

## Course Descriptions Exchange 2019-2020

Course Title Behavioural and Experimental Methods  
 Course Code EBC4235  
 ECTS Credits 5,0  
 Assessment None

Period	Period	Start	End	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri
2		28-10-2019	20-12-2019		X		X	

Level Advanced  
 Coordinator Hannes Rusch For more information: [h.rusch@maastrichtuniversity.nl](mailto:h.rusch@maastrichtuniversity.nl)  
 Language of instruction English

Goals Departing from theories assuming 'homo oeconomicus' agents, participants in this course learn about boundedly rational aspects of human behaviour. The latter play a key role in predicting and designing individual and strategic decisions as well as aggregate outcomes in markets and politics. The students learn to apply the insights generated by a boundedly rational approach to various fields in Public Economics and Managerial Economics, among others. The students learn to use experimental methods as well as statistics and econometrics to assess the validity of theoretical predictions of human behaviour. Participants will be prepared to assess scientific studies critically and to come up with problem statements and an adequate study design on their own.

Description First, an introduction to the economic experimental method as well as a review of basic statistics and econometrics analysis will be given. The course will then cover recent behavioural models of intertemporal decision-making, decisions under risk and uncertainty, strategic and social decision-making. We will discuss recently developed models taking the boundedly rational nature of human decisions into account. The course uses theoretical reasoning, experimental data, and econometric analysis, which will guide the analysis of applied questions from diverse fields. The fields of application comprise savings and retirement decisions, health insurance taxation, labour market policies, incentives and promotion schemes in firms, public good provision, environmental issues, and charitable giving, among others. An important part of the course will be devoted to discussions of policy implications, policy recommendations, and the need or curse of government intervention.

Literature

Prerequisites Advanced Microeconomics (EBC4232) or Theory of Individual and Strategic Decisions (EBC4197).

Keywords

Teaching methods PBL / Presentation / Lecture / Groupwork

Assessment methods Final Paper / Participation

Evaluation in previous academic year For the complete evaluation of this course please click <http://iwio-sbe.maastrichtuniversity.nl/rapporten.asp?referrer=codeUM>

This course belongs to the following programme / specialisation

Master Economics - Global Challenges and Macroeconomic Policy	Compulsory Course(s)
Master Economics - Market Regulation and Design	Compulsory Course(s)
Master Economics - No specialisation	Elective Course(s)
SBE Exchange Master	Master Exchange Courses