

Behavioral and Experimental Economics

Syllabus

The course is divided in two parts: lab experiments and field experiments

1) Lab experiments (M.V. Levati and L. Zarri)

- What sort of knowledge social scientists can collect in the laboratory and what experiments can tell us about economic theories
- Specific methods and techniques for conducting economic experiments, focusing on basic rules for reaching control in experiments
- Challenging selfishness and some models of social preferences
- Cooperation in the lab: the role of peer punishment, social approval and other enforcement mechanisms

2) Field experiments (S. Quercia)

- What is a field experiment
- A taxonomy of field experiments
- A brief history of field experiments
- Some examples of field experiments on selected topics
- Hypothesis testing and power analysis
- Data analysis

Prerequisites

Microeconomics

Game theory

Basic Statistics

Course Material

Part 1

- Guala, Francesco (2005). *The Methodology of Experimental Economics*. Cambridge University Press.
- Friedman, Daniel and Shyam Sunder (1994). *Experimental Methods: A Primer for Economists*. Cambridge University Press.
- Kagel, John and Alvin Roth (1995). *Handbook of Experimental Economics*. Princeton University Press.

Part 2

- Duflo & Banerjee (2017). *Handbook of Field Experiments*. Elsevier.
- Gerber & Green (2012). *Field experiments: Design, Analysis, and Interpretation*. W. W. Norton.
- Bardsley et al., (2008). *Experimental Economics, Rethinking the Rules*. Princeton University Press.

Additional articles on both parts will be made available to students as the course proceeds.