

Course Descriptions None 2026-2027

Course Title Research Strategy
 Course Code EBC4125
 ECTS Credits 6,5
 Assessment Whole/Half Grades

Period	Start	End	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri
5	12-4-2027	4-6-2027	X			X	

Level Advanced
 Coordinator Lex Borghans For more information:lex.borghans@maastrichtuniversity.nl
 Language of instruction English

Goals Students will learn to develop a research strategy to estimate causal relationships in economics. Students acquire an understanding of methods for identification and estimation as well as gain insights into practical issues that arise when developing a research strategy and working on a research proposal.

Description This course provides an overview of methodological and practical issues that arise in empirical economics when estimating causal relationships. The course focuses on identification and estimation methods. We review advantages and pitfalls of various identification strategies, and discuss data requirements and measurement problems associated with different research strategies. Since the aim is to sharpen students' intuition about the advantages and disadvantages of various research strategies in economics and to judge which methods are most appropriate in different contexts and circumstances, you have to present and discuss the vices and virtues of key papers, each of which relies on a particular research strategy.

Literature Several academic articles.

Prerequisites Methodological background at research master level.

Transitional Regulations <div class="trreg"><ul class="trcohorts">Master Business Research - No specialisationMaster Business Research - Operations ResearchIn 2024-2025 and 2025-2026 education and exam/resit opportunities are offered.In 2026-2027 exam/resit opportunities are offered.From 2027-2028 onwards, the course is cancelled.<table><col style="width: 200px;"><col style="width: 120px;"><col style="width: 120px;"><thead><tr><th>Academic Year</th><th>Education</th><th>Exam/Resit</th><th>Replacement(s)</th></tr></thead><tbody><tr><td>2024-2025 - 2025-2026</td><td>X</td><td>X</td><td> </td></tr><tr><td>2026-2027</td><td> </td><td>X</td><td> </td></tr><tr><td>2027-2028 onwards</td><td> </td><td> </td><td> </td></tr></tbody></table></div>

Teaching methods PBL / Lecture / Assignment

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 Business Research - No specialisation	In transition - Year 1 Compulsory Courses
	Master Business Research - Operations Research	In transition - Year 1+2 Elective Courses
	Master Economic and Financial Research - No specialisation	Year 1 Core Courses
	SBE Exchange Master	Master Exchange Courses
	SBE Non Degree Courses	Master Courses