

Academic Year: (2023 / 2024)

Review date: 08-06-2022

Department assigned to the subject: Economics Department

Coordinating teacher: MORA VILLARRUBIA, RICARDO

Type: Compulsory ECTS Credits : 3.0

Year : 1 Semester : 2

REQUIREMENTS (SUBJECTS THAT ARE ASSUMED TO BE KNOWN)

Basic knowledge of statistical concepts.

OBJECTIVES

This course aims to provide you with basic quantitative skills used in evaluating the impact of public policies and interventions. The goal is to help you develop the ability to understand the properties of techniques and critically read published research. This objective will be achieved through theoretical sessions, practical sessions in the classroom and teamwork.

The specific skills that you will be able to acquire during the course are:

- Understand the limitations of data and their consequences in empirical analysis.
- Choice of appropriate empirical strategies for the evaluation of public interventions.
- Interpret the results in terms of political implications.

The general skills that you will be able to develop during the course are:

- Understand the usefulness of alternative quantitative methods.
- Ability to flexibly use their knowledge of quantitative methods in different research scenarios.

Finally, the course should help you get

- Critical thinking in research.
- A more open and constructive research approach based on available information.

DESCRIPTION OF CONTENTS: PROGRAMME

- 1.Introduction
- 2.Definitions of impact and result. Traditional strategies to measure results and impact.
- 3.Causal inference and measurement of counterfactuals.
- 4.Random selection and regression.
- 5.Quasi-experimental methods (I): Difference-in-difference. Instrumental variables.
- 6.Quasi-experimental methods (II): Matching. Regression discontinuity.

LEARNING ACTIVITIES AND METHODOLOGY

Theory sessions
Classes
Tutorials
Group work
Partial exam and final exam.

ASSESSMENT SYSTEM

Class participation
Group work done during the course
Midterm exam
Final exam

% end-of-term-examination:	60
% of continuous assessment (assignments, laboratory, practicals...):	40

BASIC BIBLIOGRAPHY

- Paul J. Gertler et al. Impact Evaluation in Practice, World Bank Group., 2016

