic background in microeconomics, game theory and statistics.

Student evaluation:
- Presentation and critical discussion of one or two experimental papers,
- Optional but encouraged: experiment design presentation (extended summary on economic question, relevant literature, hypotheses, design: presentation with max. 10 slides or max. five pages extended abstract); running a pilot experiment

Schedule (tentative)

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<tr>
<th>Day</th>
<th>Topics</th>
<th>Suggested Readings</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1st Session</td>
<td>Introduction to the field Game theoretic models, critical assumptions, Behavioral Models and Research Hypothesis Laboratory Experiments</td>
<td>Katok (2018)</td>
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<tr>
<td>3rd Session</td>
<td>Presentation of research (Problem Description, Research Hypothesis, Experimental design) Visit of WiSo-Experimentallabor (z-Tree, Eye-Tracking, etc.)</td>
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<tr>
<td>4th Session</td>
<td>Presentation of pilot studies (Note: Pilot studies need to be scheduled independently by participants)</td>
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Suggested readings before the course:
Other useful resources:

Other material (e.g., papers to be presented etc.) will be distributed once we know who participates.