Seminar (M.Sc.)
(Quasi-) Experiments in Entrepreneurship Research

Prof. Dr. Guido Buenstorf, M.Sc. Francisco Flores Taipe, M.Sc. Maria Mavlikeeva

Fachbereich Wirtschaftswissenschaften
Economic Policy, Innovation and Entrepreneurship Group

Winter Term 2019-20

Time and location
Monday, 14:00-18:00 (bi-weekly, only on Oct 21, Nov 04, Nov 18, Dec 02, Dec 16, Jan 20, Feb 03, Feb 10)
Hörsaal 3 alt (Diagonale 5)

Overview
In entrepreneurship research, just as in other fields of empirical research in economics and the social sciences, it is challenging to identify causal effects. However, without solid understanding of the causal relationships underlying the antecedents, processes and effects of entrepreneurial activities, researchers are severely restricted in their ability to give advice to policy makers. Entrepreneurship researchers have adopted a variety of approaches to deal with this challenge. These include laboratory experiments, randomized control trials (RCTs, also known as field experiments), as well as quasi-experimental econometric techniques. In this course, we will discuss the methods and results of selected studies based on these approaches.

Requirements (6 ECTS Credits):
- Seminar paper (55% of final grade; about 15 pages; due Feb. 29, 2020) and presentation (30%; about 15 minutes)
- Completion of mandatory reading assignments before the respective seminar session
- Attendance throughout the course and active participation in the seminar discussion (15% of final grade)

All individual requirements have to be fulfilled to pass the course.

Registration and choice of seminar topics (listed below as Presentation 1-16; each topic will be assigned to two students) by e-mail to mavlikeeva@incher.uni-kassel.de. Registration is open immediately. Please name three preferred topics. Max. number of participants: 32

Background reading:
Topics and reading assignments

Session 1 (October 21, 2019): Introduction: Issues in entrepreneurship research
No reading assignment

Session 2 (November 04, 2019): Laboratory experiments in entrepreneurship research


Presentation 1: A classical experiment on entrepreneurial overconfidence


Presentation 2: Benefits from being one’s own (and someone else’s) boss?


Session 3 (November 18, 2019): Field experiments: some basic considerations


Presentation 3: Field experiments and randomization


Instructor presentation 1: Ethnicity, entrepreneurship and labor market discrimination: evidence from Russia.

Session 4 (December 02, 2019): Financing development through funding entrepreneurs?

Presentation 4: Transfer payments

Presentation 5: Cash versus in-kind grants


Presentation 6: Microcredit


Session 5 (December 16, 2019): Entrepreneurship training and economic development

Presentation 7: Training potential entrepreneurs or actual small business owners?


Presentation 8: Training business practices or training personality?


**Instructor presentation 2:** Testing the effectiveness of online entrepreneurship training in Ecuadorian schools.

Session 6 (January 20, 2020): Entrepreneurship education and training in industrialized countries

Presentation 9: Does entrepreneurship training work for children?


Presentation 10: Role models and female entrepreneurship


Presentation 11: Entrepreneurship training and the labor market


(continued on next page)
Session 7 (February 03, 2020): Quasi-experimental entrepreneurship studies: approach and examples


Presentation 12: Entrepreneurship education – a quasi-experimental approach


Presentation 13: Peer effects on entrepreneurial activity and performance


Session 8 (February 10, 2020): Quasi-experimental studies: further examples

Presentation 14: Health insurance as a barrier for entrepreneurship?


Presentation 15: Intellectual property rights and academic entrepreneurship


Presentation 16: Entrepreneurship and regional development