

# EVALUATION OF SOCIO-ECONOMIC PROGRAMS AND POLICIES: METHODS AND CASES

Curso 2016/2017

(Código: 26600044)

## 1. PRESENTACIÓN

This course attempts to form students in the use of methods to evaluate socio-economic programs and policies. It is particularly interesting to have at least a partial view of the available methods and to study some cases of particular interest in the context of the European Union. In our opinion, it is also useful in a Master as the European Union one to do so in a very applied and multidisciplinary way. The main objective of the course is to provide the students some useful tools which allow them to be able to evaluate the impact of policies and programs implemented in the European Union.

## 2. CONTEXTUALIZACIÓN

In any typical context in the public or private sectors is now common to take informed decisions based on evaluations. This course attempts to present the basic methodology to do impact evaluation of programs or policies. Impact evaluation should involve the definition of an outcome, the description of the objectives of the program or policy and the application of a method to extract causal effects of the program or policy on the outcome. This way of doing is the base to inform decisions for impact evaluation of socio-economic programs or policies.

## 3. REQUISITOS PREVIOS RECOMENDABLES

Although it is not compulsory, it is highly recommended some previous knowledge of basic statistics and econometrics.

## 4. RESULTADOS DE APRENDIZAJE

At the end of the course, we hope:

- The students will know the main methods to conduct impact evaluation of socio-economic programs and policies
- The students will be able to do a "real" evaluation of a program or policy

## 5. CONTENIDOS DE LA ASIGNATURA

The program is structured in four chapters with an introduction, a revision of the main methods and some particular cases applied to the EU Directives, health policies and, in general, the European Union welfare system.

### 1. INTRODUCTION TO EVALUATION METHODS

#### 1.1. Structural models and treatment effects approaches



1.2. Descriptive analysis vs. causal inference

1.3. Potential outcomes and causality

1.4. A taxonomy of methods

1.5. The problem of selection

1.6. Policy framework and counterfactual evaluation

## 2. SOCIAL EXPERIMENTS

2.1. Introduction

2.2. Experimental testing of welfare programs in the European Union

2.3. Methods for evaluation of unemployment programs

2.4. Methods for evaluation of environmental policies and programs

2.4. Applications to EU directives

## 3. METHODS BASED ON SELECTION ON OBSERVABLES

3.1. Introduction

3.2. Regression adjustment.

3.3. Matching.

3.4. Evaluation of health policies.

## 4. METHODS BASED ON SELECTION ON UNOBSERVABLES

4.1. Introduction

4.2. Selection models

4.3. Differences in differences

4.4. Instrumental variables

4.5. Evaluation of the European Union welfare system

## 6.EQUIPO DOCENTE

- [JOSE MARIA LABEAGA AZCONA](#)

## 7.METODOLOGÍA



This course will be done using on-line learning methods. The student should work on each part of the contents in two ways. First, he/she should study the theoretical part, i.e., each of the methods and cases provided in the references. Second, he/she should work through exercises provided at the web using some statistical - econometric program. Each exercise will contain a database where the student can experiment using the methods learned at the theoretical part. Everything, exercises and data (as well as the proposed answers) will be available at the platform. UNED will provide access to the statistical - econometric programs available for students at the web.

## 8.BIBLIOGRAFÍA BÁSICA

ISBN(13): 9783662464052

Título: ECONOMETRIC EVALUATION OF SOCIO-ECONOMIC PROGRAMS. THEORY AND APPLICATIONS

Autor/es: Giovanni Cerulli ;

Editorial: : SPRINGER

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Buscarlo en Catálogo del Patrimonio Bibliográfico

## 9.BIBLIOGRAFÍA COMPLEMENTARIA

ISBN(13): 9780821385418

Título: IMPACT EVALUATION IN PRACTICE

Autor/es: Paul J. Gertler, Sebastian Martinez, Patrick Premand, Laura B. Rawlings, Christel M. J. Vermeersch ;

Editorial: THE WORLD BANK

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### Comentarios y anexos:

The book edited by The World Bank will be made available at the area Documentos of the platform.

We will also make available all web addresses in the EU related to the evaluation of socio-economic programs and policies. As an example, most of the planned and done evaluations are at the following web:

[http://ec.europa.eu/info/law-making-process/evaluating-and-improving-existing-laws/evaluating-laws/planned-evaluations\\_en](http://ec.europa.eu/info/law-making-process/evaluating-and-improving-existing-laws/evaluating-laws/planned-evaluations_en)

## 10.RECURSOS DE APOYO AL ESTUDIO



Students will have access to conferences on-line, to activities done through AVIP rooms and to UNED TV and Radio platforms. Conferences and other activities will be announced through the web of the course in the platform

## 11.TUTORIZACIÓN Y SEGUIMIENTO

The only methodology allows students to be evaluated both at the Centers of the UNED both in Spain and abroad. It is also possible to conduct evaluations on-line as most of the tasks we ask during the course are. Then, material to pass the course will be provided either through the web or by e-mail.

## 12.EVALUACIÓN DE LOS APRENDIZAJES

The evaluation is composed by:

- An exam to be done at the Centers of UNED either in Spain or abroad. The exam will be composed by three parts: i) several test questions; ii) a practical exercise; iii) a theoretical question
- An essay on a specific question about evaluation (either theoretical or empirical)
- Several questions to be done through the web in the form of "continuous evaluation"

The score of each of the three parts is 1/3 of the final score.

## 13.COLABORADORES DOCENTES

Véase equipo docente.

