IZA/DFID Short Course on Program Evaluation

December 19 – 20, 2015
Dhaka, Bangladesh

Organizers:  
David Lam (University of Michigan and IZA)  
Maryam Naghsh Nejad (IZA)

Program

+++ all sessions include 20–30 minutes practical applications +++ (with technical assistance)

Saturday, December 19

8:00 – 9:00  
Registration and Distribution of Learning Materials  
Teaching Materials  
Stata Licenses, Installation

9:00 – 9:15  
Welcome and Introduction (All)

9:15 – 10:30  
Kate Vyborny (Duke University)  
"Impact Evaluation"  
Theory of Change and Outcome Variable Selection  
Potential Outcome Framework  
RCT and Other Identification Strategies

10:30 – 11:00  
Coffee Break

11:00 – 12:30  
Christopher Parsons (University of Western Australia and IZA)  
"Difference in Differences"  
Motivation and Intuition  
Historical Example  
Graphical Illustration and Formalization  
DiD with Regressions  
Practical Advice and Sensitivity Analysis
12:30 – 13:30  Lunch

13:30 – 15:00  Marco Caliendo (University of Potsdam and IZA)  
"Matching I"  
*What Is (Propensity Score) Matching?*  
*Estimating the Propensity Score*  
*Overlap and Common Support*

15:00 – 15:30  Coffee Break

15:30 – 17:00  Marco Caliendo (University of Potsdam and IZA)  
"Matching II"  
*Choosing a Matching Algorithm*  
*Assessing the Matching Quality*  
*Effect Estimation*

17:00 – 17:30  Day 1 Wrap Up (All)

19:00  Dinner

**Sunday, December 20**

8:30 – 10:00  Kate Vyborny (Duke University)  
"Randomized Evaluations I"  
*How to Randomize*  
*(Selecting a Sample; Stratification; Level of Randomization; avoiding spillovers and Clustering; Balance Testing)*  
*Take-up; Full vs. Partial Randomization*

10:00 – 10:30  Coffee Break

10:30 – 12:00  Kate Vyborny (Duke University)  
"Randomized Evaluations II"  
*Data Collection: From Baseline to Follow-up*  
*(Sample size; Timing and Frequency; Attrition)*  
*Heterogeneous Effects*  
*Multiple Arms and Testing Mechanisms*
External Validity

12:00 – 13:00 Lunch

13:00 – 14:30 Christopher Parsons (University of Western Australia and IZA) "Regression and Discontinuity Design"

Motivation and Intuition
Examples: RDD in Practice
Sharp RDD: Formalization and Estimation
Robustness Checks
Fuzzy RDD: Intuition and Practice

14:30 – 15:00 Coffee Break

15:00 – 16:00 Practical Implications and Concluding Remarks (All)

18:00 Dinner

Suggested Reading


