
Toulouse Summer School in Quantitative Social Sciences

May 25 – June 12, 2020 – TOULOUSE

Economics
+
Social Sciences

A three-week program

A three-week program in economics and the social sciences

**In pursuit of
the common good,
through excellence
in new economic
knowledge**

The Toulouse Summer School in Quantitative Social Sciences at Toulouse School of Economics (TSE) and the Institute for Advanced Study in Toulouse (IAST) offers a three-week interdisciplinary program in economics and social sciences. The summer school is open to PhD students in economics and other disciplines.

Applicants should provide a CV, a copy of their most advanced degree, a proof of student status, a short cover letter and a recommendation letter (optional).

Credits: 6 ECTS credits for the whole program.

Fees: 275€ for the whole program. These fees do not cover accommodation or transportation.

Waiver: We encourage PhD students in other disciplines than economics to apply. These students will have their fees waived, and their accommodation (in university housing) and transportation covered.

Applications close on March 31, 2020

but earlier applications are encouraged and may be given priority in the event of excess demand for places.

Program:

WEEK 1 - Economic and political institutions

WEEK 2 - The evolution of human sociality

WEEK 3 - Individuals in society: theory and experiments

Online application platform: www.tse-fr.eu/toulouse-summer-school-quantitative-social-sciences

Contact: summerschool@tse-fr.eu

Organizers: Victor Gay (victor.gay@tse-fr.eu) and Jorge Peña (jorge.pena@iast.fr)



Week 1 (May 25 – May 30, 2020)

Economic and political institutions

Michael Becher, Mohamed Saleh, and Paul Seabright

Overview

Economic and political institutions are fundamental determinants of development, inequality, and human well-being. In this course, we introduce students to recent conceptual, methodological, and data advances in the study of institutions in economic history, political economics, and political science. While the study of institutions has been central to political science since its inception, economics has seen a revival of interest in the impact of historical and political institutions on long-run development and inequality, and political scientists are paying more attention to political economy issues. Today, work on the research frontier often concerns the interaction of politics and the economy, historically and contemporaneously, and spans multiple disciplines.

Methodological advances concern the analysis of natural experiments that may enable scholars to make stronger causal inferences by employing microeconomic techniques such as difference-in-differences, instrumental variables, regression discontinuity, or synthetic control approaches.

The introduction of “big data” (e.g., micro-level population census or large-scale administrative data) makes it possible to study the origins and consequences of institutions in history and politics at the micro level. We consider these issues through the discussion of several substantive topics: institutions and development, democracy and redistribution, migration, populism, political selection, and intergenerational mobility.

The course will be complemented by a special lecture by Paul Seabright on “*Economics and the Social Sciences - A Long History Together*”.

Instructors



• **Michael Becher** is Assistant Professor in political science at the Institute for Advanced Study in Toulouse and also teaches at the Toulouse School of Economics. His research focuses on issues related to the functioning of democracy, political institutions, and inequality. His work has been published, among others, in the *American Journal of Political Science* and the *American Political Science Review*.

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• **Mohamed Saleh** is Professor of Economics at the Toulouse School of Economics and a member of the Institute for Advanced Study in Toulouse. His research focuses on Economic History, Political Economy, and Development Economics. His research has been published in the *Journal of Economic History* and *Explorations in Economic History*, among others.

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• **Paul Seabright** is Professor of Economics at the Toulouse School of Economics and Director of the Institute for Advanced Study in Toulouse. He has a Ph.D. from the University of Oxford and taught at the University of Cambridge before coming to Toulouse in 2000. He is the author of a number of books combining economics with an interdisciplinary perspective, including *The Company of Strangers: A Natural History of Economic Life* (2nd edition, Princeton UP 2010), which was shortlisted for the British Academy Book Prize.

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Course structure, week 1

	Monday, May 25 Mohamed Saleh	Tuesday, May 26 Michael Becher	Wednesday, May 27
9 am - 10.30 am	Institutions and economic development	Democracy and inequality	Migration Mohamed Saleh
10.30 am - 11 am	Break	Break	Break
11 am - 12.30 am	Institutions and economic development	Democracy and inequality	Migration Mohamed Saleh
12.30 am - 2 pm	Lunch	Lunch	Lunch, lecture Economics and the Social Sciences Paul Seabright
2 pm - 3.30 pm	Methods and data	Methods and data	Populism, Michael Becher
3.30 pm - 4 pm	Break	Break	Break
4 pm - 5.30 pm	Methods and data	Methods and data	Populism Michael Becher
	Thursday, May 28 Workshop	Friday, May 29 Workshop	Saturday, May 30
9 am - 10.30 am	Big Data in Economic History	Big Data in Economic History	Political selection Michael Becher
10.30 am - 11 am	Break	Break	Break
11 am - 12.30 am	Big Data in Economic History	Big Data in Economic History	Political selection Michael Becher
12.30 am - 2 pm	Lunch	Lunch	Lunch
2 pm - 3.30 pm	Big Data in Economic History	Big Data in Economic History	Intergenerational mobility and big data Mohamed Saleh
3.30 pm - 4 pm	Break	Break	Break
4 pm - 5.30 pm	Big Data in Economic History	Big Data in Economic History	Concluding discussion Mohamed Saleh

Evaluation

Students will be evaluated based on written assignments which may be composed of material from the lectures, readings and/or from the two-day conference on Big Data in Economic History.

Students may also be asked to present material to the class.

Course structure, week 1

References

Institutions and economic development (M. Saleh)

- McCloskey, D. (1976). Does the Past Have Useful Economics? *Journal of Economic Literature*, 14(2), 434–461.
- Clark, G. (2005). The Condition of the Working-Class in England, 1209–2004. *Journal of Political Economy*, 113(6), 1307–1340.
- Coase, R. H. (1960). The Problem of Social Cost. *The Journal of Law and Economics*, 3, 1–44.
- North, D. C., & Weingast, B. R. (1989). Constitutions and Commitment: The Evolution of Institutions Governing Public Choice in Seventeenth-Century England. *The Journal of Economic History*, 49(4), 803–832.
- North, D. C. (1997). Institutions. *Journal of Economic Perspectives*, 5(1), 97–112.
- La Porta, R., Lopez-de-Silanes, F., Shleifer A., & Vishny, R. (1998). Law and Finance. *Journal of Political Economy*, 106(6), 1113–1155.
- Sokoloff, K. L., & Engerman S. A. (2000). History Lessons: Institutions, Factor Endowments, and Paths of Development in the New World. *Journal of Economic Perspectives*, 14(3), 217–232.
- Acemoglu, D., & Robinson, J. A. (2000). Why Did the West Extend the Franchise? Democracy, Inequality, and Growth in Historical Perspective. *The Quarterly Journal of Economics*, 115(4), 1167–1199.
- Acemoglu, D., Johnson S., & Robinson J.A. (2001). The Colonial Origins of Comparative Development: An Empirical Investigation. *American Economic Review*, 91(5), 1369–1401.
- Banerjee, A., & Iyer, L. (2005). History, Institutions, and Economic Performance: The Legacy of Colonial Land Tenure Systems in India. *American Economic Review*, 95(4), 1190–1213.
- Nunn, N. (2008). The Long-Term Effects of Africa’s Slave Trades. *The Quarterly Journal of Economics*, 123(1), 139–176.

Methods and data (M. Saleh)

Difference-in-Differences and applications in economic history. Randomized Control Trials (RCTs) and experiments in economic history.

- Hornbeck, R. (2010). Barbed Wire: Property Rights and Agricultural Development. *The Quarterly Journal of Economics*, 125(2), 767–810.
- Cantoni, D., & Yuchtman, N. (2014). Medieval Universities, Legal Institutions, and the Commercial Revolution. *The Quarterly Journal of Economics*, 129(2), 823–887.
- Juhasz, R. (2018). Temporary Protection and Technology Adoption: Evidence from the Napoleonic Blockade. *American Economic Review*, 108(11), 3339–3376.
- Dittmar, J. E. (2011). Information Technology and Economic Change: The Impact of the Printing Press. *The Quarterly Journal of Economics*, 126(3), 1133–1172.
- Hanlon, W. W. (2015). Necessity is the Mother of Invention: Input Supplies and Directed Technical Change. *Econometrica*, 83(1), 67–100.
- De La Sierra, R. S. (forthcoming). On the Origin of States: Stationary Bandits and Taxation in Eastern Congo. *Journal of Political Economy*.
- Giusti, G., Noussair, C. N., & Voth, H. J. (2013). Recreating the South Sea Bubble: Lessons from an Experiment in Financial History. *Mimeo*.

Democracy, redistribution, and inequality (M. Becher)

- Acemoglu, D., Naidu, S., Restrepo, P., & Robinson, J. A. (2014) Democracy, Redistribution and Inequality. In *Handbook of Income Distribution, Volume 2, 1885–1966. Elsevier*.
- Fujiwara, T. (2015). Voting Technology, Political Responsiveness, and Infant Health: Evidence From Brazil. *Econometrica*, 83(2), 423–464.
- Cascio, E. U., & Washington, E. (2013). Valuing the Vote: The Redistribution of Voting Rights and State Funds Following the Voting Rights Act of 1965. *The Quarterly Journal of Economics*, 129(1), 379–433.
- Bartels, L. (2016). Unequal Democracy: The Political Economy of the New Gilded Age. Chapter 8. *Princeton University Press*.



Course structure, week 1

- Gilens, M., & Page, B. I. (2014). Testing Theories of American Politics: Elites, Interest Groups, and Average Citizens. *Perspectives on Politics*, 12(3), 564–581.
- Campante, F. R. (2011). Redistribution in a Model of Voting and Campaign Contributions. *Journal of Public Economics*, 95(7–8), 646–656.
- Becher, M., & Stegmueller, D. (2019). Curbing Unequal Representation: The Impact of Labor Unions on Legislative Responsiveness in the US Congress. *IAST Working Paper* 18–81.

Methods and data (M. Becher)

Promise and pitfalls of regression discontinuity designs in political economy applications (e.g., close elections, population thresholds, borders)

- Eggers, A. C., Freier, R., Grembi, V., & Nannicini, T. (2018) Regression Discontinuity Designs Based on Population Thresholds: Pitfalls and Solutions. *American Journal of Political Science*, 61(1), 210–229.
- Eggers, A. C., Folke, O., Fowler, A., Hainmueller, J., Hall, A. B., & Snyder, J. M. (2015). On the Validity of the Regression Discontinuity Design for Estimating Electoral Effects: New Evidence from Over 40,000 Close Races. *American Journal of Political Science*, 59(1), 259–274.
- De la Cuesta, B., & Imai, K. (2016). Misunderstandings about the Regression Discontinuity Design in the Study of Close Elections. *Annual Review of Political Science*, 19, 375–396.
- Gagliarducci, S. & Nannicini, T. (2013). Do better paid politicians perform better? Disentangling incentives from selection. *Journal of the European Economic Association*, 11(2), 369–398.
- Lee, D. S., Moretti, E., & Butler, M. J. (2004). Do Voters Affect or Elect Policies? Evidence from the U. S. House. *The Quarterly Journal of Economics*, 119(3), 807–859.

Migration (M. Saleh)

- Abramitzky, R., Boustan, L. P., & Eriksson, K. (2012). Europe's Tired, Poor, Huddled Masses: Self-Selection and Economic Outcomes in the Age of Mass Migration. *American Economic Review*, 102(5), 1832–1856.
- Borjas, G. (1987). Self-Selection and the Earnings of Immigrants. *American Economic Review*, 77(4), 531–553.
- Abramitzky, R., Boustan, L. P., & Eriksson, K. (2014). A Nation of Immigrants: Assimilation and Economic Outcomes in the Age of Mass Migration. *Journal of Political Economy*, 122(3), 467–506.
- Fouka, V. (forthcoming). Backlash: The Unintended Effects of Language Prohibition in US schools after World War I. *The Review of Economic Studies*.
- Abramitzky, R., Boustan, L. P., & Eriksson, K. (forthcoming). Do Immigrants Assimilate More Slowly Today than in the Past? *American Economic Review: Insights*.
- Tabellini, M. (forthcoming). Gifts of the Immigrants, Woes of the Natives: Lessons from the Age of Mass Migration. *The Review of Economic Studies*.
- Fouka, V., Mazumder, S., & Tabellini, M. (2018). From Immigrants to Americans: Race and Assimilation during the Great Migration. *Harvard Business School BGIE Unit Working Paper* 19-018.

Special lecture on “ Economics and the Social Sciences — A Long History Together”

Abstract: This lecture explores the historical contribution to economic thought of ideas that we would now consider to be part of biology, anthropology, political science, psychology and sociology. Although economics in the 20th century distanced itself from the methods and the subject matter of other social sciences, the recent opening out of economic analysis to these other disciplines represents a return to the roots of our subject, particularly as it was practised up to the 18th century.

The Adam Smith who wrote *The Theory of Moral Sentiments* was consistent with the Adam Smith who wrote *The Wealth of Nations*. Reflecting on this history is not just a matter of fidelity to the past; it can also help us to clarify how researchers with a training in each of these disciplines can collaborate in the project of building a coherent unified science of human behavior.

Course structure, week 1

Populism (M. Becher)

- Guiso, L., Herrera, H., Morelli, M., & Sonno, T. (2018). Populism: Demand and Supply. *CEPR Discussion Paper 11871*.
- Colantone, I., & Stanig, P. (2018). Global Competition and Brexit. *American Political Science Review*, 112(2), 201–218.
- Inglehart, R., & Norris, P. (2017). Trump and Populist-Authoritarian Parties: The Silent Revolution in Reverse. *Perspectives on Politics*, 15(2), 443–454.
- Müller, J. W. (2016). What is Populism? *University of Pennsylvania Press*.
- Rodrik, D. (2018). Populism and the Economics of Globalization. *Journal of International Business Policy*, 1(1–2), 12–33.
- Goldsmith-Pinkham, P., Sorkin, I., & Swift, H. (2019). Bartik Instruments: What, When, Why and How. *NBER Working Paper 24408*.
- Dal Bó, R., Finan, F., Folke, O., Persson, T., & Rickne, J. (2018). Economic Losers and Political Winners: Sweden's Radical Right. *Mimeo*.
- Besley, T., Folke, O., Persson, T., & Rickne, J. (2017). Gender Quotas and the Crisis of the Mediocre Man: Theory and Evidence from Sweden. *American Economic Review*, 107(8), 2204–2242.
- Dal Bó, E., Finan, F., Folke, F., Persson, T., & Rickne, J. (2017). Who Becomes a Politician? *The Quarterly Journal of Economics*, 132(4), 1877–1914.

Political selection (M. Becher)

- Carnes, N., & Lupu, N. (2016). Do Voters Dislike Working-Class Candidates? Voter Biases and the Descriptive Underrepresentation of the Working Class. *American Political Science Review*, 110(4), 832–844.
- Carnes, N. (2018). The Cash Ceiling: Why Only the Rich Run for Office and What We Can Do About It. *Princeton, NJ: Princeton University Press*.
- Beaman, L., Duflo, E., Pande, R., & Topalova, P. (2012). Female Leadership Raises Aspirations and Educational Attainment for Girls: A Policy Experiment in India. *Science*, 335(6068), 582–586.
- Galasso, G., & Nannicini, T. (2011). Competing on Good Politicians. *American Political Science Review*, 105(1), 79–99.
- Beath, A., Christia, F., Egorov, G., & Enikolopov, R. (2016). Electoral Rules and Political Selection: Theory and Evidence from a Field Experiment in Afghanistan. *The Review of Economic Studies*, 83(3), 932–968.
- Becher, M., & Menendez Gonzalez, I. (2019). Electoral Reform and Trade-offs in Democratic Representation. *American Political Science Review*, 113(3), 694–709.
- Carnes, N., & Lupu, N. (2016). What Good is a College Degree? *Education and Leader Quality Reconsidered. Journal of Politics*, 78(1), 35–49.

Intergenerational mobility and big data (M. Saleh)

- Ferrie, J., & Long, J. (2008). A Tale of Two Labor Markets: Intergenerational Occupational Mobility in Britain and the U.S. Since 1850. *NBER Working Paper 11253*.
- Becker, G. S., & Tomes, N. (1979). An Equilibrium Theory of the Distribution of Income and Intergenerational Mobility. *Journal of Political Economy*, 87(6), 1153–1189.
- Solon, G. (2004). A Model of Intergenerational Mobility Variation over Time and Place. In *Generational Income Mobility in North America and Europe*. Miles Corak (Ed.), Cambridge University Press, 38–47.
- Feigenbaum, J. J. (2015). Intergenerational mobility during the great depression. *Mimeo*.
- Collins, W. J., & Wanamaker, M. H. (2017). Up from Slavery? African American Intergenerational Economic Mobility Since 1880. *NBER Working Paper 23395*.
- Olivetti, C., & Paserman, M. D. (2015). In the Name of the Son (and the Daughter): Intergenerational Mobility in the United States, 1850–1940. *American Economic Review*, 105(8), 2695–2724.



Week 2 (June 1 – June 6, 2020)

The evolution of human sociality

Ingela Alger and Jonathan Stieglitz

Overview

Evolutionary theory provides a powerful organizing conceptual framework for understanding human social behavior that spans several academic disciplines (e.g., anthropology, biology, and economics), levels of explanation (e.g., proximate, ultimate, developmental, and phylogenetic) and levels of social organization (dyadic, family, community, and beyond). In so doing, this framework helps explain variation in human sociality across space and time.

This week of the summer school will provide an overview of evolutionary approaches to understanding human sociality from an interdisciplinary perspective, incorporating the most recent theoretical and empirical advances. The week comprises a first short course by Ingela Alger on evolution and family economics and a second course by Jonathan Stieglitz on human social evolution from an evolutionary anthropology perspective.

Instructors



• **Ingela Alger** is a CNRS Research Director in Economics at Toulouse School of Economics and the Institute for Advanced Study in Toulouse, and she currently holds an ERC Advanced Grant (2019–2023). She uses theoretical models to examine how evolutionary forces may have shaped human preferences, both in family-related behaviors, and in strategic interactions, by asking: which preferences should one expect to see in a population in which preferences have been transmitted from generation to generation, and where preferences affect the ability of individuals to survive and transmit their preferences (biologically or culturally)?

Answers are sought by way of using simple evolutionary logic: those alive today had ancestors who were successful at surviving and reproducing; conditional on preferences being transmitted from old to young (through vertical or oblique transmission), our preferences should reflect this. Factors in the environment in which a population evolves may impact which behaviors lead to evolutionary success, and thus also which preferences are more successful than others. The overarching objective of this line of research is to understand which factors in our evolutionary past may thus have shaped our preferences as well as our family structures and intra-family behaviors.

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• **Jonathan Stieglitz** is an Assistant Professor of Anthropology at the Institute for Advanced Study in Toulouse and University of Toulouse 1 Capitole. He is also co-director of the Tsimane Health and Life History Project (<http://tsimane.anth.ucsb.edu/index.html>), a joint health and anthropology project aimed at understanding human life course evolution.

Dr. Stieglitz's research aims to understand how ecological and social factors interact to influence human behavior. Specifically, his research addresses three questions: 1) Why do families form and function the way they do? 2) How does variability in family functioning affect well-being of household members? and 3) Why and how do social relationships (family and other) interact with local ecology to influence behavior over the life course? To address these questions Dr. Stieglitz uses principles from behavioral ecology and life history theory, which attempt to explain modern human variation as an adaptive response to trade-offs between investments in competing demands.

Dr. Stieglitz received his PhD in Anthropology (concentration: Human Evolutionary Ecology) from the University of New Mexico

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Course structure, week 2

Monday, June 1		Tuesday, June 2	
9 am - 9.30 am	Welcome coffee	9 am - 10.30 am	Evolution of Human Life Histories: Part 2 Jonathan Stieglitz
9.30 am - 11 am	Intra-family resource sharing Ingela Alger	10.30 am - 10.45 am	Break
11 am - 11.30 am	Break	10.45 am - 12.15 pm	Evolution of sharing: Part 1 Jonathan Stieglitz
11.30 am - 1 pm	Marriage patterns Ingela Alger	12.15 pm - 1.45 pm	Lunch
1 pm - 2.30 pm	Lunch	1.45 pm - 3.15 pm	Evolution of sharing: Part 1 Jonathan Stieglitz
2.30 pm - 4 pm	Subsistence, inequality and social organization in cross-cultural perspective Jonathan Stieglitz	3.15 pm - 3.30 pm	Break
4 pm - 4.30 pm	Break	3.30 pm - 5 pm	Workshop
4.30 pm - 6 pm	Evolution of Human Life Histories: Part 1 Jonathan Stieglitz	5 pm - 6.30 pm	Workshop

Wednesday, June 3		Thursday, June 4	Friday, June 5
9 am - 10.30 am	Divisions of labor and complementarity in human families: a bargaining approach Jonathan Stieglitz	9 am - 6 pm Economics and Human Biology Conference (Theme: Fertility)	9 am - 6 pm Economics and Human Biology Conference (Theme: Fertility)
10.30 am - 10.45 am	Break	Saturday, June 6	
10.45 am - 12.15 pm	Sexual conflict Jonathan Stieglitz	9 am - 10.30 am	Workshop
12.15 pm - 1.45 pm	Lunch	10.30 am - 10.45 am	Break
1.45 pm - 3.15 pm	Life history theory: part 1 Jonathan Stieglitz	10.45 am - 12.15 pm	Workshop
3.15 pm - 3.30 pm	Break	12.15 pm - 1.45 pm	Lunch
3.30 pm - 5 pm	Life history theory: part 2 Jonathan Stieglitz	1.45 pm - 3.15 pm	Demographic transition part 1 Jonathan Stieglitz
5 pm - 6.30 pm	Workshop Jonathan Stieglitz	3.15 pm - 3.30 pm	Break
		3.30 pm - 5 pm	Demographic transition part 2 Jonathan Stieglitz
		5 pm - 6.30 pm	Conclusions

Evaluation

Students will be evaluated based on written assignments which may be composed of material from the lectures, readings and/or from the two-day conference on Economics and Human Biology.

Students may also be asked to present material to the class.

Course structure, week 2

Evolutionary foundations of family-related behaviors and implications for economics — Ingela Alger

Objectives

Ever since Gary Becker published his “*Treatise on the Family*”, economists have increasingly recognized the importance of the family. Arguably, most important economic decisions, such as investment in human capital, labor supply, and migration decisions, are affected by an individual’s family situation. While economists have proposed several models and methods to account for this (see, in particular, the literatures on the collective and the unitary approaches), this part of the course focuses on the complementary insights that evolutionary theory can bring to economics. It reviews the relevant theory for investigating the human family from an evolutionary perspective, and discusses some empirical evidence in light of this theory.

The format will consist of discussion-based lectures. Students will be given a set of papers to read ahead of time, together with a set of questions that will prepare them for the discussion.

References

Intra-family resource sharing (parental care and informal risk sharing)

Surveys:

- Alger, I., & Cox, D. (2013). The Evolution of Altruistic Preferences: Mothers versus Fathers. *Review of Economics of the Household*, 11(3), 421–446.
- Alger, I., & Cox D. (2019). Evolution of the Family: Theory and Implications for Economics. *Oxford Research Encyclopedia of Economics and Finance*.
- Bergstrom, T. C. (1996). Economics in a Family Way. *Journal of Economic Literature*, 34(4), 1903–1934.
- Cox, D., & Fafchamps, M. (2008). Extended Family and Kinship Networks: Economic Insights and Evolutionary Directions. In *Handbook of Development Economics*, Schultz T. P., & Strauss J. A. North-Holland.
- Alger, I. & Weibull, J. W. (2010). Kinship, Incentives, and Evolution. *American Economic Review*, 100(4), 1725–1758.
- Baland, J. M., Guirkinger, C., & Mali, C. (2011). Pretending to Be Poor: Borrowing to Escape Forced Solidarity in Cameroon. *Economic Development & Cultural Change*, 60(1), 1–16.
- Duflo, E. (2003). Grandmothers and Granddaughters: Old-Age Pensions and Intrahousehold Allocation in South Africa. *The World Bank Economic Review*, 17(1), 1–25.
- Jakiela, P., & Ozier, O. (2016). Does Africa Need a Rotten Kin Theorem? Experimental Evidence from Village Economies. *The Review of Economic Studies*, 83(1), 231–268.
- Sarkisian, R. (2019). On altruism, Insurance, and Risk Sharing. *TSE Working Paper*.

Marriage patterns: (which conditions are expected to lead to monogamy, polygyny, polyandry, or serial monogamy?)

Surveys:

- Alger, I., & Cox D. (2019). Evolution of the Family: Theory and Implications for Economics. *Oxford Research Encyclopedia of Economics and Finance*.

Papers:

- Bergstrom, T. C. (1994a). On the Economics of Polygyny. *University of Michigan Working Paper* 94–11.
- Bergstrom, T. C. (1994b). Primogeniture, Monogamy, and Reproductive Success in a Stratified Society. *University of Michigan Working Paper* 94–10.
- De la Croix, D., & Mariani, F. (2015). From Polygyny to Serial Monogamy: A Unified Theory of Marriage Institutions. *The Review of Economic Studies*, 82(2), 565–607.
- Edlund, L., J. Yi, H. Li, & Zhang, J. (2013). Sex Ratios and Crime: Evidence from China. *Review of Economics and Statistics*, 95(5), 1520–1534.
- Edlund, L. (2018). Cousin Marriage is Not Choice: Muslim Marriage and Underdevelopment. *AEA Papers and Proceedings*, 108, 353–357.
- Francesconi, M., Ghiglino, C., & Perry, M. (2016). An Evolutionary Theory of Monogamy. *Journal of Economic Theory*, 166, 605–628.
- Gould, E. D., Moav, O., & Simhon, A. (2008). The Mystery of Monogamy. *American Economic Review*, 98(1), 333–57.

Course structure, week 2

Human social evolution — Jonathan Stieglitz

Objectives

Human social behavior has been shaped by evolutionary processes. This course reviews the relevant theory and primary approaches for investigating human social behavior from an evolutionary perspective. We will explore universal and variable features of human sociality across time and space, with a primary focus on subsistence-level populations but also including modern industrialized economies. Topics addressed will include cooperation, mating and parenting, life history theory and demographic transition to low fertility.

The format will consist of lectures (morning) and workshops (afternoon). Workshops will include class discussions (for example, about how to design novel research) and individual and/or group projects.

LECTURE TOPICS

- Human social organization: an overview • Human life histories: diet, intelligence and sociality
- Food sharing: conceptual models and empirical evidence • Marriage and the division of labor • Life history theory
- Demographic transition

References

Human social organization

- Boehm, C. (1999). Hierarchy in the Forest: The Evolution of Egalitarian Behavior. *Harvard University Press*.
- Boone, J. (1992). Competition, Conflict, and the Development of Social Hierarchies. In *Evolutionary Ecology and Human Behavior* (Smith, E. A., & Winterhalder, B. Eds), 301–337. Aldine de Gruyter.
- Kaplan, H. S., Hooper, P. L., & Gurven, M. (2009). The Evolutionary and Ecological Roots of Human Social Organization. *Philosophical Transactions of the Royal Society B: Biological Sciences*, 364(1533), 3289–3299.
- Summers, K. (2005). The Evolutionary Ecology of Despotism. *Evolution and Human Behavior*, 26(1), 106–135.

Food sharing

- Gurven, M. (2004). To Give and to Give Not: The Behavioral Ecology of Human Food Transfers. *Behavioral and Brain Sciences*, 27(4), 543–559.
- Hooper, P. L., Gurven, M, Winking, J., & Kaplan, H. S. (2015). Inclusive Fitness and Differential Productivity Across the Life Course Determine Intergenerational Transfers in a Small-Scale Human Society. *Proceedings of the Royal Society of London B: Biological Sciences*, 282(1803), 20142808.
- Wood, B. M., & Marlowe, F. W. (2013). Household and Kin Provisioning by Hadza Men. *Human Nature*, 24(3), 280–317.

Life history theory

- Thompson E. M., et al. (2007). Aging and Fertility Patterns in Wild Chimpanzees Provide Insights Into the Evolution of Menopause. *Current Biology*, 17(24), 2150-2156.
- Hawkes K., O’Connel, J. F., Jones, N. B., Alvarez, H., & Charnov, E. L. (1998). Grandmothering, Menopause, and the Evolution of Human Life Histories. *Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences*, 95(3), 1336–1339.
- Hill, K., Barton, M., & Hurtado, A. M. (2009). The Emergence of Human Uniqueness: Characters Underlying Behavioral Modernity. *Evolutionary Anthropology*, 18(5),187–200.
- Hill, K., & Kaplan, H. (1999). Life History Traits in Humans: Theory and Empirical Studies. *Annual Review of Anthropology*, 28(1), 397–430.
- Kaplan H. (1997). The Evolution of the Human Life Course. In *Between Zeus and the Salmon: The Biodemography of Aging* (Wachter, K, & Finch, C., Eds), 175–211. *National Academy of Sciences*.

Demographic transition

- Colleran, H. (2016). The Cultural Evolution of Fertility Decline. *Philosophical Transactions of the Royal Society B: Biological Sciences*, 371(1692), 20150152.
- Shenk, M. K., Towner, M. C., Kress, H. C., & Alam, N. (2013). A Model Comparison Approach Shows Stronger Support for Economic Models of Fertility Decline. *Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences*, 110(20), 8045–8050.



Week 3 *(June 8 – June 12, 2020)*

Individuals in society: theory and experiments

Daniel L. Chen, Roberta Dessi, and Astrid Hopfensitz

Overview

Individuals' beliefs, preferences and behavior are strongly influenced by, and contribute to shape, the norms, values, culture and institutions of the societies they are embedded in. The program for this week uses economic theory and experiments to explore this interaction building on three different perspectives: the first on Markets, Morals, and Decisions (Daniel Chen); the second on Experimental Economics (Astrid Hopfensitz), and the third on Identity, Motivation and Beliefs (Roberta Dessi).

Instructors



• **Daniel L. Chen** is Director of Research at the Centre National de la Recherche Scientifique (CNRS) and Professor at the Toulouse School of Economics. He is also a Senior Fellow at the Institute for Advanced Study in Toulouse, a Collaborator at Harvard Medical School, an Advisor for NYU Data Science students, and the founder of oTree Open Source Research Foundation and Data Science Justice Collaboratory. He has a Ph.D. in Economics from MIT, a JD from Harvard Law School, and a B.S and an M.S. in Economics and Applied Mathematics from Harvard College (summa cum laude). Chen was previously Chair of Law and Economics, a co-founder of the Center of Law and Economics at ETH Zurich, and an assistant professor of Law, Economics, and Public Policy at Duke University.

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• **Roberta Dessi** is Associate Professor of Economics at the Toulouse School of Economics. She is also a Research Fellow at the Centre for Economic Policy Research, and Steering Committee member of the Institute for Advanced Study in Toulouse. She holds degrees from the University of Cambridge (B.A., M.A., Ph.D) and the London School of Economics (M.Sc.).

Her fields of interest include economics and psychology, cultural transmission, economic history, social networks, behavioral theory and experiments.

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• **Astrid Hopfensitz** is Associate Professor of economics at the Toulouse School of Economics and member of the Institute for Advanced Study Toulouse. She holds degrees from the University of Amsterdam (Ph.D), the University of Massachusetts Amherst (M.A) and the University of Ulm, Germany (M.S.). Astrid Hopfensitz is working at the intersection between experimental economics and psychology, studying the impact of emotions and other psychological factors on decision making.

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Course structure, week 3

	Monday, June 8	Tuesday, 9 June Astrid Hopfensitz	Wednesday, 10 June
9 am - 10.30 am	Markets, morals and decision, 1 Daniel L. Chen	Experimental Economics, Methods from psychology to study emotions and physiological activations	Experimental Economics, Recent topics in Experimental economics, interactive session R. Dessi, A. Hopfensitz
10.30 am - 11 am	Break	Break	Break
11 am - 12.30 am	Markets, morals and decision, 2 Daniel L. Chen	Experimental Economics, Student meeting to plan experiment	Motivated beliefs 1 Roberta Dessi
12.30 am - 2 pm	Lunch	Lunch	Lunch
2 pm - 3.30 pm	Experimental Economics, Interactive session Astrid Hopfensitz	Experimental Economics, participative experiment Part 1	Experimental Economics, participative experiment 2 Astrid Hopfensitz
3.30 pm - 4 pm	Break	Break	Break
4 pm - 5.30 pm	Experimental Economics, Introduction: What is experimental economics Astrid Hopfensitz	Experimental Economics, Recent topics in Experimental economics Part 1	Experimental Economics, student experiments Astrid Hopfensitz

	Thursday, 11 June Roberta Dessi	Friday, 12 June Roberta Dessi
9 am - 10.30 am	Motivated beliefs 2	Identity, motivation and beliefs, interactive session
10.30 am - 11 am	Break	Break
11 am - 12.30 am	Identity, motivation and beliefs, interactive session	Personal identity and signaling
12.30 am - 2 pm	Lunch	Lunch
2 pm - 3.30 pm	Social and cultural identity, Part 1	Identity, motivation and beliefs, interactive session
3.30 pm - 4 pm	Break	Break
4 pm - 5.30 pm	Social and cultural identity, Part 1	Identity, motivation and beliefs, interactive session

Evaluation

Students will be evaluated based on written assignments related to lectures, interactive sessions and readings. They may also be asked to present in class.

Course structure, week 3

Markets, Morals, and Decisions – Daniel L. Chen

Objectives

Enhancing understanding of how and why people make choices, or decisions across a set of options, has long been a core subjects of philosophy and the social sciences. Not surprisingly there is little consensus on what motivates people, although we can recognize that while people widely consider themselves as competent moral judges, this does not imply they all share the same understanding of what is moral - what is the right decision under various circumstances.

I will argue that a better understanding of decision making will be gained through a close examination of the interaction of morals and markets. The proposed lecture will be in part driven by contrasts among three canonical approached to decisions and morality: homo-economics, or that people are only motivated by their own material consequences; consequentialism, which focuses on how the outcome affects the individual or the group; and deontology, whereby choices are required or forbidden.

It will also examine how cultural conceptions of morality differ and how the definition of who is and is not part of the group has important implications in a range of circumstances. Stated simply, behaviors that are not acceptable among compatriots is so in treating non-compatriots, as history and experiments have all too dramatically shown. The focus will be on the effects of in-group biases as well as factors that either exacerbate or ameliorate such biases. Among the ways to decrease such bias are increasing the role of the market and enhancing the abilities of artificial intelligence and machine learning to identify boundaries of non-biased decisions.

Experimental Economics – Astrid Hopfensitz

Objectives

Experimental economic has seen a rise in recent years and is now a method regularly used for economic studies. This course will give a short introduction in experimental methods today. We will discuss practical issues to plan and implement experimental research in the lab and in the field. We will further discuss methods that can be used to gain additional insights in the psychological foundations of behavior (e.g. emotion measures, personality traits, physiological measures).

We will further cover a number of recent topics receiving attention in the literature concerning the psychology of individuals and groups. The specific topics might get defined based on interests of course participants. Potential topics are: (I) gender differences with respect to competition and labor markets, (II) the effect of emotions on decision making, (III) how poverty interacts with decision making, (IV) decision making among individuals with specific social ties.

The module will consist of lectures and interactive sessions. Interactive sessions will consist of experiments in which course participants will participate and in a short experiment that the participants will prepare and implement themselves.

References

• Abeler, J., Nosenzo, D., & Raymond, C. (2019). Preferences for Truth-Telling. *Econometrica*, 87(4), 1115–1153.

• Al-Ubaydli, O., & List, J. A. (2015). Do Natural Field Experiments Afford Researchers More or Less Control Than Laboratory Experiments? *American Economic Review*, 105(5), 462–66.

• Apicella, C. L., Demiral, E. E., & Mollerstrom, J. (2017). No Gender Difference in Willingness to Compete When Competing Against Self. *American Economic Review*, 107(5), 136–40.

• Binmore, K. (1999). Why experiment in economics? *The Economic Journal*, 109(453), 16–24.

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• Mani, A., Mullainathan, S., Shafir, E., & Zhao, J. (2013). Poverty Impedes Cognitive Function. *Science*, 341(6149), 976–980.

• Niederle, M. (2017). A Gender Agenda: A Progress Report on Competitiveness. *American Economic Review*, 107(5), 115–119.

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- [Noussair, C. N. \(2011\). Trends in Academic Publishing in Experimental Economics. In Keynote lecture at the Journal of Economic Surveys Online Conference, 2011.](#)
- [Sunstein, C. R., & Thaler, R. H. \(2003\). Libertarian Paternalism is not an Oxymoron. The University of Chicago Law Review, 1159–1202.](#)
- [Zizzo, D. J. \(2010\). Experimenter Demand Effects in Economic Experiments. Experimental Economics, 13\(1\), 75–98.](#)

Identity, motivation and beliefs – *Roberta Dessí*

Objectives

This course consists of two related parts. In the first part we explore theories of motivated cognition and their implications. To what extent do people’s beliefs reflect available evidence and to what extent do they reflect functional and hedonic motives (motivational and consumption benefits)? How does this affect behavior? We examine the related evidence on belief biases and the mechanisms that generate and sustain them, in economics and psychology. This part of the course is completed by discussion of different theoretical perspectives on the evidence.

The second part of the course focuses on identity. What determines the strength or malleability of identification, and its persistence? Through which channels does identity affect behavior? We review preference-based and belief-based theoretical approaches, as well as evidence from economics, psychology and political science. We look first at social and cultural identity (e.g. ethnic, gender, religious), and how this is transmitted across generations. We then turn to personal identity (e.g. moral), self-perception, and image signaling.

The course format will consist of lectures and workshop sessions. Lectures will give broad overviews and provide the big picture, while workshop sessions will focus selectively in greater depth. They will include small group collaborations and class discussions, with a particular interest in developing new approaches to testing existing theories, and new theoretical perspectives on available evidence.

References

Topic 1: Motivated beliefs

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- [Bénabou, R., & Tirole, J. \(2002\). Self-Confidence and Personal Motivation. The Quarterly Journal of Economics, 117\(3\), 871–915.](#)
- [Benoît, J-P., & Dubra, J. \(2011\). Apparent Overconfidence. Econometrica, 79\(5\), 1591–1625.](#)
- [Brunnermeier, M. K., & Parker, J. A. \(2005\). Optimal Expectations. American Economic Review, 95\(4\), 1092–1118.](#)
- [Burks, S. V., Carpenter, J. P., Goette, L., & Rustichini, A. \(2013\). Overconfidence and Social Signalling. The Review of Economic Studies, 80\(3\), 949–983.](#)
- [Chew, S. H., Huang, W., & Zhao, X. \(2018\). Motivated False Memory. Mimeo.](#)
- [Dessí, R., & Zhao, X. \(2018\). Overconfidence, Stability, and Investments. Journal of Economic Behavior and Organization, 145, 474–494 .](#)
- [Eil, D., & Rao, J. \(2011\). The Good News-Bad News Effect: Asymmetric Processing of Objective Information about Yourself. American Economic Journal: Microeconomics, 3\(2\), 114–138.](#)
- [Engelmann, J., Lebreton, M., Schwardmann, P., van der Weele, J., & Chang, L. \(2019\). Anticipatory Anxiety and Wishful Thinking. Tinbergen Institute Working Paper 190–42/l.](#)
- [Hestermann, N., & Le Yaouanq, Y. \(2018\). It's not my Fault! Self-confidence and experimentation. Mimeo.](#)
- [Köszegi, B. \(2006\). Ego Utility, Overconfidence, and Task Choice. Journal of the European Economic Association, 4\(4\), 673–707.](#)
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- [Le Yaouanq, Y., & Schwardmann, P. \(2019\). Learning about One’s Self. CESifo Working Paper 7455.](#)
- [Möbius M., Niederle, M., Niehaus, P., & Rosenblat, T. \(2011\). Managing Self-Confidence: Theory and Experimental Evidence. NBER Working Paper 17014.](#)
- [Mijovic-Prelec, D., & Prelec, D. \(2010\). Self-deception as Self-Signalling: A Model and Experimental Evidence. Philosophical Transactions of the Royal Society B: Biological Sciences, 365\(1538\), 227–240.](#)

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- [Oster, E., Shoulson, I., & Dorsey, R. \(2013\). Optimal Expectations and Limited Medical Testing: Evidence from Huntington Disease. American Economic Review, 103\(2\), 804–830.](#)
- [Santos-Pinto, L., & Sobel, J. \(2005\). A Model of Positive Self-Image in Subjective Assessments. American Economic Review, 95\(5\), 1386–1402.](#)
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- [Zimmermann, F. \(forthcoming\). The Dynamics of Motivated Beliefs. American Economic Review.](#)

Topic 2: Identity

Social and cultural identity

- [Akerlof, G. A., & Kranton, R. E. \(2000\). Economics and Identity. The Quarterly Journal of Economics, 115\(3\), 715–753.](#)
- [Atkin, D., Colson-Sirha, E., & Shayo, M. \(2019\). How Do We Choose Our Identity? A Revealed Preference Approach Using Food Consumption. NBER Working Paper 25693.](#)
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- [Chen, Y., & Li, S. X. \(2009\). Group Identity and Social Preferences. American Economic Review, 99\(1\), 431–457.](#)
- [Dessí, R. \(2008\). Collective Memory, Cultural Transmission and Investments. American Economic Review, 98\(1\), 534–560.](#)
- [Gennaioli, N., & Tabellini, G. \(2018\). Identity, Beliefs, and Political Conflict. SSRN Working Paper 3300726.](#)
- [Jha, S., & Shayo, M. \(forthcoming\). Valuing Peace: The Effects of Financial Market Exposure on Votes and Political Attitudes. Econometrica.](#)
- [Shayo, M. \(2009\). A model of social identity with an application to political economy: Nation, Class, and Redistribution. American Political Science Review, 103\(2\), 147–174.](#)
- [Tabellini, M. \(forthcoming\). Gifts of the Immigrants, Woes of the Natives: Lessons from the Age of Mass Migration. The Review of Economic Studies.](#)

Personal identity and signaling

- [Andreoni, J., & Bernheim, D. \(2009\). Social Image and the 50–50 Norm: A Theoretical and Experimental Analysis of Audience Effects. Econometrica, 77\(5\), 11–28.](#)
- [Ariely, D., Bracha, A., & Meier, S. \(2009\). Doing Good or Doing Well? Image Motivation and Monetary Incentives in Behaving Prosocially. American Economic Review, 99\(1\), 544–555.](#)
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